

A space that showcases and celebrates DIY culture
and activism up North by people of colour



OVER HERE
ZINEFEST
2018

Hello + Welcome!

Over Here Zine Fest is organised by a group of POC / Black / Asian / BAME working class artists and activists from the North of England, to build self-sustaining alternative models for publishing, art, activism and collaboration in our communities.

Our work draws on long history of zines, political pamphlets and DIY practice made by people excluded from the mainstream. We do this to lift up new voices, encourage collaboration, reclaim our own stories, and to make information and art accessible for our communities.

We need more people of colour to write their own stories and create their own things! Doing it ourselves allows us to create our own stories. And through art, writing and organising, we have the possibility to image a new future.

We imagine a future where our lives and work aren't exploited in the name of 'diversity' and publishing/art gatekeepers aren't able to dictate whose work is good enough. We want sustainable alternatives that give us control.

We believe that investing in creatives of colour means valuing the time, skills, knowledge and labour of our communities. We do this by creating spaces to share, celebrate and archive work by people of colour.

DIY print is powerful.

Take up space with us! We're over here.

#overherezinefest

#takeupspace

#poczines

@overherezinefest

overherezinefest@gmail.com

www.overherezinefest.org

To paraphrase Toni Morrison, "If there's a zine fest that you want to attend, but it hasn't been organised yet, then you must organise it yourself." I was going to zine fests, seeing how white they were, and not getting excited by anything I saw there. I mentioned the idea of a people of colour zine fest to Commonword Cultureword and they offered to support it. Then I got in touch with Seleena, because she was the only zine-maker of colour that I could think of who had been consistently making stuff over a sustained period of time and she was local. So it started there. Also, I joke about this, but it's true; I'm doing this because I was feeling lonely and wanted to create a space which would get a bunch of good people together in one room.

Over Here Zine Fest is actually only the beginning. My long-term hope is that we can build on the fest to create dignified opportunities for each other. If we can do that, we won't be at the mercy of white-dominated funding institutions and gatekeepers who dictate how we should and shouldn't be. It's going to take some work, but we'll get there. I want a future that we can look forward to.

- Heena Patel

Over a year ago Heena asked me if I would be up with maybe working with some of the young people at the Youth centre I volunteered at, at the time, to create zines or hold a zine fest there for POC. Fast forward a few months and the roots of the zine fest started to grow and here we are now, a bunch of rad POC organising our first zine fest together!

When I table zine fairs, I more often than not, am 1 of 5 POC. And the people that attend are majority white people. Write ups about zines are often about white zine makers, and 'the face' of zines is often, as with most things, that of a white male.

I am not a white male.

I am a long term zine maker.

I liking taking up space. But why not help to create a space we can all take up, all of us non-white zine makers?

So that's what I've done. By the side of other non-white zine makers, I've been part of making a space for us all to take up, en force.

The older I get, the more I find myself more comfortable in spaces full of POC and if the spaces I usually find myself are white by default, why wouldn't I create spaces that aren't?

In short, as a creative of colour, I want to be in a space full of creative of colour.

I want us all to TAKE UP SPACE!

- Seleena Laverne Daye

Coming across zines was probably one of the best things that could happen to a hairy queer brown kid who is learning to exist in the in-between of communities, cultures and environments. Zines allowed me to seek comfort through making, to talk about my mental health and struggles with my queer identity. Being a working class immigrant meant not being exposed to western pop culture and access to a lot of resources. I learnt a lot through zines and being involved in DIY communities, as self-publishing allowed a tangible way for me to make sense of my existence. With this DIY ethos, we created Over Here as a space for us to showcase, support, participate and share. If you can't find a diverse platform to help you thrive, then take up space and create your own.

- Saffa Khan

I'm so excited to be part of Over Here Zine Fest. A bunch of brown queers creating a space in Manchester for pocs to share their zines and discuss diy culture, with a distinctly northern feel, means so much to me. I got involved with Over Here because I want this to be shouted about; and promoted; and nurtured; because I wanted to meet more poc creatives; and because poc who are particularly marginalised due to their immigration status, or lack of funds, or mental health, need more space to continue to create, and we can be part of the wider push for this to happen from within the poc community. Over Here will hopefully bring more northern creatives together to take up space, see each other, experience each other's work, and generally feel less like the "other", and more like "us." I hope this is the first of many fests. Personally, I've always had a problem with feeling confident enough to put my own zines out into the world; I'll usually make them for friends, and not really share them anywhere else. Instead I'm more likely to contribute to existing zines or submit something to a one-off zine. Being part of Over Here has forced me to question that; meeting the artists and activists who are already taking up space despite the barriers and fears they might have, means I'm more ok with sharing!

