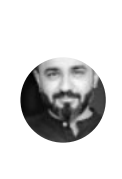


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James Cowdery  
May 2, 2016 · 4 min read · Listen



Alchemy Festival at Southbank Centre — music, theatre, fashion, comedy and literature from the UK and South Asia.

## Come and create a vision your the future at Southbank Centre's Alchemy festival!

This is an invitation — an open call — for participants to two-day event, happening at Southbank Centre on the weekend of Sat 21 - Sun 22 May, as part of the Alchemy festival.

Alchemy is a festival that showcases the best of dance, music, theatre, design, fashion, comedy and literature from the UK and South Asia. The festival celebrates the rich cultural relationship between the UK and the Indian subcontinent, and explores the creative influences generated by our shared history.

As part of this year's festival, artists Annette Mees and Amitesh Grover, and poet Jasmine Ann Cooray present *The Manifesto of Our Future*. This event will invite two groups of people — one aged 15, and one aged 65, to define a vision of the future in fifty years time.

If you are interested in taking part in this event, please email: [manifesto@southbankcentre.co.uk](mailto:manifesto@southbankcentre.co.uk)

### About The Manifesto of Our Future

*The Manifesto of Our Future* is an event which asks how the story we tell about our future heavily shapes the life we live in the present. If we want to create a future we all want, we need diverse voices, different experts, a more creative approach.

The event brings together 15 and 65 year olds over a long weekend to create futures they want to see created for the next 50 years. How do our views on home, heritage, food, culture and technology develop as we grow older? How can we seize power to collectively shape a own vision of the world fifty years from now?

The manifesto that YOU create will be turned into a specially commissioned poetry film, will be created and shown during the Alchemy festival and online.

### About you

- All are welcome, and we are particularly interested in participants who are of British Asian or South Asian heritage from India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka or Afghanistan.
- If you would like to take part in the *The Manifesto of Our Future*, you will ideally be aged either 15 or 65 (or around those ages).
- You will be available to join the workshop on Saturday 21 — Sunday 22 May, at Southbank Centre. There will also be a meet-up on the evening of Friday 20 May, to get to know everyone.



Some of the events and programming at the Alchemy festival this year in May. (Clockwise from top-left): The Elders Performance, an installation about Karachi, music from BBC Asian Network, The Alchemy Food Market, Burka Avenger cartoons and Women Spread the World — a documentary about Afghani women.

