

21st
CELEBRATION

THE CITY'S ANNUAL
CELEBRATION OF DIVERSITY

Exeter Respect Festival 2018

ALL DIFFERENT, ALL EQUAL

**EXETER RESPECT CIC
'ALL DIFFERENT ALL EQUAL'
CELEBRATION OF 21ST YEAR
ANNUAL REPORT**

All Different, All Equal

Exeter Respect

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"ALL DIFFERENT ALL EQUAL"

EXETER RESPECT FESTIVAL 2018

CELEBRATION OF 21ST YEAR ANNUAL REPORT

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I. INTRODUCTION, BACKGROUND AND HISTORY

WELCOME TO THE 21ST ANNIVERSARY OF EXETER RESPECT FESTIVAL 2018

TO ALL PEOPLE WHO GAVE THEIR LIFE TIME TO CAMPAIGN FOR JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

On behalf of the Board of Exeter Respect CIC and the organizing committee of Exeter Respect Festival 2018 we would like to thank and congratulate all our communities for their participation at the Festival 2018 that marked the 100th Anniversary of the Representation of People's Act, the centenary of voting rights for some women. It was also 70th Anniversary of the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights (UNDHR) and the 25th Anniversary of the young man, Stephen Lawrence, who in cold blood was murdered in the heart of London. His absence makes him present at the centre of Equality Legislation. Therefore, Exeter Respect Festival 2018 was a fertile ground for communities to express love and harmony and the principle that we all have one thing in common: We are all different - all equal. We dedicated the festival to all people regardless of their background, colour, gender or creed, who tirelessly stood firm for human rights and justice. No to prejudice, no to hate, no to racism.

The preparations for Exeter Respect Festival 2018 were based on inputs from our communities, through our social media and monthly at St. Stephen Church High Street in Exeter. We had Open Events, sharing and discussing ideas from the general public, volunteers and sponsors. The O'Marley's Irish Band played at some of these the events and added a special enjoyable musical element. From those open meetings, it was suggested to charge £2 at the gates, with no charge for children and young people 16 years old and under. We were overwhelmed by the response and people have contributed to our decision to implement this policy of a symbolic charge. The Festival reflects our community unity: One voice, one community All Different, All Equal. In addition the festival message was supported through the University of Exeter and the students Guild, where they organized Exeter Respect on Campus adding the word "All Human" to our message. We are honoured to have people coming from everywhere in Devon and beyond to Exeter specifically to the Festival and delighted that we have kept the festival an alcohol-free. Exeter Respect Festival is unique. Its message has not changed since it started in 1997 and It is the biggest annual celebration of diversity, equality and human rights in the South West.

The Festival has become the platform for artists to share their creativity with voices of celebration from every corner of the South West. Our 2018 programme was full of distinguished artists, including Wildwood Kin and our after-show party at Exeter Phoenix. Exeter Respect Festival 2018 expressed one voice one community, united, hand in hand, shoulder to shoulder, a melting pot of all nationalities and ethnicities coming together to say, *"no to all forms of prejudice, discrimination and racism"*.

Dr Suaad Genem-George
Managing Director
EXETER RESPECT CIC
"ALL DIFFERENT ALL EQUAL"



2. THE PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT

This report contains a review of every aspect of Exeter Respect Festival 2018, to share with the public, sponsors, stall holders and supporters, to comment, and to suggest recommendations for improvement for future festivals.

3. EXETER RESPECT FESTIVAL 2018 OVERVIEW: ELEMENT-BY-ELEMENT ANALYSIS

Exeter Respect Festival 2018 took place on Saturday 30th June and Sunday 1st July 2018 in Belmont Park in the City of Exeter. It was an event lasting from noon until 7pm on Saturday and 11am until 6pm on Sunday. Exeter Respect Festival 2018 was an Alcohol-Free Festival and provided a great safe space in which communities came together to celebrate and share their cultures.

