

THE RURAL BLACK HISTORY PROJECT

THE RURAL BLACK HISTORY PROJECT EXHIBITION

NEW BREWERY ARTS, CIRENCESTER
25TH -30TH OCTOBER

ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

The Rural Black History Project exhibition connects us to a more diverse understanding of our past, bringing to life historical research that reveals the presence of Black Britons, throughout England's rural landscape.

Using records and studies from the Cotswolds and surrounding areas, The Rural Black History Project has been working with professional artists, community creatives and local schools, to devise "hypothetical biographies" of the Black Britons living in the area, from the late 800s to the 19th century. The exhibition presents these artistic responses, alongside a broader exploration of the region's Rural Black History.

Connect to exciting and illuminating stories of our past through this curious exhibition of film, art and storytelling, legitimising Black British legacies in the Cotswolds and celebrating our shared history, through creative expression.

ABOUT THE RURAL BLACK HISTORY PROJECT

For centuries Black British people have lived and worked across the Cotswolds, but their existence in historical records has remained consistently overlooked. The Rural Black History Project aims to challenge the perceptions of rural England, by illuminating the work of historians and the project's researcher, whose findings contradict our collective assumptions.

Using sources and studies from across the Cotswolds, The Rural Black History Project reimagines what life would have been like for those whose presence is revealed in our stately homes, parishes, graveyards, and buildings. Through art, storytelling, community engagement and public events, they aim to viscerally connect participants and audiences, to a more diverse understanding of England's rural past.

RBHP commissioned a team of creatives, to produce three short films, imagining the lives of the Black Britons discovered in the historical records. The project then delivered school and public workshops, empowering participants to create their own artistic responses to the data. The resulting work will be presented as part of the exhibition at New Brewery Arts, in Cirencester.

EXHIBITION INFORMATION

DATES: 25th - 30th October

TIMES: Monday - Saturday 9am-5pm

PRESS AND GUEST DAY: 28th October
3pm - 5pm

NEW BREWERY ARTS

Brewery Court, Cirencester, Gloucestershire,
GL7 1JH

www.newbreweryarts.org.uk
[@newbreweryarts](https://www.instagram.com/newbreweryarts)

01285 657181

FOR PRESS ENQUIRIES:

The Rural Black History Project

Flora Emily Thomson (Project Producer)
Gemma Leader (Co-Project Producer)

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NOTES TO EDITORS

FILM CREDITS

Thomas Davis

Script Marjorie Morgan
Thomas Davis Craig Anthony-Lewis

The Bust With No Name

Script Corinne Walker
The Bust Emile Clarke

Margaret Walden

Script Leaphia Darko
Margaret Walden Kesheniwa Aghaji

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director Amani Naphtali
Cinematographer Eugene Smith
1st Assistant Director Elidad Nzayisenga
Editor Benjamin Collins /
The Barn Theatre
Gemma Leader
Co-Producer Flora Emily Thomson
Project Producer Abigail Bernard
Researcher

ABOUT NEW BREWERY ARTS

Opened in 1978 (then called Cirencester workshops), New Brewery Arts has been a home to craft and creativity for over 4 decades. The organisation is led by Beth Alden, who has 20 years of experience delivering visual arts projects and leadership, strategy and delivery across a variety of cultural organisations.

New Brewery Arts works with over 500 craftspeople each year, reaching a wide audience of 200,000 (pre covid). Their purpose is to connect people with the hand-made, promote the joy and fulfilment of making and celebrate the role of craft and creativity in all our lives. Currently their main audiences are professional craftspeople, makers and designers, for whom they provide a range of professional opportunities, enabling craft to be a successful, fulfilling, viable livelihood. They also engage with a large community of students, who attend a programme of classes to enjoy the benefits of regular creativity in their lives, be that social, wellbeing or the enjoyment of developing a skill.

With Thanks To:

The Barn Theatre
New Brewery Arts
Cotswold Costumes
The Miserden Estate
Elizabeth Young
Career-Steps Ltd
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Sheila Cruchley
Alan Cruchley
Cotswold District Council
Spacehive

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