



# EXHIBITION PRESS RELEASE

# HAMILTON MAS PRESENTS FURTHERFIELD: FROM THE CITY TO THE COAST

An exhibition and an invitation to help grow a culture where art, community, and ecology meet in Felixstowe. Opening Party: Friday 1 August, 6–8pm Exhibition: 2–17 August, 11am–4pm and by appointment

This summer, Furtherfield invites Felixstowe communities, supporters, and friends, old and new, to *From the City to the Coast*, a playful and interactive exhibition that celebrates a new chapter for this pioneering arts group.

After nearly 30 years in Haringey, North London, Furtherfield, an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation, has relocated to Felixstowe. Now rooted in this coastal town, Furtherfield is working with community partners and people across the town to co-create adventurous, imaginative responses to the environmental and social challenges of our time.

From the City to the Coast tells the story of that move, and of a growing network of local people - young adults, artists, and community partners - coming together to Reimagine This Coastal Town. The exhibition showcases stimulating work from this process, including:

- The Treaty of Finsbury Park, a five-year public LARP series exploring interspecies politics and biodiversity, including a artist film by Tracy Kiryango.
- Reimagine This Coastal Town, with illustrations by Georgia Holland, a community film by Hydar Dewachi, and portraits of species solidarity by Chris Clayton, co-created with young adults in Felixstowe.
- A growing collection of local voices sharing ideas about what matters most about Felixstowe's future, and what's needed to care for it.



Image: The Treaty of Finsbury Park a five-year public LARP series. Furtherfield 2020-25

### AFTER 30 YEARS IN LONDON FURTHERFIELD IS STARTING A NEW CHAPTER IN FELIXSTOWE

This exhibition marks the start of the next phase of the project: an 18 month-long creative programme culminating in a Live Action Role Play (LARP) where art, community, and ecology meet. This will take place in September 2026, co-designed with young adults and regional artists.

LARPing is a powerful form of immersive storytelling where participants play characters and explore shared alternate realities through play. It's a proven way to build empathy, test ideas, and spark new thinking - especially in times of uncertainty.

Funded by Arts Council England, the Suffolk Culture Fund, and Sussex University, and developed in collaboration with local communities, *Reimagine This Coastal Town* explores how places like Felixstowe can creatively respond to environmental change, while building inclusive spaces for connection, care, and imagination.

Furtherfield's Artistic Director Ruth Catlow says "Let's imagine, together, what Felixstowe could become."

Everyone is welcome. Come and get involved.

Contact info@furtherfield.org

# At Hamilton MAS, Bent Hill, Felixstowe.

Free and open to all.

# Opening Party: Friday 1 August, 6–8pm

Join us for a warm and welcoming celebration at Hamilton MAS with refreshments, conversations, and a chance to get hands-on with ideas for the town's future.

#### Exhibition:

2-17 August, 11am-4pm and by appointment

#### **Events:**

Exhibition Talk by Ruth Catlow (Furtherfield) - Friday 8 August, 2pm - <u>book your free place!</u>
Interspecies Meditation on Felixstowe Beach - Sunday 17 August, 11.30am - <u>book your free place!</u>

#### MORE ABOUT THE PROJECT

This exhibition is part of Reimagine This Coastal Town, a Furtherfield project realised in partnership with The University of Sussex, Level Two Youth Projects, Hamilton MAS, and the Felixstowe Citizen Science Group and with support from Arts Council England and the Suffolk Culture Fund.

## About Furtherfield -https://furtherfield.org

Furtherfield has been bringing people together through art and technology since 1996. We create adventurous and playful experiences in galleries, public spaces and online, inviting everyone to explore how we want to live in a fast-changing world.

Imagining the possible futures of the places we care about is the first step to forging the futures we want. Now based in Felixstowe, Suffolk, we work with local and global communities to develop and support creative projects that imagine and realise fairer, more connected and Earth-kind futures where people and the planet matter more than profit.

With our partners we're building a hub for eco-social cultural activity in Felixstowe, with workshops, exhibitions, youth-led projects and creative events like Live Action Role-Play (LARP), all designed to spark imagination and action. At the heart of our work is a commitment to collaboration and care.

# About Hamilton MAS - https://hamiltonmas.org.uk/

Hamilton MAS is the micro arts space by the sea in Felixstowe, an international shipping town and resort on the Suffolk coast.

Hamilton MAS provides flexible creative space for artists and the community. Housed in one of the oldest buildings in the town, just off the seafront, it has been a fisherman's cottage, a bath house, a newsagents, a post office, an antiques and a carpet shop, laterly a tattoo parlour and now an artspace. Hamilton MAS offers micro studios, public facing project and show space.

The organisation supports and showcases diverse and cross disciplinary art practices by local, regional and international artists.

Hamilton MAS is a disability led organisation with a focus on providing support, time and space for artists and creatives who may be living with debilitating, invisible health conditions. Hamilton MAS was founded by artist and current director Bryony Graham in 2018 in response to a diagnosis of a chronic and painful energy limiting illness.

## Images for press available here:

- Hi-res version of Treaty of Finsbury Park here
- Hi-res version of Furtherfield: From the City to the Coast by Sajan Rai, 2024. here











