



**UNIVERSITY OF
WESTMINSTER**

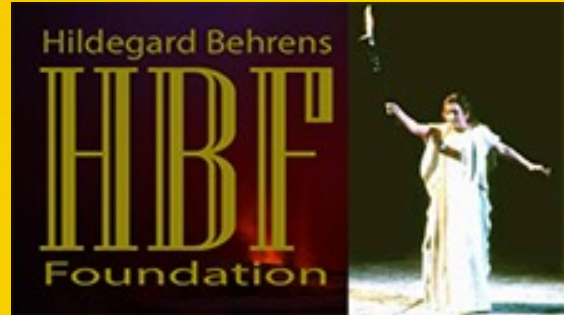
**WELCOME TO
FITZWEST
NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM
THANK YOU FOR YOUR
SUPPORT**

BUILDING ON OUR HISTORY AND LEGACY

- **Establishment:** Opened in 1972 in London.
- **Pioneering Role:** Known for 'lunchtime theatre' performances.
- **Support for Artists:** Launched careers of notable actors and writers.
- **Democratic Access:** Promoted arts accessibility and representation of underrepresented voices, especially women.
- **Historical Closure:** Abandoned in 1990, rediscovered in 2012.
- **Restoration Efforts:** Aims to create an accessible, vibrant arts venue.
- **Community Focus:** Supports community projects and arts recovery post-Covid.
- **Legacy:** Preserves the cultural and historical significance of fringe theatre.

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Working with donors to support our community partners

- SECURING SUPPORT FROM TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS AND WORKING WITH FITZWEST NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM AND WESTMINSTER CITY COUNCIL TO RESTORE THE SOHO POLY BACK TO LIFE
- FUNDING OUR ARTISTIC PROGRAMMING
- IDENTIFYING AND BUILDING NEW PARTNERSHIPS



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Building a programme of events aligned to our artistic policy

2023 (from Summer onwards):

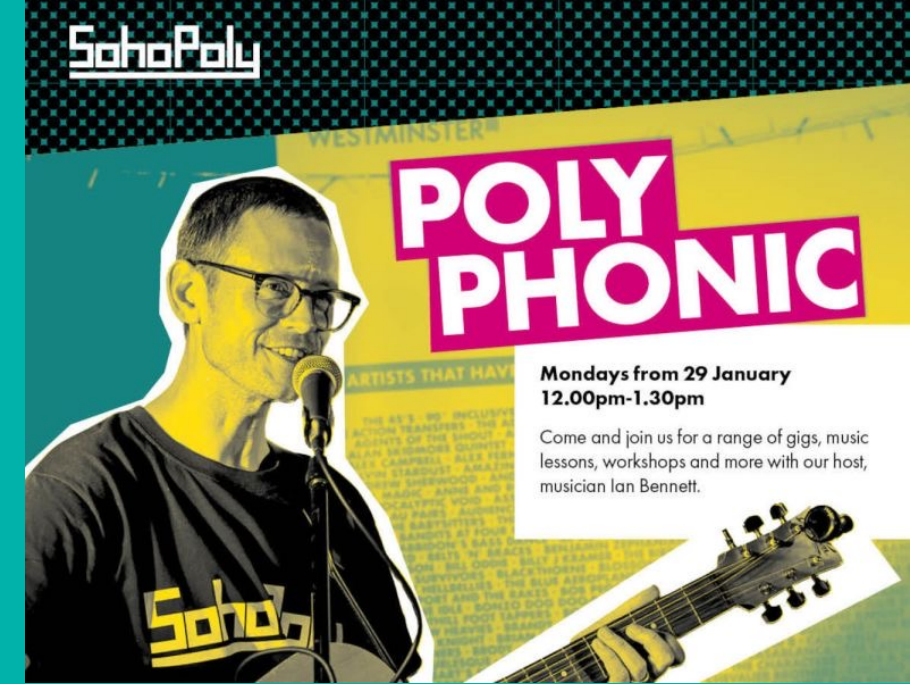
- Our first ever appearance as part of the London-wide Open House Festival (September)
- October also saw the launch of our Soho Poly Arts Club
- Polyphonic Mondays launched
- Individual events included live concerts by Jo Griggs and Tom Poslett, 'bring your own vinyl' weeks, and a Nick Cave ghost gig
- Wednesday Badge Cafe sessions saw visits from the LGBTIQ+ shelter Outside Project and groups of MA students
- Thursdays were bespoke memoir writing sessions for older people's charity Open Age.
- Alongside these regular weekly activities, November saw workshops delivered to sixth formers from the Eastbury Community School in collaboration the Regent Street Cinema and the Royal Shakespeare Company



