

Bricks and Mortar

2013

Written and performed by Dean Atta, award-winning performance poet and Lyric Young Company alumnus. Dean wrote this poem especially for the Gala.

When even these bricks can be re-laid, rearranged or extended, the possibilities remain endless

for human life and imagination. For all stories and conversation we build upon a foundation of

understanding and truth. Even fantasy works only in relation to reality. Society needs stories

from which to build it's morality. Basically, call it moral masonry. And when we meet someone

new we are prone to a vanity, telling complimentary tales of our own mortality... Life or its best parts are the moments we can turn into stories or art. Paint a picture, set the scene

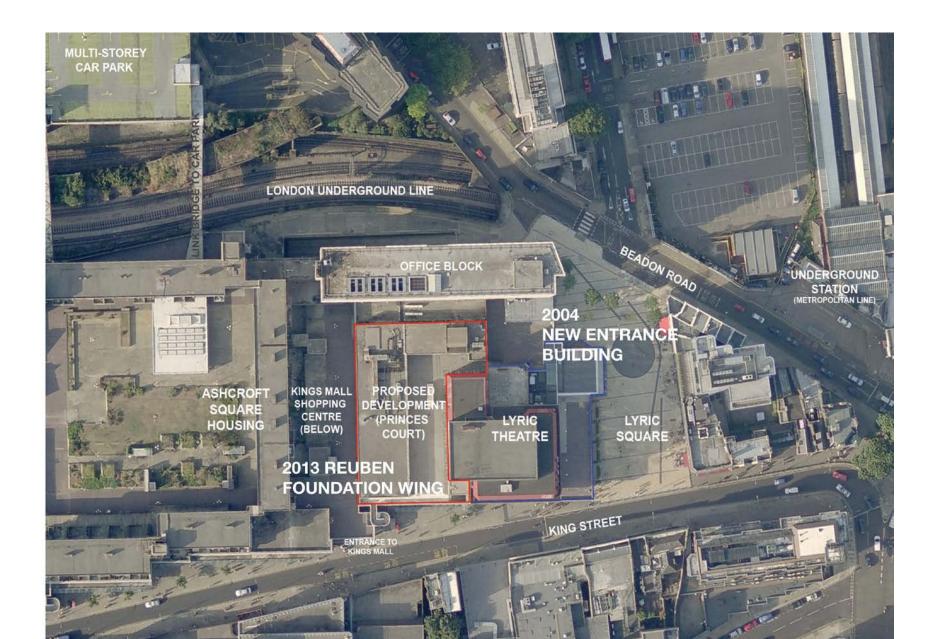
or settle the score. These bricks built this present, now inherited by those meeting a fresh mortar.

But when they are laid here, they will both stand out and fit in, just as we do all over Britain. Our bricks

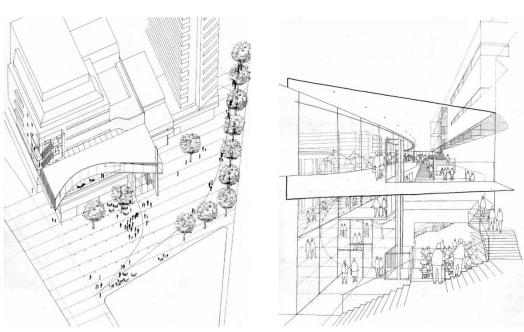
may be made from clay, concrete, lime-and-stone or may have come from another home. There are gaps

that need filling; there are stories that need telling. The world is falling apart and all we can do is make

something beautiful out of all these pieces. Perhaps if enough broken bricks come together, we can make ourselves feel whole?









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61 separate bodies and groups were consulted:

Young People - including the Lyric Young Company; students in the Borough and wider west London; disabled young people and young people with mental health diagnosis;

Wider community - including residents and tenants associations; local businesses; community groups;

Lyric Friends; audiences and current users of the building.

