

PRESS RELEASE

*Where you live determines when you will die. A major new art work will be screened at the View Tube as a large-scale outdoor projection with the **Olympic stadium** as the backdrop as part of the CREATE 11 festival.*

## **Artist questions London's air quality for 2012 Olympics in new film**

**Opening:** Wednesday 29th June 2011 7pm-11pm

Exhibition continues: 30th June-17th July 10am-6pm

Venue: The View Tube, The Greenway, London, E15 2PJ



Photo: Faisal Abdu'Allah and Daniel Thomas, 2011

Faisal Abdu'Allah is now one of the most celebrated artists on the international circuit.

**Abdu'Allah** who, as well as being an artist, is also **famously a Harlesden barber** has made some of the most politically significant and aesthetically rigorous art works of the past decade. He's been artist in residence at **The**

## **Serpentine Galley, Tate Modern and The National Portrait Gallery.**

Recent exhibitions include a major solo show at Stamford University in the US, mapping 20 years of practice, and a collaboration with **celebrated architect David Adjaye** at London's Chisenhale gallery which created a powerful installation exploring issues of privilege, exclusion, voyeurism and black cultural identity.

### 'Double Pendulum'

In this new work, **'Double Pendulum'** Faisal Abdu'Allah commissioned by Invisible Dust creates a new collaboration, this time with sports professionals and scientists, to examine the involuntary process of breathing, through the training rituals of athlete **Jeanette Kwakye, 2007 British Champion** 100 and 200 metres; footballer **Anthony Grant** of Southend United and martial arts **2008 British Gold medalist and European Silver medalist, Ammar Duffus**. 'Double Pendulum', explores how size, identity, gender, class and geography affect the way we breathe and move. It takes place as part of the CREATE11 festival, now in its fourth year, which celebrates Europe's largest cultural quarter, the 2012 Olympic Host Boroughs.

The film will be screened at the View Tube as a **large-scale outdoor projection with the Olympic stadium as the backdrop** as part of the CREATE 11 festival.

Abdu'Allah is never far away from controversy and 'Double Pendulum' which takes a critical look at London's air quality comes at a time when **Britain could be fined up to £175m by the International Olympic Committee** if it continues to break air pollution laws by the time the 2012 Games begin. With a high prevalence of asthma in elite athletes, aggravated by poor air quality and official readings showing a high air pollution index at the last Beijing Olympics, this is serious stuff, because **London is one of the most polluted cities in Europe** and air pollution kills. Official studies show that air pollution – mainly from traffic – causes more premature deaths than passive smoking and traffic accidents combined, at a cost of about £2bn a year.

'Double Pendulum', runs for a duration of 9 minutes and 58 seconds which mirrors the current 100-metre sprint world record of 9.58 seconds set by **Usain Bolt in 2009**. The film is narrated by respiratory doctors who are leading scientists from King's College, London and Brunel University. It provides a unique insight into the processes of exercise, identity and ritual. For Faisal identity and science have always been silent partners at the core of his practice. Artists and scientists help to shape social consciousness and redefine the human condition. 'Double Pendulum' is the result of a unique coalition between the two disciplines.

In April this year London had its 36th bad air day of 2011, only 35 are permitted in the whole year. Just as worldwide attention is focusing on east London one year before the games begin, the reoccurrence of London's pea soup **raises questions about whether London's air will be clean enough**

**for athletes to compete.** Now, as in the smog of the 1950s, good fresh air is the answer.

'Double Pendulum' is part of '**Invisible Breath**', a creative response from artists Faisal Abdu'Allah, HeHe and Dryden Goodwin to UK air pollution. It is an **Invisible Dust** commission curated by Alice Sharp and is **supported by The Wellcome Trust**.

### **Talk: 'Art, Smog and the East End'**

Tuesday 5th of July at 7.00pm [The View Tube](#), The Greenway, Marshgate Lane, E15 2PJ

Artist Faisal Abdu'Allah, Tim Baker of Newham PCT and Professor Frank Kelly of King's College, London debate the past and future effects of air quality.

Ends

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#### **Notes for Editors:**

#### **About Faisal Abdu'Allah**

Faisal Abdu'Allah graduated from the RCA in 1993, and with his debut exhibition I Wanna Kill Sam quickly established himself as an artist interested in confrontation and displacement, using the gallery space as a site to explore rare social interactions through provocative installations pieces. His work primarily evolves from photography, the printed image and lens-based installation

[faisalabduallah.com](http://faisalabduallah.com)

#### **About Invisible Dust**

Invisible Dust is a commissioning organisation that works with leading artists and scientists to produce new and exciting works of contemporary art. It provides the opportunity for both disciplines to share and explore common ground. Invisible Dust aims to produce significant and far reaching artists commissions in the Public Realm both in the UK and internationally, as well as supporting the creation of new scientific ideas whilst engaging audiences with large scale events, education and community activities.

Invisible Dust was founded by Alice Sharp who has worked as an Independent Curator of projects with visual artists in the Public Realm since 1997. Sharp set up Invisible Dust to involve Artists and Scientists in exploring the effects of climate change and pollution.

[www.invisibledust.com](http://www.invisibledust.com)

### **About the Wellcome Trust**

The Wellcome Trust is a global charitable foundation dedicated to achieving extraordinary improvements in human and animal health. It supports the brightest minds in biomedical research and the medical humanities. The Trust's breadth of support includes public engagement, education and the application of research to improve health. It is independent of both political and commercial interests. [www.wellcome.ac.uk](http://www.wellcome.ac.uk)

### **About the View Tube**

The View Tube is an arts and community centre developed by Leaside Regeneration in 2009 on unused land on the Greenway, which was at that time an under-utilised linear footpath and cycleway in a deprived area of Newham. It is built from recycled shipping containers with the closest panorama of the London 2012 Olympic site including the Stadium and Aquatics Centre. It was set up with three major East London partners, Thames Water, the ODA and London Thames Gateway Development Corporation. It now has an award winning café run by local business, the Counter Café, a classroom coordinated by London Wildlife Trust and the Field Studies Council and an arts programme. (<http://www.theviewtube.co.uk>)

### **About Create**

CREATE is the annual summer festival that celebrates Europe's largest cultural quarter: the Olympic Host Boroughs where over 12,000 artists live and work. Now in its fourth year, CREATE takes place between 24 June and 25 July in East and South East London. The festival will stage major commissions including the Bank of America Merrill Lynch CREATE Art Award worth £40,000, which this year has been awarded to Assemble 'Folly for a Flyover'; the CREATE11 Music series including Re: Definition, and Blaze, presented with the Barbican; CREATE11 Talks & Walks including The Midnight Run, a nocturnal walk across east London, and Alina Ibragimova / The Quay Brothers a co-commission with the Manchester International Festival and the Barbican. In addition CREATE11 will include over 200 art, design, film, music, and theatre events in galleries, outdoor spaces, music venues and pop-up spaces including The View Tube, Canary Wharf, Gillett Square, Hackney Empire, Rich Mix, Theatre Royal Stratford East, the Vortex, Wilton's Music Hall and the Whitechapel Gallery. Global investment bank, Deutsche Bank continue as main sponsor for the 2nd year. [www.createlondon.org](http://www.createlondon.org)

### **How to get there:**

**The View Tube** is located on The Greenway, London, E15 2PJ. Public transport is recommended as there is no parking or vehicle access to the

Greenway. The nearest public transport is Pudding Mill Lane DLR, one stop from Stratford. When leaving the station please follow the signs to the View Tube. Click [here](#) for more info.