OUR 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

- WE BEGAN THE YEAR WITH OUR POSTCARD-DRIVEN CORRESPONDENCE COURSE WITH DIGITALLY EXCLUDED OPEN AGE MEMBERS
- ON 26 JANUARY WE CELEBRATED THE APPOINTMENT OF THE SOHO POLY'S FIRST POET IN RESIDENCE - THE WONDERFUL DEBORAH FINDING - WITH A VERY SPECIAL LAUNCH EVENT
- THE FOLLOWING WEEK WE WERE THRILLED TO BE PART OF THE NATIONAL INDEPENDENT VENUE WEEK WITH PERFORMANCES FROM HELEN MCCOOKERYBOOK ON 31 JANUARY AND JUDE AND JAMES COOK ON 2 FEBRUARY.
- LATER IN THE SPRING WE HOSTED LIVERPOOL BAND B.E.A.T.O.W.L.S. FOR THEIR FIRST LONDON GIG, AS WELL AS THE LAUNCH OF PETE ASTOR'S LATEST ALBUM

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OUR 2024 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS (continued...)

SUMMER 2024

- We just finished our Soho Poly Summer Festival 2024!

Events included:

- Badge Cafe collaboration with the [National Academy of Social Prescribing](#)
- Our summer outdoor 'Disrupt Your Everyday' party
- Our Midsummer all-day Music Festival
- The premiere of new play Hourglass by Lipstick Rebel Productions
- Fifty Years of the Fight for Inclusion (FYFI) events celebrating the work of women playwrights, in collaboration with [Unfinished Histories](#)



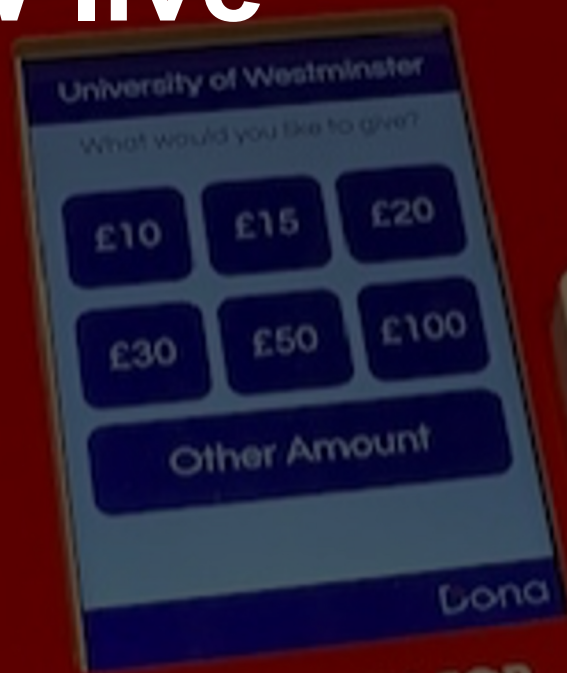
FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- ACOUSTIC AUDIT
- DONOR WALL
- PAINTING THE FAÇADE
- GREEN PLAQUE
- WEBSITE (COMING SOON...)

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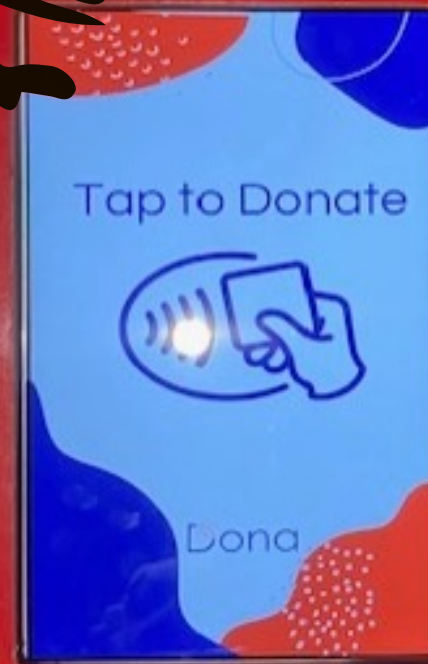


