

An aerial photograph of a densely populated urban area, likely Clapham Park in London. The image shows a complex network of streets, residential buildings with red-tiled roofs, and green spaces. A large, multi-story building with a blue roof is prominent in the upper center. The overall scene is a mix of urban development and greenery.

Dr Pete Gomes

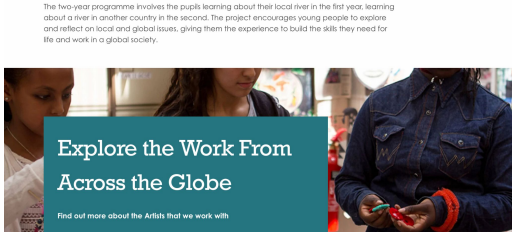
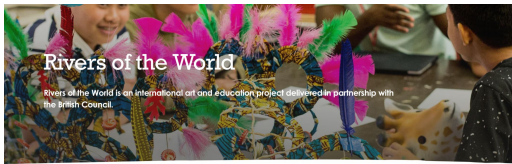
Artist, Filmmaker

Expression of Interest

Artist in Residence/Consultant for Clapham Park

2024

Dr Pete Gomes



Lead Artist *Rivers of the World*



Workshop, Goldsmiths(2024)

Artist, Filmmaker [and Clapham Park resident for over 20 years]

Who am I?

Expertise and Track Record

I have been working with arts, community and technologies for over 25 years and have made pioneering creative work in the field of visual and media arts in UK and Europe. I have been commissioned to make collaborative media art works across the world and have showcased work at *Tate Modern, Tate Britain, Whitechapel Gallery and Institute of Contemporary Art*, been commissioned by *London Performance Studios, Furtherfield, Drake Music* and others internationally. I am an award winning director, filmmaker, director and visual artist. I am an artist studio holder at *Studio Voltaire*. I'm a proud born and bred South Londoner and live in Clapham.

Public Art Works *Thames Festival Rivers of the World*

I was the lead artist on the long running international community arts project *Rivers of the World* working with *British Council* and *Thames Festival*. I developed and brought an innovative use of technology to the project. Over the years it delivered hundreds of art, technology and education projects which paired London schools with others all over the world, making public art works and examining ecologies of the rivers around the globe. These projects used art practice to develop dialogue, social cohesion and community. I have been working with community, technology and participatory practices for more than two decades. Other works include *Park Bench TV*, a groundbreaking community online channel running from a customised park bench in Central London.

Communication, Teaching, Workshops, Communities

I am a teacher and lecturer working at many Universities in London and abroad. I am an academic, a *Doctor of Arts*, completing my doctorate in 2021. My research developed an entirely new innovative way of working in groups and ensembles, where skills and responsibilities are actively shared between participants, who work together without hierarchies. I devise and develop creative community workshops and use them as a way of developing connections between people and making dynamic social environments. My skills and experiences enable me to speak and connect with a wide range of classes, cultures, types and ages being able to listen and nurture meaningful and connected relationships.



I live in Clapham Park. *I am in this local community and I am part of it.* I have experienced how the area has radically changed: new school buildings; demolished shops and pubs; new landscaping; and I have seen the hard work and results of self initiated community gardening projects. My approach is a practical and direct connection to the diverse people in my area.

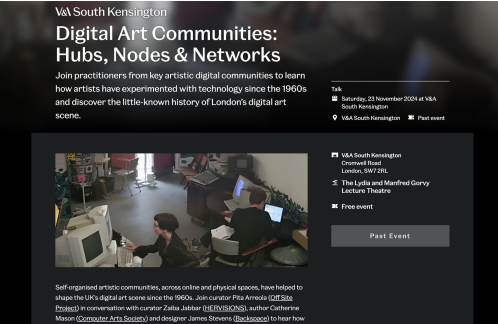
Centering the Local Community in the work

I will use this Artist role to initiate a creative a strategy with longevity, which becomes the catalyst for culture, creativity and social connection in my area of Clapham Park. My vision looks to the future and foregrounds *Digital Media Arts* and *Digital Art Commissions* across Clapham Park by connecting visual arts, technology and self built community social networks. This will be a new diverse community driven and community developed, creative technological infrastructure and community wide resource. It will span and connect existing residents through art and creative placemaking projects and engage and encourage visitors to the Clapham Park area. I want to create and facilitate a new creative culture using a '*Community Area Network*'.

The project aims to set up a practical digital community infrastructure for Clapham Park which generates tangible real world connections between people. Putting *audio visual media arts* at the core of this strategy will enable newly commissioned digital arts projects such as *networked arts*, *augmented reality*, to *gaming* and *projection mapping*. My proposal shapes the future of Clapham Park for *young people, families, older residents, professionals* and *visitors*. It also strategically aims to looks towards innovative artist groups such as *furtherfield.org* and be aligned to the core arts funding principles of Arts Council England's *Let's Create* strategy. Clapham Park will become a model for new ways of integrating arts, culture and community.

Central to this work is *equity and participation* and an active and ongoing *development of social connections*. I have worked with *James Stevens* and *SPC* for over 20 years developing community driven technology and media arts projects. His grassroots groundbreaking work, funded by EU and others is peerless, exemplified by the recent presentation *Digital Art Communities Hubs Node & Networks* at Victoria and Albert Museum (2024).

The proposed Clapham Park digital arts *Community Area Network* will put this area on the map. It will provide a new resource for residents and this *ambitious futuristic vision* for Clapham Park provides a new model for a digital arts community. This project will emerge, be generated, nurtured and developed from the inside *by us, the diverse people who live here.* *Community is a verb. You have to do it, be part of it, be inside it.*



Digital Art Communities Hubs Node & Networks at Victoria and Albert Museum (2024)



Digital Markers project