

# DISTANT DRUMS

## INSTALLATION

**WHISPERED TALES** is a Liverpool-based arts organisation artistically led by Esther Simpson and Steve Gibbs. Whispered Tales shine a light on forgotten stories for our diverse audiences.

### DISTANT DRUMS

Distant Drums is an outdoor installation that tells the story of Reggae Sound System culture and the importance of music in the fight for racial equality. The installation consists of a hand-made replica vintage Jamaican-style sound system stack placed on a statue plinth. Inside the sound system are digital screens which show a series of animations to a recorded soundtrack. The sound system alternates between a 15-minute poetic verse written by **Madu Messenger**, narrated by the reggae legend **Macka B** and a 15-minute soundtrack featuring oral interviews from some of the most renowned names in Dub Reggae.

### THE TOURING TEAM: x 2 people

Whispered Tales Director  
Technician

### LOCATIONS

Our ideal location is a high footfall area with a level concrete floor. Distant Drums retells the story of Reggae Sound System culture and the importance of music in the fight for racial equality.

Locations that can offer a greater depth or resonance include:

Sites that have a connection to black heritage

Sites near to a music site, venue or festival

Sites near to other statues

Sites near water, docks or ports

### TECHNICAL & LOGISTICS

- The sound system sits on a statue plinth 4m wide 1m deep and 60cm high
- The Sound System including the plinth is: 3.2m high
- If space is a problem the sound system does not need to be placed on the plinth. In this instance the sound system is 2.40m wide 60cm deep and 2.6m high
- Ideally we require a flat level surface
- The public will view from the front
- The show is suitable for daytime as well as after dark
- The installation is on a loop
- The installation is waterproof, In extreme weather we would cover the installation
- The installation is ratchet strapped together and has a total weight of 320kg
- The plinth is made of aluminium staging with adjustable legs then clad with wooden waterproof boarding
- The festival / venue should provide 16amp power

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- The festival / venue to provide 1 technician to help unload the van and assist the company technician with set-up, and the derig
- The installation takes 2 hours to set up and 1.5 hours to de-rig
- Parking required for long wheel based transit van
- The animations are displayed on digital screens within the sound system
- The sound is played from within the sound system

**PRS:** Distant Drums concludes with the song "Are You Ready" by Vibronics and Macka B

For further information please contact Esther Simpson

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**Whispered Tales**

*Where arts meet heritage*

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