

Hoxton Hall in association with Raphael Samuel History Centre and Centre for Life History and Life Writing, University of Sussex

Call for expressions of interest in contributing to A HISTORY OF HOXTON HALL

Deadline for 100-word expressions of interest: **25 May 2017** to Nick Till (n.till@sussex.ac.uk) and Nadia Valman (n.d.valman@qmul.ac.uk)

Hoxton Hall in Shoreditch is one of only two surviving mid-Victorian music halls in London. Built in 1863 to present “rational recreation” for the working classes, in 2015 Hoxton Hall completed a major preservation and refurbishment that restored the hall to its Victorian glory. At the same time its extensive archive was conserved and catalogued, and is now held in the Hackney Archives. To celebrate the hall’s 154 year history, Hoxton Hall wishes to publish a well-researched but accessible and attractive book to document the extraordinary story of survival, adaptation and rebirth of this unique venue.

We are seeking expressions of interest for contributions to an edited, multi-disciplinary volume with chapters on the various aspects of Hoxton Hall’s history, putting these into their broader context in the history of the East End of London. Since its inception Hoxton Hall served variously as a venue for rational recreation and to promote “healthy, moral homes”, a popular music hall, the home of the Blue Ribbon Temperance Society and the Girl’s Guild for Good Life, the headquarters of the Bedford Institute, a Quaker East End mission, and, in the 1970s, as a pioneer community arts centre. Today it continues its mission to serve the local community through high quality art and participation.

Topics and themes from the hall’s history might include:

- Urban development in the East End of London
- The Rational Recreation movement
- Victorian theatre architecture
- Victorian housing for the poor
- Entertainment and ideology in working class music hall
- Victorian Temperance movements
- The education of working class women
- Christian missions in the East End of London
- The East End in two world wars
- Oral histories of Hoxton Hall in the postwar period
- The politics and practices of 1970s community arts movements
- Alternative theatre movement 1980-90’s
- Hoxton Hall today

For further information about Hoxton Hall: www.hoxtonhall.co.uk/category/history/

Call for contributions URL: www.raphael-samuel.org.uk/blogs-links/hoxton-hall/

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Deadline for delivery of articles: 31 December 2017

Please address enquiries and proposals to:

- **Nick Till**, School of Media, Film and Music, University of Sussex
(n.till@sussex.ac.uk)

and

- **Nadia Valman**, School of English and Drama, Queen Mary UL, and Raphael Samuel History Centre (n.d.valman@qmul.ac.uk)

Katy Pettit

Administrator, Raphael Samuel History Centre and Queer Beyond London

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I work part time and usually respond to emails Monday to Thursday.