

Letter from Watermans Director about Cinema Reopening

25 June 2020

To our customers:

On Tuesday 23 June, the Government announced that cinemas would be allowed to reopen from 4 July. This seems to be some good news at last for the sector.

Many of you have asked when Watermans is going to reopen so I am getting in touch to let you know what the situation is.

While the Government has stated that cinemas can open from that date, we still await the detailed guidance which will be published in the next day or so. Once we have this guidance, we will be looking at the paramount issue of whether we can open safely, as well as whether it is operationally viable with whatever restrictions we will need to put in place.

It goes without saying that if it is possible to reopen, we will reopen and we hope to be able to announce our plans within the next 2 weeks. In the meantime, thank you for all your generous donations and words of support. It means the world.

While we're still closed, you can find weekly performance, film and family recommendations at Watermans Online and you can join our free, fortnightly cinema club No Ticket Required, when in-house cinephile Jon Davies leads a discussion about a chosen film. On Monday 29 June, the film is Belle, the story of a mixed-race child brought to England during the 18th century, against the backdrop of slavery and the abolition movement.

Kind Regards

Jan Lennox

Director

For press enquiries please contact Marketing Director Erica Weston: erica@watermans.org.uk

Information for Listings

Watermans, 40 High Street, Brentford TW8 0DS

Watermans.org.uk

Box Office: 020 8232 1010

Nearest rail: Kew Bridge, Brentford

Nearest tube: Gunnersbury then bus 237 or 267. Or 65 from Northfields.

On-site car parking.

On-site café and Indian restaurant with riverside views.

CURRENTLY CLOSED DUE TO CORONAVIRUS: EVENTS ARE TAKING PLACE ONLINE

END

About Watermans

Watermans is West London's leading arts centre with a thriving and inclusive programme of independent cinema, family theatre, live performance, exhibitions and courses. Watermans runs a year-round programme of cutting-edge digital arts for which it receives National Portfolio Organisation funding from Arts Council England, and has done so for many years.

Watermans also leads several outreach projects, primary concerned with broadening access to high quality arts in communities where there is little arts provision:

Creative People & Places Hounslow, Arts Council England's major investment in increasing arts capacity in underserved areas, working in Feltham, Heston and Cranford, and central Hounslow. Watermans leads a consortium of arts organisations with the vision of creating a confident, colourful and creative borough.

Bell Square, the outdoor arts venue in Hounslow Town Centre, programmed and delivered by Watermans

Circulate, a London-wide outdoor arts touring network, led by Watermans