Donation station – now live



THANK YOU FOR
YOUR DONATION

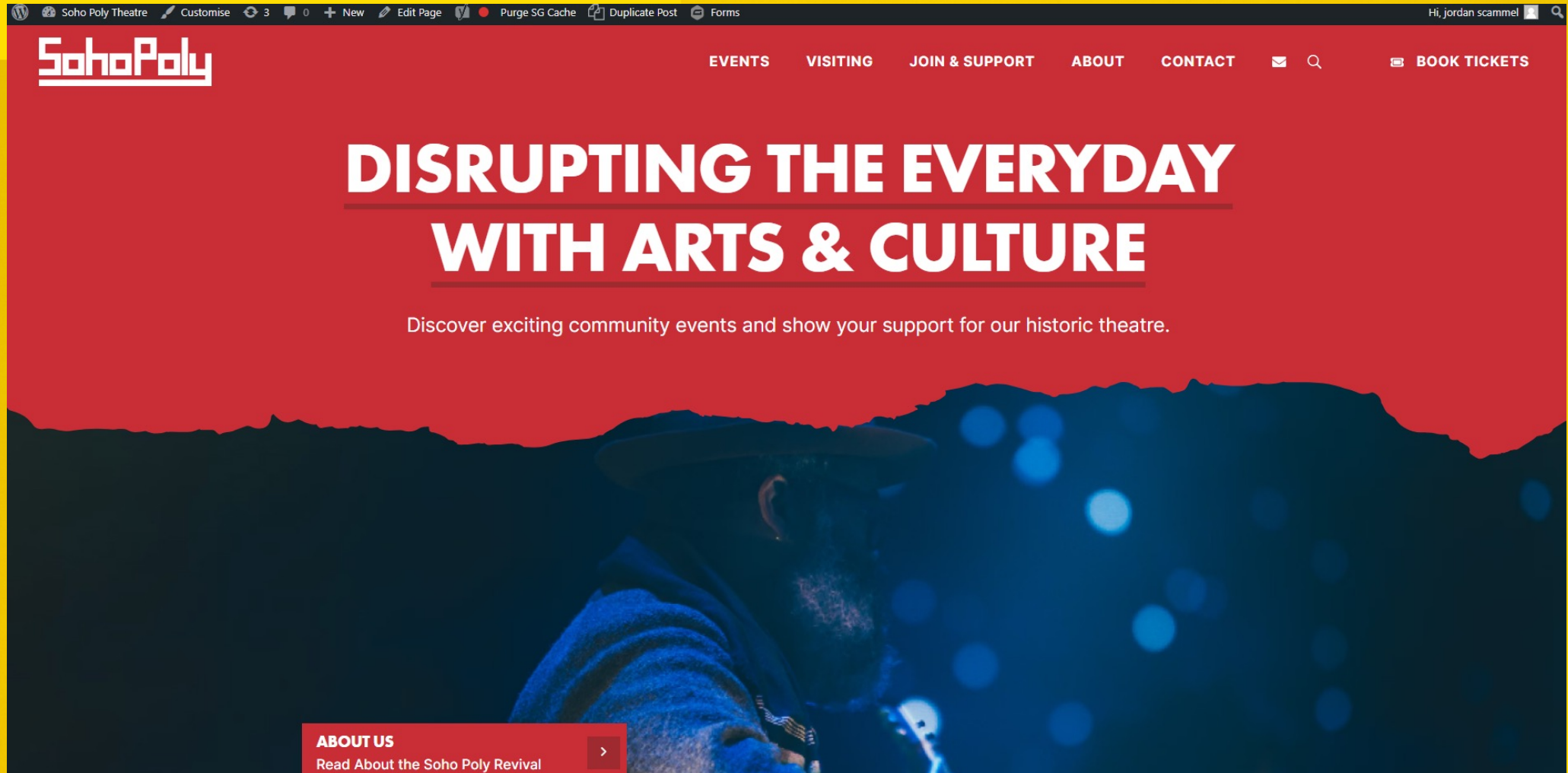
SohoPoly



THANK YOU FOR
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WEBSITE (Coming soon!)



Next 12-18 months

- ‘The soho poly upstairs’ – Room. G.02
- Dynamic, agile space
- Green room, workshop space, exhibition space, screenings





THANK YOU FOR LISTENING

SPREAD THE WORD – WE'RE OPEN!

ANY QUESTIONS?