Parks Trust, 20th Century Society

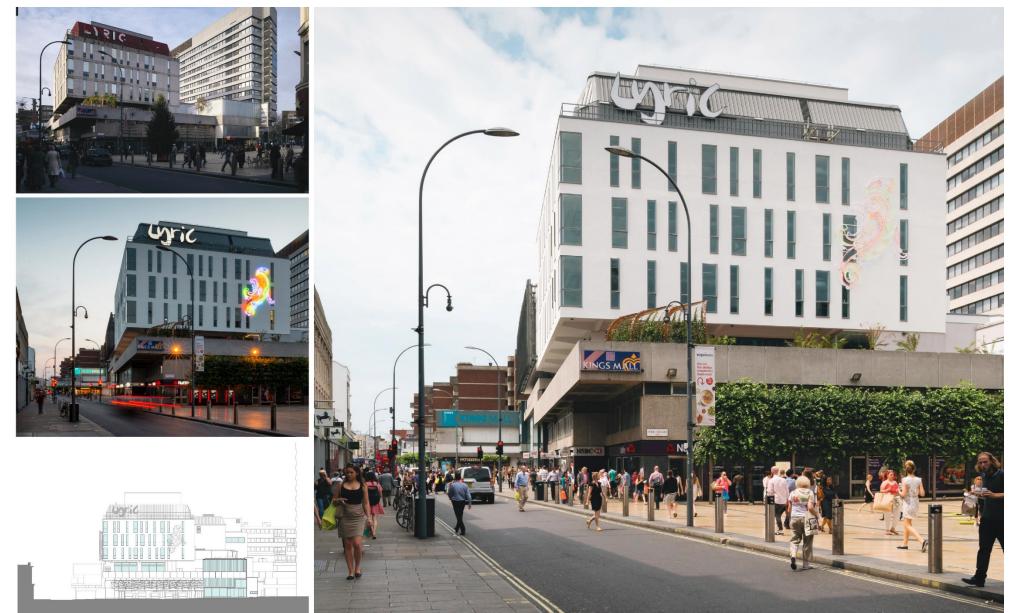










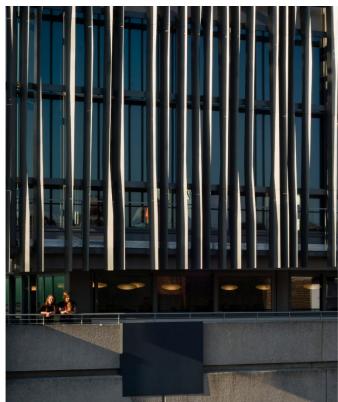








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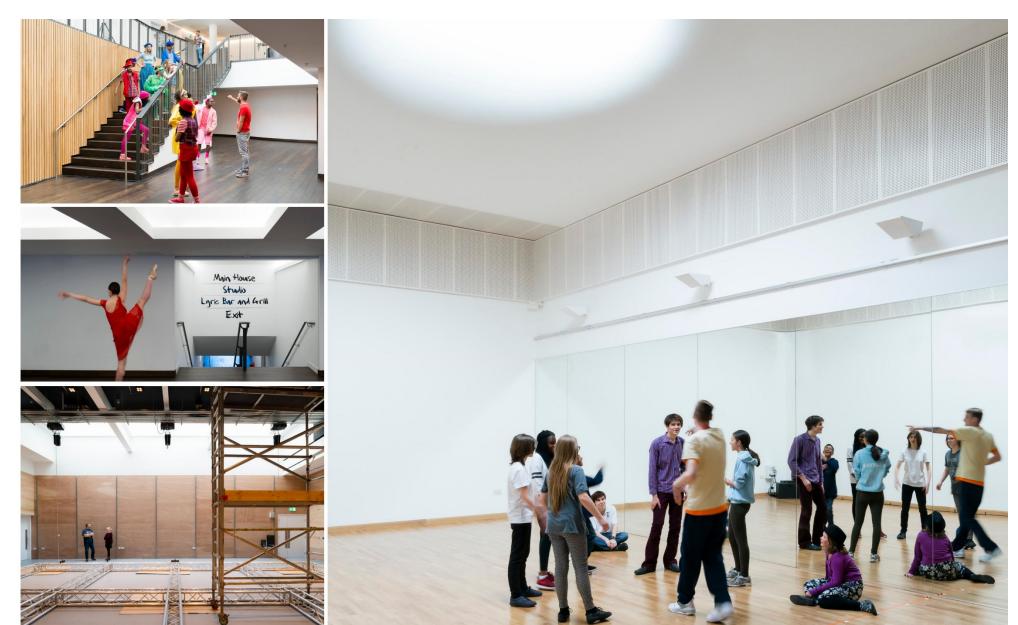




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