### What will happen on the day?

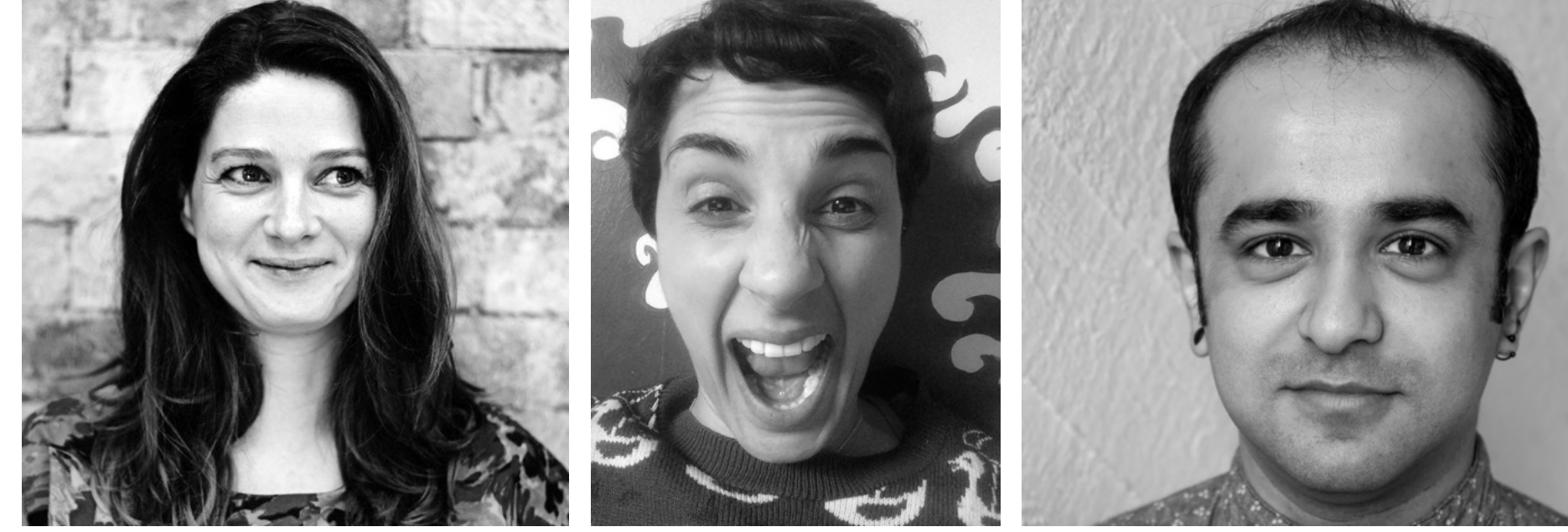
- You'll meet inspiring figures from the world of theatre, poetry, technology as well as some special guests.
- You will talk about your life, and what is important to you — now and in the future. This event is about you and your hopes for the next fifty years. For yourself and for the world at large.
- The event will be informal and a lot of fun.
- Refreshments will be provided throughout the weekend, including lunch on both Saturday and Sunday, from the delicious [Alchemy Food Market](#).

### About the artists

**Annette Mees** is an award-winning artist who makes work that explores big ideas, powered by people. A creative Fellow of WIRED and The Space, Annette was former artistic director of Coney theatre company.

**Jasmine Ann Cooray** is a poet, performer and workshop facilitator from London of British and Sri Lankan heritage. An experienced poet dedicated to her craft, Jasmine develops creative skills in anyone wishing to turn their hand to the pen or the mic.

**Amitesh Grover** is a performance maker and new media artist. Based in Delhi, Amitesh's recent work — *Downtime* — invited people to sleep and reflect on the experience.



The Manifesto of Our Future will be created by YOU, and artists Annette Mees, Jasmine Ann Cooray and Amitesh Grover.

### About Alchemy festival

Each year, Alchemy fills Southbank Centre with a vibrant array of performances, workshops and exhibitions — and a delicious food market. In 2016, the seventh Alchemy brings artists, performers and contributors from around the world together to collaborate, in order to showcase the best of dance, music, theatre, design, fashion, comedy and literature from the UK and South Asia.

You can read more about Alchemy festival on the [Southbank Centre website](#).

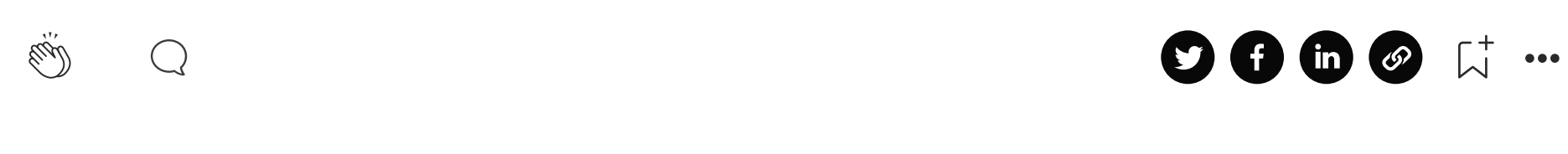
### What to do if you would like to take part

If you are interested in taking part in *The Manifesto of Our Future*, please send an email to: [manifesto@southbankcentre.co.uk](mailto:manifesto@southbankcentre.co.uk). It's the same email if you have any questions.

Thanks!



No Question For Me — Alan Levine — CC BY 2.0



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Head of Digital Arts Programming at Southbank Centre.

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