REVIEW OF PROGRAMMING 2018

PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR MR JOHN FITZSIMONS

3.1 DIVERSITY STAGE

Exeter respect festival 2018, on Saturday hosted distinguished artist. During the day Locked Horns opened the day with big band Jazz, followed by Paul Kouatchou who has described his vibes as world music founded in the roots and heart of reggae. He said *"I am both privileged and proud to be able to share and celebrate in the sounds I create"*. The Blu Funk Allstars provided some amazing funk fronted by the tremendous voice of Emma Watson. The Collection harmony trio of three girls won The Exeter College battle of the bands competition and thus the spot on the main stage. They write and play their own original songs and will certainly be the stars of tomorrow. Gary Stewart's Graceland were on the Diversity stage and expertly played music from Paul Simons' Graceland album, that won a Grammy as album of the year in 1987. The O'Marleys Irish band had the audience dancing to exciting songs and dances from Ireland and Scotland and we closed the day with Big Noise Chorus community choir, providing a stirring end to the first day. On Sunday we opened the day with Devon Youth Jazz Orchestra, young musicians, from across the whole of Devon who play and perform a wide variety of jazz standards, followed by The Kingstons from Plymouth providing an exciting, fresh, unique sound incorporating a blend of ska and reggae. Dakar Audio Club, Afrofusion band, expressed their love of African soukous, mbalax, reggae and desert blues. The Sounds of Sirens, a now nationally established acoustic duo, took to the stage, followed by Reggae band Revelation Roots and finish with local stars of funk rock The Jonah Hitchens Band.

To attempt to achieve a fair balance of performers across ethnic minorities; gender; age; and musical genre. In order to further demonstrate this belief in practice, we once again had an equal expenses payment policy, where every individual musician was paid the same amount (£30). The only exception to this was for bands with five members or more, whose expenses fee was capped at £150 due to budgetary limitations.

On the whole, the live music programmed on the Diversity Stage went down extremely well with audiences, and many people danced and cheered with appreciation.

3.2 COMMUNITY STAGE

Annually Sound Waves Music Project open the stage with their vibrant beat, followed by Collage, a variety of talented dancers, mixing people from Exeter, Devon and beyond with diverse backgrounds to share their joy in celebrating cultural diversity. LALA Choir 100 strong community choir lined up not only at the community stage but also performed in front of the Diversity stage (though we will not include this in future festivals as it slowed the change over of the acts at the Diversity stage). Many talented groups, such as Shumba Arts, who were performing at the community stage, also moved around the site to run workshops. They conducted tasters sessions at the Family area drawing in families and their children to try samba drumming. Likewise the Philippines community choir Fil Ex also toured around the site and performed in different



areas, and they have managed to raise money to support an Orphanage in the Philippines. They have now received a thank you card of appreciation for this unique opportunity to use the rhythm of diversity to raise funding for their orphanage in the Philippines. Dance is an essential element of the body's' expression of cultural, bringing harmony and unity to the festival. Choirs and dancers and rhythm are the main elements of the community stage where communities bringing the source of life to the stage, showing unity and solidarity between communities, to say no collectively to racism and to all forms of prejudices.

3.3 INSPIRE STAGE

The stage was curated by young ambassadors and students from Exeter College Music Academy, and their tutor Emma Watson. We also added some external acts that complemented the Exeter College performances. Exeter College Music Academy continue to provide the sound equipment and engineer for this stage. Scheduling ran to time and the student performances were well prepared. The Exeter College Big Band was outstanding, as were the Jazz Ensembles. We will continue to book external acts for this stage to mix with



the college ensembles. This is second consecutive year Exeter College Arts Management students aged 16-19yrs have been involved in planning and managing events running up to the festival, as part of their final assessment in BTEC Arts Management, a vocational course at Exeter College. The Exeter Respect Launch Party - Fusion, was lead and coordinated by the students. The outstanding Fusion event was a success and for a number of students a pivotal point that has led them to embark on a career in stage and event management. The Inspire Stage will be curated again by Exeter College Music Academy with an input from our team. In future Student performances will be spread around other stages as well as this stage and more external acts will be added to this stage. This will add world music and more diversity of genres. It been suggested that the layout of the stage needs to be changed, seated stage creating a vibrant world music, adding a soft drink bar in the horizon looking for a potential local business to sponsor it.

