Black urbanism can be seen as a schizoid sign that haunts and inhabits urbanism and the myth of the 'white city'. It is the ghost in the machine that is capable of inducing the urban machine into moments of paranoid breakdown (riots, moral panics over crime) while also reconfiguring the machine into new modes of innovation, creativity and expression (music, arts, architecture).
counter intuitive and deconstructive re-visioning of the area. The complex and little understood social ecology of 'street life' on Rye Lane is the focus of the evocative and impressionistic images of Daniele Tamagni and Thabo Jaiyesimi. Framing the images, Janine Lai's sound interventions give voice to the largely unheard 'shouts in the street' of Peckham residents and market users. Paul Goodwin's textual interventions bring theory into the gallery space where it can dialogue with images and sound. Peckham Rising creates a temporary space of contemplation about the nature of contemporary urbanism and its 'other': the so-called ghetto. The exhibition invites critical reflection about the need to creatively engage the cosmopolitan, diverse and complex nature of a great metropolis such as London in the 21st century. Peckham Rising attempts, in a modest but bold gesture, to open one of the many paths of creative thinking and action to build the city of the future. The exhibition speculates on the notion that Peckham, with all its contradictions, afflictions and creative energies, may emerge as a Capital of the 21st Century.

Paul Goodwin
Curator
academic or conceptual. It has major implications for the way we deal with ‘black’, immigrant or ‘ghetto’ spaces in terms of policy and intervention in the real world.

The history of otherness and blackness needs to be incorporated and written into the heart of the history of urbanism. Studies of racism and the ‘race relations paradigm’ do not cover the totality of the black urban experience. Black people are not just victims. Histories of community building, the making and remaking of cultures, art and creative practices, the construction and

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**Artists:**

**Daniele Tamagni** is an art historian and freelance photographer from Italy / www.photodantam.com

**Thabo Jaiyesimi** is a photographer based in London / www.thabojaivesimi.co.uk

**Janine Lai** is a filmmaker and artist based in London / smell.the.media@gmail.com

**Curator:**

**Paul Goodwin** is a geographer and urban theorist based at Goldsmiths, University of London / www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/cucr

**Further Information:**

www.myspace.com/peckhamrising

www.thessassoongallery.co.uk

www.goldsmiths.ac.uk/cucr


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The global lexicon used to describe, map and comprehend the black urban condition is depressingly familiar: favelas, banlieues, marginal spaces, squatter settlements, impoverished families, slums, ghettoes, barrios. The global lexicon used to describe, map and signify; in other words, their complexity and diversity. This shift of understanding is not just counter intuitive and deconstructive.
Black urbanites and the expressive dissident cultures they help produce, must be seen as active participants and innovators in the production of urban spaces not just passive victims of urban decay or a ‘culture of poverty’.