



Portraits from A Hackney Autobiography

Stour Space 3 – 21 November 2018

Portraits from A Hackney Autobiography is the story of Centerprise: the radical bookshop, publisher, café, legal advice centre and community space that opened in Dalston in 1971, and the people who made it happen.

Run as a cooperative, **Centerprise** set out to offer Hackney people a place to read, write, and tell their own story: collecting, nurturing and publishing tales by and about local people. From Asian housewives to young school children; from the unemployed to elderly factory workers; from first-time mothers to undercover anti-fascist activists: these are the stories of the people who made Hackney.

These portraits by **Sophie Polyviou** form a snapshot of the people who worked at Centerprise from 1971 until it closed its doors in 2012, and are presented alongside a glimpse of the vast and diverse material they produced not only as a publisher, but also as centre for anti-deportation and social housing campaigns, youth clubs, adult education classes and so much more.

About the Project:

A Hackney Autobiography was a project into the history of Centerprise run by oral history cooperative **On The Record** between 2014-2017, in collaboration with the Bishopsgate Institute. These portraits are an extract from the full project, which includes a publication, *The Lime Green Mystery: An Oral History of the Centerprise Co-operative*, and a free mobile app, which offers GPS located audio-tours. Visit the Hackney Autobiography website to explore the food cultures and frontlines of Dalston, birth and madness in Homerton, or a lost Island near Rectory Road.

For the best experience download the free Hackney Autobiography app from Google Play and the iTunes App store. You can also get free learning resources and discover more about the people who visited or worked at Centerprise at www.ahackneyautobiography.org.uk

Exhibition Information:

Portraits from a Hackney Autobiography

Stour Space, 7 Roach Road, Hackney Wick, London E3 2PA

www.stourspace.co.uk

3rd – 21st November

9am–5pm most days

Extended opening hours on selected dates, please see website/facebook event for details.

<http://tinyurl.com/ahackneyautobiography>

Contact:

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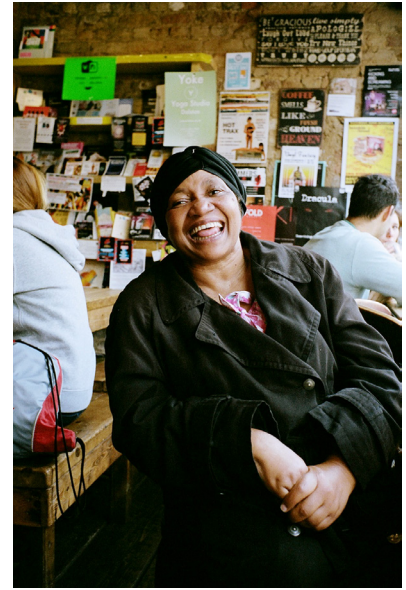
Press images – For more information/images contact Sophie Polyviou



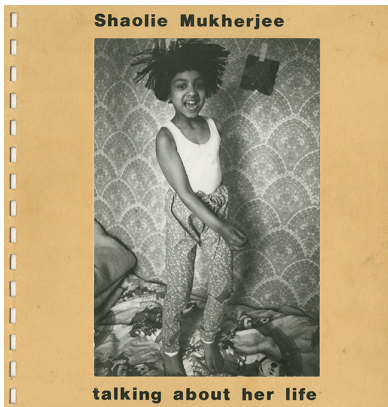
Margaret Gosley by Sophie Polyviou



Anthony Kendall by Sophie Polyviou



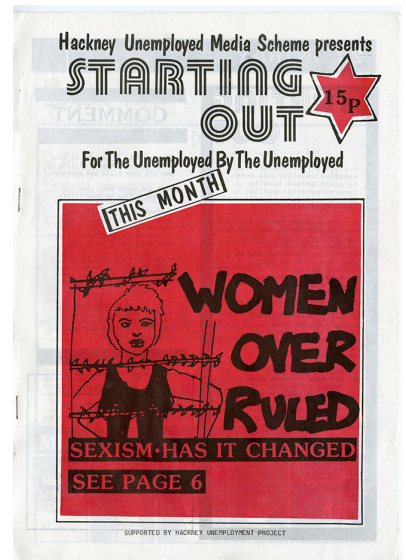
Pauline Wiltshire by Sophie Polyviou



A book created by the photographer Anna Sherwin with Manjula Mukherjee's daughter Shaolie



Article from Hackney Gazette on Prem Lathar's successful anti-deportation campaign that Wendy Pettifer and Centerprise were involved in



Cover of Starting Out - a magazine by the unemployed for the unemployed supported by the Hackney Unemployment Scheme at Centerprise

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