3.4 STEPHEN LAWRENCE STAGE

The stage was curated on Saturday by The Institute of Arabic and Islamic Studies (IAIS) from the University of Exeter. The team from the Institute has presented a programme full of inspiring talks; on woman issues and feminist stories, interfaith dialogue, the Palestine question, or the relationships between Devon and the Middle-East. The IAIS has brought unique flavours from the Arab Peninsula, the Middle East and Africa with photography, poetry, live music, and food tasters, made by its students and staff. There were activities for all, including Arabic classes and calligraphy, stories and performance for children, and table games for all ages! The stage was packed with people and the IAIS' participation has managed to bring the academics from the hills of the University Campus to the grounds of Belmont Park at Exeter Respect Festival to share their expertise and experiences with the public. The feedback from the public and from students too was overwhelming. Sarah has commented "IAIS tent was a great idea, I really appreciated the programme in particular listening to speakers". Nick said "Thank you for a fantastic day that was very profitable emotionally & intellectually!". Amira said "It has been a splendid day! I Learned a lot! Thank you, keep it up!". This is a beginning and the IAIS will definitively take part again next year. The plan is to build on what we started and tightened the strings to another successful partnership work.

On Sunday 1st July, "Space" attended the Exeter Respect Festival to promote their organisation and the services which they provide as a youth service. Adam Copeman said "Space only attended the festival on the Sunday this year, which, as luck would have it, the weather had taken a turn for the worse and thunderstorms we're due to take place all day! As the weather was so bad, attendance across the whole festival for most of the day was low in comparison to the day before. We had planned a variety of activities to be taking place throughout the day, anything fun to engage young people and their families and to promote Space's provision to the wider community.

We had planned on running activities such as, sumo suits, face painting, a free mocktail station to promote healthy lifestyle options. (Of which we used all recyclable materials like paper cups and straws to reduce our plastic waste) We also had a selection of cube game challenges with the participants gaining a free entry to the youth sessions! Additionally we also had planned on running two music workshops within the day for any young person to jump in and give it try, as well as music performances from our young people during the afternoon.

Performances By:

Second Light - Rising covers band from Exmouth/The Hive youth centre. Performed acoustic set of five rock songs.

Chloe from Exmouth/The Hive performing a collection of vocal covers.

Kya (Coming all the way up from Totnes) Singing and playing acoustic guitar to her own music and performing a few songs with Chloe together.

Additionally to this, Rich Doak who is project lead of the Atlantic Youth Creative Hubs project also came down and had a table showcasing all the really amazing opportunities you can have within the digital creative realm. Although we had lots to offer throughout the day and we were heavily prepared with all the activities etc, the overall attendance for the day just wasn't with us regrettably as well as this we all collectively felt that our tent this year was really too far out towards the back of the festival to make a real impact visually to attract more people. In previous years we've been in the main space of the festival and received good numbers of attendance. However with all that said and done, as a staff team we collectively think that our impact was a positive one for the people who did access our tent and all the conversations we did have were all positive.