- Melissa Jane

I want Over Here to create a space where the words, art and thoughts of people of colour were prioritised, valued and encouraged.

I want Over Here to be a space where people can learn, get active and create together.

I want Over Here to be a space where we do it ourselves and we do it together.

I want Over Here to be a space where everyone people (stallholders, people who come, ALL MY PEOPLE) to feel able to define their own voice and aesthetic - free of a white gaze.

I want Over Here to be a space where we're not afraid of failure.

(And having the fest in Manchester is a bonus - putting in the work to decentre LDN as a space for creativity needed!!)

- Sandy Ogundele

Thanks a bunch to these wonderful folks for helping us:

Dan Holden, Martin de Mello and all at Commonword,

Humaira Saeed, Nazmia Jamal, Melissa Steiner, Clare Ramsaran, Sofia Niazi

Becca Human, Charlotte Maxwell, Unicorn Grocery, Salford Zine Library,

our amazing volunteers and Fred Aldous.

Aimee Mac Illustration

I work with print, contemporary homeware and textiles, surface patterns, stationery, stickers and apparel.

Apples to Zines

I write about subjects that affect People of Colour &/or LGBT+ people e.g. Ageing as a black bisexual person, Body image for fat black people. The A-Z of Biphobia, Mental health for POC

Brown Girls Do It

A podcast project that will be selling zines exploring feminism and race.

Black Fly Zine

We are a zine for POC about sexual health, covering a range of topics like black and brown queer love, fetishization, abuse, decolonised love, masturbation and much more.

Bradical

A self-publishing project with the aim of promoting brown writing, artists and Bradford.

Chisel Tip

A zine about 'forward-thinking music and political issues'. They have themes of radical music, radical politics, identity, culture, current affairs and isolation.

Conformity Magazine

A non-profit creative platform for societies anomalies, non gender conforming indigos and ethnic minorities. Prioritising the experiences and talent of QTPOC

daikon*

A zine platforming the voices and creativity of SE/E Asian women, non-binary and all trans people in white-majority diasporas.

Dardishi Zine

An online and print feminist zine made by Arab women and non-binary people.

Dazzling Darling

I design beaded jewellery and greeting cards.

Doctor Gurlfriend

I independently publish, hand cut/bind, and distribute my zines. I make/draw/write comics about girls but also about monsters and other things.

Editorial Facsmile

We're a Mexican company publishing work on topics such as feminism, sexuality, queer, photo performance and Latin America.

Femme Fatale Girls

We are a female empowerment platform overcoming the struggles with identity, finding our voices, embracing our own kind of beauty and celebrating the art of Nottingham's local female artists.

FINE

A zine based on survivors of abusive relationships to raise awareness on the symptoms and to give voices to those affected by it.

FRESH Magazine

We make magazines tackling the lack of ethnic diversity within the arts & design industry.

Have a guess?

A zine that challenges societal perceptions of how we see other based of gender, ethnicity, sexuality or disability.

Hey Chanté

Cheerful illustrations made for all ages. I like creating characters of colour in all my illustrations.

Journeys Festival

International festival that celebrates the creative talent of refugee and asylum seeker artists.

Masallah Chai Latte

Author of The Hairy Road to Glowing.

OOMK

One of My Kind is a collaborative publishing practice led by Rose Nordin, Sofia Niazi and Heiba Lamara.

PSS

An independent publisher of printed matter, working with a variety of practitioners across art, poetry and theory.

QTIPOCALYPTIC

A social and community group for LGBTQ+ people of colour in Nottingham and surrounding areas.

RAPAR

Refugee and Asylum Seeker Participatory Action Research is a Manchester-based human rights organisation working with people, both locally and further afield, who are at risk of having their rights denied.

Rope Press

Colourful and playful zines, comics and illustration from a range of poc artists.

Ruby Ramelize

My work is influenced by culture, the queer community and equal rights.

Samra Mayanja

My work is about anticapitalist art/housing/community spaces that I've visited in the past 12 months.

Some Brown Girl

Illustrative + abstract + writing, focus on identity and muslim/female issues + discrimination.

