

1 NOVEMBER



Will Not Protect From Drowning, 2025. Aya Haidar.

Counterpoints Arts

PLATFORMA FESTIVAL 2025

Presented by 62 Gladstone Street
Supported by Arts Council England

PETERBOROUGH

4 OCTOBER

**EXHIBITION
PERFORMANCES
FILM
WORKSHOPS
EVENTS**

4 October – 1 November 2025

A festival of creativity, connection, and culture.
Celebrating new voices through art, photography, film,
theatre, and conversation.

Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery
51 Priestgate, Peterborough PE1 1LF
Phone: 01733 864663

INTRODUCTION

Platforma Festival 2025 is a festival of creativity, connection, and culture – celebrating new voices through art, photography, film, theatre, and conversation. Hosted by 62 Gladstone Street in Peterborough this autumn, in partnership with Counterpoints Arts, the festival runs from 4 October to 1 November 2025. This major cultural event features a new exhibition at Peterborough Museum, wraparound events across the city, and a rich programme of community engagement.



Platforma is a biennial event produced by Counterpoints Arts, showcasing bold, innovative work by artists from refugee backgrounds and creative projects with displaced communities. The Peterborough programme is part of the wider festival taking place across the East of England this October,

2025

62 Gladstone Street is a community-rooted arts space in Peterborough, with a focus on supporting South Asian and MENA artists. Through exhibitions, residencies, and public programmes, it provides a vital platform for underrepresented voices and builds meaningful dialogue between artists and the wider community.

This year's programme is dedicated to the innocent men, women, and children who have lost their lives, to those displaced by war, and to everyone seeking refuge.

EXHIBITION

Bridging Landscapes II

A Group Exhibition curated by Aisha Zia

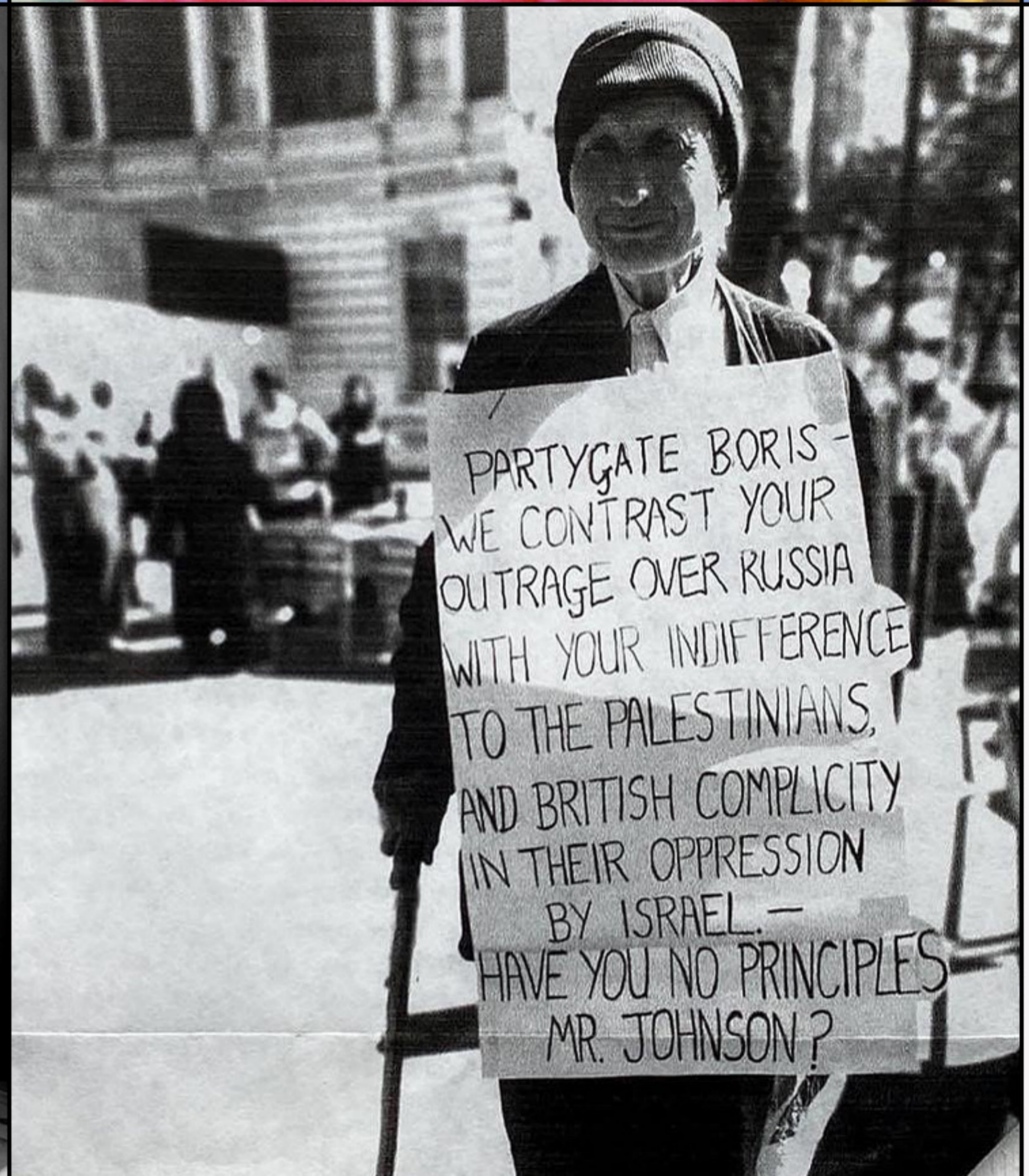
Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery | 4 Oct - 1 Nov |
Tue-Sat, 10:00-16:00 | Free