Finally, I must say a massive thank you and well done to the volunteers who gave up their free time to attend and run the activities alongside us: *"Having conversations with young people entering our space, helping members of the public with directions and even walking around the festival with me in the pouring rain handing out leaflets to promote Space and our tent".*



3.5 EQUALITY STAGE

Curated and hosted by Widsith & Deor Stage

This was our seventh year hosting the Widsith & Deor Stage, and as ever, we were delighted with its success. We had a terrific line up and lots of positive feedback and good audiences. On Saturday the line up included top Kenson Low's Dinosaur Rider walkabout and was another highlight, with people following him taking video and photos. Our own shows and displays of masks and carnival heads were very well received. Nicole Wakeling American singer/song writer, presented highly entertaining renditions of familiar songs like Radiohead's Creep or One Day Like This by Elbow as well as her own compositions such as the beautiful Circus Song. Raventales, comprised of Michael & Wendy Dacre, are well known throughout Britain as some of its most articulate, witty and lively storytellers. Kat Black: we were proud to present New Zealand born, a one woman rock 'n' roll sensation. Ulrika-Igraine is a Swedish/Peruvian songstress, songwriter and performer who thoroughly enjoys having her feet firmly planted in the genre of alternative folk music. Sara Hurley travels to fairs, festivals and streets, museums, libraries and theatres, markets, fields and kitchens all around the country. Louisa Adjoa Parker is of Ghanaian

and English heritage, and comes from Dorset. Louisa is passionate about equality and social justice. Peter Farrie is an engaging and funny singer/songwriter & musician. His self-produced debut album *Skeptileptic* was recently mastered at Super Audio Mastering, Dartmoor and was released on 4th May '18. Ros & John Wehner are hosts of The Plough Storytelling Circle in Gt. Torrington. Ros is a storyteller who weaves magic with her words and gestures, casting her spell over the audience.

On Sunday 1st July 2018 our line up was once again magnificent, started with Clive Pig is an exceptional and charismatic performer, he tells tales like a one man blockbuster movie. He was followed by Rosie Eade "Folk-Pixie", one of the new voices on the folk and acoustic music scene, arranged around her love of folk, rock and thrashing her old guitar. David Sawyer is a remarkable visual artist and musician and member of Art Haven. It's truly unmissable! Deborah is a gifted musician, who plays viola and violin with immense charm and is a joy to listen to. Chris Brook, Popular poet, comedian! It was a joy to listen to his spoken words. The Weather House it was utterly charming show about the weather. Imagine a little Bavarian Weather House, with tiny figures predicting rain & shine. These two well loved Devon poets, become those figures and tell poems of the weather and weathervane hearts.

Rosie & Midge Mullin of Exeter based theatre company Substance & Shadow, were passionate about producing powerful, inventive and original take on Oscar Wilde.

Widsith & Deor Storytelling Theatre are a duo with an unrivalled on stage chemistry who specialise in female heroes, unusual tales from around the globe and UK, and original adaptations of classic & modern fiction abridged for storytelling, and all with their own unique stamp and lashings of cross-dressing!

The only issue was the weather, which of course was beyond anyone's control, but we switched smoothly from outdoors to inside the Tipi venue whenever the rain got just too heavy, and rain very firmly did not stop play!

As ever, the bringing together of performers and community from all walks of life and all over the globe was inspiring, friendly, and made for a lovely atmosphere of goodwill and connectivity. As a showcase to bring people together in a spirit of unity (perhaps more important in the current climate than ever before), the Stage worked perfectly, and in harmony with the whole ethos of the Festival. All the feedback which we gained and heard was of people having had a wonderful time, enjoying themselves, the acts, the food and the terrific festival feeling.

We are proud to be part of the Exeter Respect Festival 2018, and view it as an essential part of the Exeter Arts & Community events calendar and one that needs to be cherished in these difficult times.

3.6 OPEN MIC STAGE - Curated and hosted by Exeter Community Initiative and Julian House

Exeter Community Initiative and Julian House worked collaboratively to put on an Open Mic tent at Respect Festival 2018. We wanted to give a free and an informal space for members of the community to come along and share music, spoken words, comedy and performance art. It was very well received by both the festival goers and performers. We had a full timetable of performance through the 2 days and the informality of the space ensured that people who may not get the opportunity to perform on the larger stages had a space for their voice and creativity. Exeter community Initiative would love to make the Open Mic tent a more permanent feature at Exeter Respect Festival. We provided extra activities a Slackline and smoothies making bike. All of which were receive and enjoyed by all. Thank you to Suaad and her team for all their hard work and support.

