



Creative Minds in Song 2021

We will be creating new songs from the words written by those with lived experience of mental illness. Over a series of online Zoom sessions (Fridays 5-6:30pm – see dates below) participants from MIND in Tower Hamlets and Newham, as well as other partner organisations, will workshop directly staff and students from The Guildhall School of Music and Drama. Starting with writing workshops to create new poems and texts, we will then workshop these new poems and texts into new songs, using the skills of the Guildhall School composers, singers and pianists, culminating in some performances this summer, in which all participants can take part. The project is run jointly by ‘Song in the City’ and ‘The Guildhall School’ following a successful pilot in 2014. Watch a short film here: https://youtu.be/ZPtROI7P_Z0

ALL SESSIONS FRIDAYS 5-6:30pm

Date /Week	Session Focus
Friday 5 March Intro	<i>What is Creative Minds in Song?</i> Introduction to the project with film, brief online performance and a chance to hear from past participants.
19 March Workshop 1	<i>Introduction to the Group</i> Part 1: First meeting of whole group: get to know one another Part 2: Presentation Workshop: Exchanging material / performances
26 March Workshop 2	<i>Creating words on lived-experience</i> Creative writing session on how to write about lived experience. Led by Alex Knox and past project service-user poets
EASTER BREAK	<i>No workshops</i> (new poems shared with composers)
23 April Workshop 3	<i>Words and Music 2: Poets working with composers</i> Discussions on how writers can work with a composer from composer perspective. A chance to exchange ideas and start pairing up composers with poets
30 April Workshop 4	<i>Words and Music 2</i> Poets working with composers from a writer perspective A chance to exchange ideas and build on existing composer-poet relationships
7 May Workshop 5	<i>Composed songs workshop 1</i> Hear and review the first of the newly composed song drafts

Date /Week	Session Focus
14 May Workshop 6	<i>Composed songs workshop 2</i> Live workshopping of the newly composed songs for the project with expert support
21 May Workshop 7	<i>Composed songs workshop 3</i> Live workshopping of the newly composed songs for the project with expert support
28 May Workshop 8	<i>Composed songs workshop 4</i> Live workshopping of the newly composed songs for the project with expert support Start devising material for performances (poetry / other songs etc.)
Performance 1 June / July 2021	Showcase in East London (locations tbc with MITHN)
Performance 2 June / July 2021	South Bank University / Guildhall School TBC
Performance 3 July 2021	St Marylebone Festival (Connected with 'Guild of Health')
Performance 4 Autumn 2021	Guildhall School as part of 'ResearchWorks' event