



"A venue cutting its teeth with enticing
adventurousness" The Times

Hackney Showroom
Amhurst Terrace
E8 2BT

020 3095 9747
hello@hackneyshowroom.com

PRESS RELEASE TUESDAY 22 NOVEMBER 2016

Hackney Showroom announces appointment of Dawn Walton as new Chair of the Board of Trustees



New Future Collective, the charity of Hackney Showroom announced today that Dawn Walton will succeed Acting Chair, Gaby Sumner who succeeded Chair, Sarah Preece earlier this year.

Dawn Walton is Artistic Director of Eclipse Theatre. She began her directing career at the Royal Court Theatre, going on to be awarded the first Jerwood Young Director's Award at the Young Vic. After a year as Acting Head of Studio - National Theatre Dawn formed Eclipse Theatre, the UK's leading black-led national touring theatre company, in 2010.

Nina Lyndon, Co-Director, said: "I'm so thrilled that the Board has appointed Dawn Walton. Her wealth of knowledge and experience in the arts and cultural sector will be a tremendous asset to our charity. Dawn and I first worked together at the Royal Court over 10 years ago and having watched her grow Eclipse into the successful and groundbreaking company it is today, I am proud to be working alongside her again."

Sam Curtis Lindsay, Co-Director, said: "Dawn is an inspiration to me and she has been a great champion of ours since joining the Board. I feel privileged that she has chosen to take up the role of Chair and give us her time whilst she continues with her own pioneering role in changing the landscape for theatre makers."

Gaby Sumner added: "I am delighted that Dawn Walton will be taking on the role of Chair at Hackney Showroom. Dawn's experience, energy and passion for the work make her a natural choice for Chair. Hackney Showroom is now firmly on the map and Dawn is going to provide fantastic leadership, ensuring that the company continues to move forward."

Dawn Walton commented "In no time Nina and Sam have grown Hackney Showroom into a home for bold and diverse programming with community engagement at its core. I am delighted to take on the role of Chair at a charity with such a visionary team. I am really excited to work with everyone as Hackney Showroom takes the next steps in realising its ambitions."

Ends

Notes to Editors

- For further information please contact Nina Lyndon, Co-Director:
nina@hackneyshowroom.com
- For images please see attached
- The current members of the Board of Trustees are: Stuart Heyes, Steven Kavuma, Neil MacKay, Charlie Mckenzie, Lindsey Rostron, Malakai Sargeant, Mahlon Sinclair and Gaby Sumner.

Hackney Showroom is a large, flexible cultural venue set in a 4,00sqft former print works and based at East London's largest creative hub, Hackney Downs Studios and designed by award-winning architects Citizens Design Bureau.

Launched in March 2015, our vision is to present and produce outstanding performance, work with leading artists and organisations, and create an inclusive, vibrant and accessible community building where people from different communities come together to be inspired, uplifted and emboldened by great art.

To achieve this we are commissioning new work, working in partnership with some the UK's finest artists and companies, and at the same time placing ourselves at the heart of our diverse community, making authentic, long lasting connections with local audiences.

Hackney Showroom is run by New Future Collective, a charity which places itself at the heart of urban and suburban communities, developing people's creative capacity and enriching their cultural lives through creative and cultural activity.

Our guiding principles – Make the Impossible Possible, Be Invitational, Make it Happen and Innovate – are inspired by our founding trustee, the late and great Jenny Harris, an outstanding and pioneering cultural and community leader.

hackneyshowroom.com

[#hackneyshowroom](https://twitter.com/hackneyshowroom)

[@hackneyshowroom](https://www.instagram.com/hackneyshowroom)