3.7 COMMUNITY YOGA

The 108 Sun Salutation is a very popular annual event at Exeter Respect, which attracts experienced yoga enthusiasts and beginners alike. The salutations - led by Fran Allen (Derek The Dog Yoga Centre) - once again took place on Sunday morning warm-up particularly with drizzling rain. Wet weather force them to move to shelter at the melody of community stage and finish their salutation in style.

3.8 FAMILIES AND CHILDREN AREA

Full list of activities were delivered by different stall holders, engaging with families and their children. The bouncy castle once again was hosted by Ruby May Spencer, our Ambassador. Exeter City Football Trust One Game One Community Group alongside the Police with their cadets and the Fire Services have provided a leisure activity mainly information about their services in the Community. The Toy Library was provided by RAMM, celebrating a 150 years anniversary and bringing history alive. Newtown Community pre-school scrape store provided interactive activities. Drumming workshop were delivered by Shumba Arts and were very popular. A Digital workshop delivered by Cosmic Ltd was popular among many young people and families who had fun in learning and interacting at with the technology.

3.9 MARKET STALLS

Local small businesses and charities sold Fair Traded goods from around the world, many supporting a range of international good causes. From Devonian, Asian and Indian cuisine, to Devon jewellery, to world clothing; the park's central avenue of trees and the play area became an international market, with people browsing and shopping. We encourage local traders to participate and promote their goods; this element needs to be carefully managed in order to create a balance between commercial traders and charitable causes.



3.10 COMMUNITIES, CAMPAIGN & DISPLAY

More communities from different diverse backgrounds rushed to book a space this year, and fitting everyone in was a challenge. Many groups also fundraised for their good causes. Exeter Respect Festival 2018 was marking the solidarity between people, and the range of displays and activities by campaigners encouraged people to move more around the park.

The layout of the site was organised according to the causes, traders and caterers on one group, women's groups, faith and other charities were in one group, in this way we created a specialist area, for the visitors to browse, shop, socialise, and retrieve information. However some campaigners that are campaigning for the same causes prefer to be apart.

3.11 HEALING ZONE

The quiet Sensory Garden part of Belmont Park became the Exeter Respect Festival Healing Zone. This year, a few stall holders at this area mentioned that the Health Zone, being out of sight, gave them more privacy; healing organisations generally found it better to be in a quite area to deliver their activities effectively. The overall feedback from the stall holders was that it was an excellent location for the purpose of their activities and they prefer that the area should be called Healing Zone, rather Wellbeing Zone, or quite Zone. The feedback from the visitors indicated that people do visit this area and enjoy being treated by different practitioners. Some prefer to be moved from this area as they wanted to be more on the middle of the communities, and their activities can be delivered within a crowded area, not necessarily at this area. Solo organisations delivering healing sessions prefer to be at this area. This is something that we do take into consideration.

3.11 OTHER PERFORMANCES & ACTIVITIES

Belmont Park was transformed into an amazing festival site and the event featured a number of strolling performances from the Philippines community and the Bulgarian Association, amongst many others. Regardless of the heavy rain on Sunday, everywhere you turned you could see people moving around enjoying themselves and confronted with someone performing something.

3.12 DECORATION

The site transformed into a colourful and vibrant festival site. The Art wall at Belmont Park was featuring a vivid image of the Suffragists and Human Rights symbols. The artist Chloe Pooley has left her touch on the wall.

4. VOLUNTEERING

It wouldn't be possible to run the festival without the generosity of many people from all different backgrounds coming together to help and support the Festival, before, during and after the event. For many years people have been coming from all parts of Exeter, Devon and Cornwall to volunteer and be part of this amazing event. The Exeter Philippines Community Choir in particular organised and lead volunteers to be at the festival site for the whole two days. Volunteers have managed to perform under the heavy rain and showed dedications and commitment.

