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# acmestudios

## SUPPORTING ARTISTS SINCE 1972

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### Rita Evans at the Backstage Centre

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Sunday 10 May 3pm-5pm

High House Production Park, Vellacott Close, Purfleet, Essex, RM19 1RJ

Join **Stephen Cripps' Studio Award 2014/15** recipient, **Rita Evans** at High House Production Park for a selection of spontaneous live performances involving the local community in the Backstage Centre, the onsite arena-scale live sound stage.

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Students from South Essex College and the Technical Youth Team rehearsing at the Backstage Centre. Photo: Rita Evans (2015)

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The event will include performances on new 'electro-acoustic instruments' developed by Rita Evans which will explore the sensory rhythms of making and thinking, including: knitting, singing, stage lighting and effects. A diverse range of part-sculptural, part-architectural structures made by Rita will be present in the space. These will be 'performed' by groups of people from the Thurrock area including Lesley Robinson and Knitters Circle, the Royal Opera House Community Choir and the National Skills Academy Creative & Cultural Backstage Training Centre's Technical Youth Team and South Essex College.

Over the first six months working on site Rita has been exploring performance in relation to forms of musical improvisation. These are highly-structured in their bringing together of personal rhythms in one common task, while at the same time spontaneous in the final outcome. This approach allows the performers to be creative and offer their own interpretations.

The performances have an emphasis on the temporary, both in their performative nature and in their built forms that use recycled and found materials from around Thurrock. The event will explore the ebb and flow of time, of working, of performing, of making and moving together.

For one afternoon, the Backstage Centre becomes a live creative space where the group dynamics of the community, an elemental part of the works, will evolve inside and around the sculptures.

The performance further builds on the creative collaboration between the partners on the Park; High House Production Park, the Royal Opera House, Creative and Cultural Skills, South Essex College and Acme Studios.

The Stephen Cripps' Studio Award is a major creative development opportunity funded by Acme Studios, The Henry Moore Foundation, High House Production Park Ltd and Stephen Cripps' family.

For detailed information about the event and directions, please visit [ritaevans.com](http://ritaevans.com)

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