Following its successful run at French Riviera Gallery (London) and Rich Mix (Bethnal Green), Bridging Landscapes II comes to Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery.

This powerful group exhibition features South Asian and MENA artists from across the UK, including Zaineb Abelque, Sarah Ali, Mohammed Adel, Aya Haidar, Haroun Hayward, Rehan Jamil, Sofia Karim, Kalpesh Lathigra, Amak Mahmoodian, Mohammed Tariq and Anusheh Zia.

The works explore the emotional and cultural impact of migration – whether through lived or inherited experience – and the deep diasporic threads that shape memory, identity, and belonging.

Visit during museum hours to engage with these timely and deeply personal reflections on what it means to find home in uncertain times.





PERFORMANCES

The Table a new play by Aisha Zia directed by Suba Das
 The Key Theatre | 14-16 Oct | £12 / £8 concessions /
 Free for refugees, migrants, asylum seekers

Complementing the Bridging Landscapes II exhibition,
 The Table invites audiences to gather around and take
 part in urgent, heartfelt conversations.

Developed from interviews with first-generation
 economic and war migrants in Bournemouth and
 Peterborough, this bold collaborative performance is
 made to be broken and put back together, holding
 space for listening, dialogue, and collective reflection.

2025





FILM PROGRAM

Presented by 62 Gladstone Street in partnership with Gateway Film Festival Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery | All screenings free

A month-long film programme exploring migration, memory, and belonging through powerful documentaries, archive footage, and international cinema. Curated by Gateway Film Festival as part of Platforma Festival 2025.

4 October | Britain & Refugees

18:00 - *Return to Life (1960, 29 mins)*

Dir. John Krish

BFI archive documentary on refugee resettlement in Britain, originally made to mark World Refugee Year (1959).

18:45 - *Hostile (2022, 93 mins)*

Dir. Sonita Gale

BAFTA-recognised film exploring the impact of the UK's 'hostile environment' immigration policies.

11 October | World Refugee Focus

16:00 - Short Films

Millfield of Dreams (24 mins) - Co-created by Peterborough Presented with 100+ residents, capturing community life in Millfield, Gladstone, and New England.

Bitter Greens, Tangled Roots (20 mins) - Reflection on childhood, olive harvesting, and displacement.

Station (8 mins) - Archive short offering a glimpse into migration experiences.

One Aloe, One Ficus, One Avocado and Six Dracaenas (8 mins) - A meditation on what we take or leave behind when fleeing for survival.

18:00 - Feature Film

Io Capitano (2023) - Award-winning drama following two Senegalese teenagers on their dangerous journey to Europe.

18 October | Child Migrant Stories & Women's Experiences

16:00 - *Child Migrant Stories*

Short films sharing first-hand stories of children who migrated to the UK.

18:00 - *Focus on Women's Experiences*

WOMEN (2024, 28 mins) - Impact of the war in Ukraine through the lives of three women.

We Are Not Princesses (2018, 75 mins) - Portrait of Syrian refugee women in Lebanon reclaiming their voices through theatre and storytelling.

25 October | Palestine Focus

16:00 - *Lyd (2023, 78 mins)*

A poetic film about the Palestinian city of Lyd, reflecting on its past, present, and erased future through memory and resilience.