5. SOCIAL MEDIA & PROMOTION

This year Wiseman Production led a production of a series of short videos that were posted on our social media sites, actively involved in promoting the festival. Cosmic Ltd produced a film featuring the festival and also posted this on our social media. We printed an A5 brochure, listing events and activities, that was given out at the festival. We also gave out A6 flyers around the city. We also used our website and other social media tools including Facebook and Twitter, which were kept live and up to date both before and during the festival by a brilliant team of volunteers. Leading up to the main event Exeter Respect Festival 2018 was at the heart of our city centre. Also, we had our Community Variety Show launch event at the Barnfield Theatre, that, with in-kind support, had provided a free venue and hosted our launch. Our publicity was very well received at the University of Exeter and Exeter College have produced art work to feature the festival. They have spread a variety of posters around the city and on November 2018 they will be holding an exhibition at the Exeter Phoenix. Monthly meetings and open mic, at St. Stephen's Church at the High Street in Exeter were very well attended, celebrating different occasions and promoting the festival meeting our volunteers and consulting the public. Our leafleting in the high street was very appreciated by the people who were eager to take our flyers and excited that the festival was, once again, happening.

6. OVERALL EVALUATION OF EXETER RESPECT FESTIVAL 2018

2018 was Exeter Respect Festival fourth's year as an Alcohol-Free Festival. This decision was taken after long negotiations with the police and Exeter City Council. We reviewed the feedback from the police and the Exeter City Council Health and Safety group, and the public who advised the organising committee, and decided to run 2018 festival alcohol free. The feedback was excellent, see and read comments at our Facebook page and other social media, we appreciate the fact that people responded to our call not to bring alcohol to the festival. We were impressed by our audience and visitors who helped us to respect our wishes. Families, children and young people were able to move everywhere in the park without feeling uncomfortable or intimidated. As a result, the event was more inclusive, and the alcohol-free policy enabled everyone to move around, to sing, to dance and eat, sit, stand and move freely everywhere.

7. ENVIRONMENTAL & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

Exeter Respect Festival 2018 accepted that we must look after the environment and therefore used bio diesel rather red to run the festival generators. No environmental damage was caused and we received no complaints from the neighbourhood. Everyone who came through the gate had the experience of, 'All Different, All Equal'. This is what Exeter Respect Festival stands for - bringing people together every year. Only together can we build a society free from prejudices. Exeter Respect Festival is the platform for all people regardless of their background, colour, creed or ethnicities, to come together to celebrate diversity in the heart of Exeter.

8. SPONSORSHIP

We would like to thank our main sponsor this year, Exeter City Council, for their funding, Devon County Council as well as South West & Devon Unison, University of Exeter, its Medical School and the Institute of Islamic and Arabic Studies, Devon Contract Waste, the Police and Police Crime Commissioner Office, Exeter College, LLP-PRS for Music, Best One Grocery Shop on Sidwell Street, Widsith & Deor organised and hosting the Equality Stage, Positive People- Cosmic Limited, Waitrose and Stagecoach.

We would like to extend our thanks to all the voluntary organizations, including Exeter Community Initiatives, St. Sidwell's Community Centre, Newtown Association, Multilingua Devon CIC, Young Devon, Space, Devon Faith Forum & Belief, Barnfield Theatre and Exeter Phoenix for their support and resources. Our appreciation to all our volunteers, who are the backbone of the festival.

EXETER RESPECT 2017 RECEIVED FINANCIAL SUPPORT AND IN-KIND SUPPORT FROM THE FOLLOWING ORGANISATIONS AND BUSINESSES

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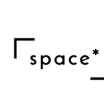


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FRIENDS OF EXETER RESPECT FESTIVAL



Keeping in touch with Exeter Respect Community Interest Company - CIC No. 08725612

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Exeter Respect Festival branding designed
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