An Evening with John Blanke Live!
Imagine the black Tudor trumpeter

SYMPOSIA
Art Archives Action

Sutton House The Great Chamber, 2 Homerton High Street Hackney, E9 6JQ
Friday 13th April 2018 18:30- 20:30

Through the imaginations of artists, poets, rappers, curators historians and musicians spend an evening celebrating the life of John Blanke: the black trumpeter to the courts of Henry VII and Henry VIII. John Blanke is the first person of African descent for whom we have both an image and a record.

John Blanke’s image appears twice in the 1511 Westminster Tournament Roll currently in the College of Arms collection. He is noted in the courts accounts of the day as having being paid wages, other records have him successfully petitioning Henry VIII for a wage increase and receiving a gift from the king, these records are held in the National Archive at Kew.

The Symposia is an opportunity to hear about John Blanke and how he has inspired some of the fifty plus artists’ imaginations to make their individual contribution to the project.

Poet Sheba Montserrat
Artist Sharon Foster
Musician Lawrence Narhkom
Historian Jan Marsh
Artist Paul Dash
Rapper Phil Day
Artist Linett Kamala
Artist Mengistu Etim
Historian Michael Ohajuru
Artist Graeme Evelyn
Historian Miranda Kaufmann
Artist Seema Manchanda
Rapper Christian Albert
Illustrator Jeremy Salmon
Historian Robin Walker

Tickets: £10 (concessions £8 ) including booking fees


Stephen B. Whatley, Tribute to John Blanke, (2015), Charcoal on paper, A4