Things | | Matter

Posters, zines, poems, humorous bits, text info. On being queer, black, co op living, food, music, poems, jokes.

Taxi Cab Industries

Graphic designer/artist who is interested in a variety of creative mediums. Linoprints, Risographs, and screenprinting are currently the areas of printmaking I'm exploring.

Tender Hands Press

Run by Saffa Khan, a risograph press, that publishes printed matter by marginalised creatives and specialises in community engagement workshops. She creates zines on identity, belonging and mental health.

Things Made By Zulaikha

I make mental health recovery related things, such as zines, stickers and pins to help people get through really tough days

Thisguise

A visual and written compilation of stories, experiences, and exploration on topics concerning human nature, sexuality, drugs and mental health, global consciousness, feminism and self awareness. Contains nudity.

Turntup

22 page, A3 collaborative publication containing drawings, text and comics.

Unheard Voices

I simply write stories and print them and leave them in places around my City so that the Unheard Voices that sit on the periphery get heard.

Zines and Ting

Run by Seleena Laverne Daye who makes zines about race, class, fandom, sexuality, crafts and popular culture. As well as pins, stickers, prints and more!

Salford Zine Library / 12pm-4pm:

SZL started in Salford many moons ago before moving to Manchester City Centre in more recent years when the lovely folk at NorthWest Zinefest took over the running of the library.

It's home is currently in Nexus Art Café ,just a few minutes walk from Over Here Zine Fest (but at the minute is under renovation).

The Pop up Zine library will feature some of SZL favourite zines from their vast collection of over 1500 zines, showcasing many by POC. Come, pull up a chair and take a minute to read zines and chill!

Kajal Mag

THIRD

Yellow Zine

Aqui Thami

Sankofa

QTIPOC Narratives

If you would like to add your zine to the communal table, please let any of us with a badge know.

Collaborative zine / OPEN TO ALL / 12pm- 3pm:

We would love for you to contribute a page towards our very first Over Here zine. We will hand out an A5 sheet to every participant and you can express your thoughts through text or illustration. Zine will be printed later in the week.

Screen Print a Tote! / £5 / 12pm- 4pm (until stock lasts):

Come and screen print your very own Over Here tote bag.

Tote Bags cost £5 and can be left at the area to dry.

All profits from this will go towards covering material costs and sustaining OHZF for future events.

MAKE STUFF - Comic zine making / Book Online/ 1pm-1:45pm:

Come and make your very own comic zine with the artist and filmmaker, Becca Human.

Their colourful illustrations, comics, and films fluctuate between narrative and abstract, and are often driven by themes of futurism, isolation, and surrealism. Find their work here:

www.beccahuman.com

MAKE STUFF is series of creative skill-sharing workshops by Tender Hands Press, offering a space to be playful, enhancing your skills, encouraging collaboration and participation. Open to all who seek comfort through making. Find us: [@makestuffclub](https://www.instagram.com/makestuffclub) / [@tenderhandspres](https://www.instagram.com/tenderhandspres)

Limited places. Booking required through [@makestuffclub](https://www.instagram.com/makestuffclub) online.

No previous experience needed. Suitable for 10+. All materials provided.

Zine Readings / OPEN MIC / 2pm-2:40pm:

We encourage all creatives to participate in our zine reading session. You are welcome to read your own work or anything that stood out to you whilst you were browsing today. You can sign up on the day and each participant will get 5-10 minutes maximum.

DIY Cultures by Sofia Niazi / 2:45pm-3pm:

Artist, illustrator, editor of OOMK and co-curator of annually run festival, exploring intersections of art and activism.

Panel - Zines and Activism / 3:45-5pm:

What role do zines and zine-making play in activism? Why are they relevant and important for people identifying as BAME/Black/Asian/POC? Join our panel members as they talk about their experiences of cut-and-paste, taking up space within activist communities and providing an alternative to the mainstream.