18:00 - *No Other Land (2024, 95 mins)*

Basel Adra's five-year documentation of life under occupation becomes a collaboration with an Israeli journalist, resulting in a powerful portrait of justice, resistance, and solidarity.



WORKSHOPS & EVENTS

Interactive workshops, talks, and community events create space for creativity, dialogue, and shared experience.



4 Oct

Stitching Workshop with Aya Haidar

14:00-15:30 | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery | Free | Migrant, refugee, asylum-seeking groups
Join artist Aya Haidar for a stitching workshop exploring memory, migration, and storytelling through textiles. Materials provided, open to all levels.

5 Oct

A Creative Peer Meetup and Sharing – Leaving Were the Ones Who Could Not Stay

15:00-16:30 | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery | Free | Open to artists, producers, creatives
A reflective session with artists Olga Jurgenson and Idit Nathan, part of a long-standing mentoring group. Open to creatives exploring migration and identity.

11 Oct

Roots & Rhythm: Afro-Jazz & Poetry Workshop

12:00-13:00 | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery | Free | Open to all
Explore the synergy of African jazz traditions and spoken word in this immersive creative session led by Taiwo Michael Oloyede.

SlideFest

14:00 - 15:45 | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery
Free | Open to all
Photographers share migration stories through image-led presentations, tracing personal and collective journeys from departure to arrival.

Photographers: Hicham Gardaf, Kalpesh Lathigra, Amak Mahmoodian, Chris Neophytou

16 Oct

Food from Home: An Exploration of Food Memories and Identity

1-3pm | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery | Free | Open to all | Open to age 18+ Booking essential
Join artist Madhu Manipatruni for a workshop exploring food, memory, and migration. Through storytelling we'll reflect on how food evokes identity and belonging. Bring a meaningful recipe to share. Delivered by Peterborough Presents and Migrefhealth.

18 Oct

Lunch with the Aziz Foundation

12:00-13:30 | The Iqbal Centre | Free | Ages 15+
Informal lunch and introduction to the Aziz Foundation's work supporting British Muslim communities, including scholarships and traineeships.

25 Oct

Muslim Girls Fence with Maslaha

11:00-13:00 | Venue TBC
Free | Women & girls 12+
A creative collaboration blending fencing and dialogue to challenge stereotypes around race, gender, religion, and identity. Combining sport and creativity to encourage self-expression.

How to Talk About Palestine – with Makan

13:30-15:30 | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery | Free | Open to all
Practical workshop offering strategies and confidence for conversations about Palestine, responding to difficult questions and narratives.



QUICK REFERENCE TIMETABLE

4 Oct – 1 Nov

Bridging Landscapes II (Exhibition) | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

4 Oct

14:00 – Stitching Workshop with Aya Haidar | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

18:00 – Return to Life & Hostile (Films) | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

5 Oct

15:00 – Peer Mentoring Workshop – Leaving Were the Ones | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

11 Oct

12:00 – Roots & Rhythm: Afro-Jazz & Poetry Workshop | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

14:00 – SlideFest | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

16:00 – Short Films | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

18:00 – Io Capitano (Film) | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

14-16 Oct

The Table (Performance) | The Key Theatre

16 Oct

12:00 – Food from Home | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

18 Oct

12:00 – Lunch with the Aziz Foundation | The Iqbal Centre

16:00 – Child Migrant Stories (Films) | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

18:00 – WOMEN & We Are Not Princesses (Films) | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

25 Oct

11:00 – Muslim Girls Fence with Maslaha | Venue TBC

13:30 – How to Talk About Palestine – with Makan | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

16:00 – Lyd (Film) | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

18:00 – No Other Land (Film) | Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery

PLATFORMA FESTIVAL 2025

Festival Dates

4 October – 1 November 2025

Venues

Peterborough Museum & Art Gallery, 51 Priestgate,
Peterborough PE1 1LF

The Key Theatre, Embankment Rd,
Peterborough PE1 1EF

Allama Iqbal Community Centre, 157 Cromwell Road
Peterborough. PE1 2EL

2025



Info

www.counterpoints.org.uk
www.peterboroughmuseum.org.uk
Instagram: @62gladstonest

Presented by 62 Gladstone Street

Supported by Arts Council England

Partners:

Counterpoints Arts, Landmark Theatres,
Peterborough Cultural Alliance, Metal, Peterborough
Presents, Gateway Film Festival, HELP Charity,
Maslaha, Makan, Aziz Foundation

Executive Producer: Aisha Zia
Producer: Matthew Schmolle
Communities Producer: Anita Nayyar
Design: Play Nice

