

# An Evening with John Blanke

Imagine the black Tudor trumpeter

## College of Arms

Norfolk Court 130 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4BT

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> December 2017, 18:30 - 20:30

Welcome to John Blanke Live! event at the College of Arms



A celebration of John Blanke the black Tudor trumpeter to the courts of Henry VII and Henry VIII. Over 50 artists, historians, rappers, musicians, poets have made a contribution to the project, tonight some of them will share how they imagined John Blanke at the home of his iconic image.

### Adelaide Damoah - Artist

Adelaide considers the performative element of her practice central to everything she currently makes. The final pieces she produces are the end results of a performance - whether the process was started in her studio or in front of an audience..

### Charmaine Watkiss - Artist

Charmaine is currently doing an MA in drawing at UAL Wimbledon. Her practice is about mapping history on the body through life sized drawings and has just finished her first residency in Italy.

### Dave Lewis - Photographer

Dave's practice connects ethnography and photography, he is concerned with representing and understanding the social networks through which a sense of belonging to a particular place is achieved.

### Ebun Culwin - Artist

Ebun is a Buddhist whose beliefs are fundamental to her artistic practice. Transferring spiritual beliefs to form, light, colour and a visual language easily understood and inspiring to others.

### Eugene Palmer - Artist

Eugene is a Jamaican born British artist. His work uses archival records, photographs, and contemporary media imagery as basis for his paintings.

### Jan Marsh - Art Historian

At the National Portrait Gallery Jan is part of a team compiling entries for the portraits Victorian personalities and she curated the ground breaking *Black Victorians: Black People in British Art, 1800-1900* exhibition.

### Jody Burton - Artist

Since childhood Jody has enjoyed art and exploring her creativity, through various courses and media. She runs the Black Arts Group on MeetUp.

### Kimathi Donkor - Artist

Kimathi's work re-imagines mythic and legendary encounters across Africa and its global Diasporas. His recent exhibitions include the Diaspora Pavilion at the 57th Venice Biennale.

### Corporal Lawrence Narhkom - Trumpeter

Lawrence is a trumpeter with The Band of The Corps of Royal Engineers. He toured in Afghanistan where his performance of the Last Post and Reveille was commended by HRH Prince Harry.

### Miranda Kaufmann - Historian

Miranda is a senior research fellow at the University of London's Institute of Commonwealth Studies. Her recent book *Black Tudors* was widely acclaimed.

### Phil Day - Rapper

Phil wrote *The Rap History of the World (RHW)* presenting a thematic history of the universe, life and Human civilization from the Big Bang to the present day, in syncopated rhyming verse.

### SI Martin - Writer

For Steve, the history of the African diaspora is of crucial significance to the present. Moreover, without a certain historical consciousness, he sees a precarious vulnerability in the lives of contemporary black Britons.

### Tam Joseph - Artist

Tam is described as contributing works that locate themselves at the centre of socio-political commentary, often making work that shocks as it amuses, amuses as it shocks.

### Valentine Ogunba - Rapper

Valentine is London based writer and rapper who specialises in interpreting the condition of urban black youth.

To find out more about tonight's contributors go to <http://JohnBlanke.com>

Internet <http://JohnBlanke.com>  
Facebook <http://Facebook.com/WholsJohnBlanke>

Twitter [@WholsJohnBlanke](https://twitter.com/WholsJohnBlanke) [#JohnBlanke](https://twitter.com/JohnBlanke)  
Mailto [JohnBlanke1511@gmail.com](mailto:JohnBlanke1511@gmail.com)

# I imagined John Blanke as....

a **Jazz musician** a man who was proud and confident

a strong minded individual **Shabaka Hutchings**

a talented career musician **not as an image I hear**

**him** A REFLECTION OF MYSELF *a bold and brassy leader a*

*powerful force of sound* a talented, proud yet sad man

a seasoned traveller **a Cheerful fellow** someone who

strived to use his skills to succeed **both self-assured and soulful**

**a fellow diaspora musician and parent HAVING A STRONG SENSE**

**OF DETERMINATION, PERHAPS QUITE FEARLESS** representing

themes of the highest importance in world history **a learned man**

a man *a graphic crowbar* a musician **a survivor** an

**exceptional musician a Jazz musician a real person not**

**fragmented to fit in a box or category of inclusiveness**

a man of courage a man who blew a medieval fanfare

a time traveller an individual in possession of

exceptional talents **physically and**

**emotionally strong** *a "trump card"* a talented man

in his own right the firstborn son of Nana Damoah

**A CONFIDENT AND ASSERTIVE CHARACTER** a man who might

**have felt he was a stranger in many strange lands.**