Panellists:

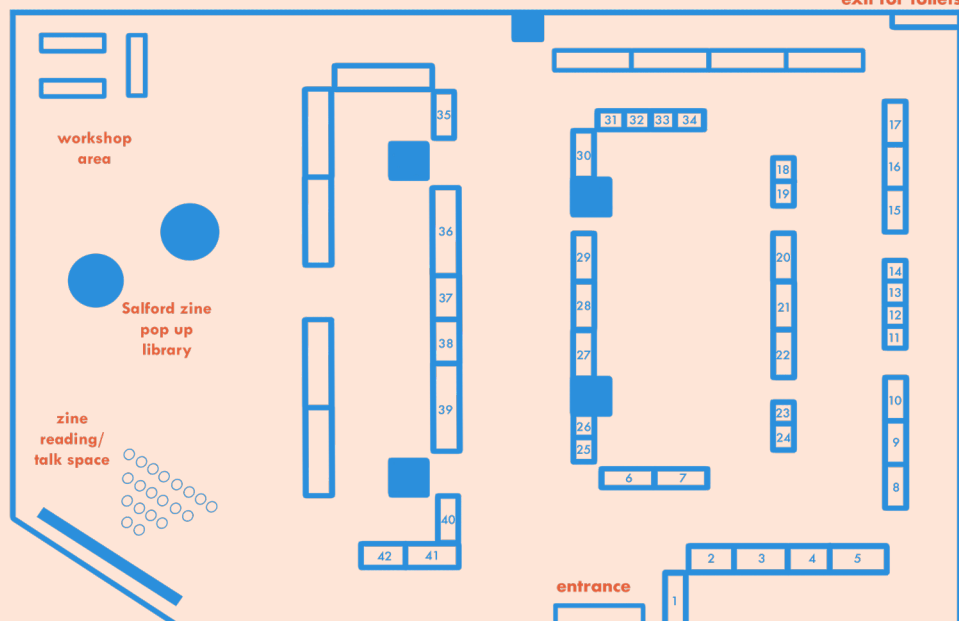
Humaira Saeed

Sandy Ogundele

Melissa Steiner

Nazmia Jamal

This panel is also part of the Cultureword Writers Conference but is free for people attending Over Here Zine Fest. It takes place in the Central Methodist Hall on Oldham Street, across the road from the zine fest venue.



Heritage Carrot

(Wifi will be available for you to download the app)

'Heritage Carrot' is a site-specific AR poem which takes place at Hulme Community Garden Centre, Manchester, and uses the audience's own smartphone combined with a free app, HP Reveal, to navigate and view the poem. The augmented layers are activated using a trackable code attached to a plant label and positioned next to the carrot plants, thus the actual plant is augmented via content on the audience's smartphone. The poem is explored through a series of audio visual sequences that the audience interact with through the screen of their smartphone. Rather than a visual interpretation of poetic language, or an illustration of the poem, the experience will take the audience through the layers of the poem, for example, an animated sequence of a seed dispersed through time, transforming in the earth it finds in each new country. The poem will use the metaphor of digging in allowing the audience to both interact with the poem and their surroundings.

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------------|----|-------------------------|
| 1 | Commonword Reg. | 22 | Editorial Facsimile |
| 2 | OHZF merch | 23 | Masallah Chai Latte |
| 3 | Communal table | 24 | Shy Radicals |
| 4 | Commonword | 25 | Grumpea |
| 5 | Publication | 26 | PSS |
| 6 | Tender Hands Press | 27 | Aimee Mac Illustrations |
| 7 | Zines & Ting | 28 | Femme Fatale Girls |
| 8 | Hey Chante | 29 | Taxicab Ind. |
| 9 | Fresh Mag | 30 | Rooted Zine |
| 10 | Radical | 31 | QTIPOCALYTIC |
| 11 | Have A Guess? | 32 | Dazzling Darling |
| 12 | Conformity Mag | 33 | Black Fly Zine |
| 13 | Doctor Gurlfriend | 34 | Daikon |
| 14 | Ruby Ramelize | 35 | Thisguise |
| 15 | Things Matter | 36 | Chakula |
| 16 | OOMK | 37 | Turntup |
| 17 | Apple to Zines | 38 | Samra Mayanja |
| 18 | Chisel Tip | 39 | Journeys Festival |
| 19 | Some Brown Girl | 40 | RAPAR |
| 20 | Brown Girls Do It | 41 | Dardishi Zine |
| 21 | Things Made By Zulaikha | | |

The entrance to the zine fair is street level, but does have one step inside (around half a foot high). The main entrance to the hotel, round the corner on Tib Street, is fully accessible.

For stallholders there is a toilet located on the second floor of the hotel that is accessible and can be reached by a door at the back of the Lincoln Suite. Anyone wanting some quiet time can also use this door to access the hotel's foyer which has some seating.

