

8th August 2023

Dear Arts Council England,

I am writing to confirm The Lowry's support for Tania Camara's project 'As I Am Naturally' – a new immersive, interdisciplinary contemporary performance exploring race and identity through the metaphor of hair. Engaging black African and Portuguese speaking migrant communities in Salford and Greater Manchester, 'As I Am Naturally' will be a timely, ambitious, and innovative new work exploring social issues such as racism, discrimination, and mental health, and representing the experiences of black British and migrant individuals and communities living in the UK today. The piece will invite audiences to journey through community and collective memories, examining internalised intergenerational trauma and reclaiming a sense of self through high-quality contemporary performance, original music/sound, and immersive production design.

The Lowry has been building a relationship with Tania over the last few years (Tania participated in our 'Class Of' programme from Sept 2019 – March 2021 focusing on professional skills development), and we were delighted to then invite Tania to join our flagship artist development programme 'Developed With The Lowry' in October 2022. Over the next 12 months we are supporting Tania to build on her already recognised portfolio of work as a socially engaged independent performance artist, and further develop her creative practice and professional development. Through 'Developed With', Tania will take a pivotal next step in her career, and we are excited to support this next phase of Tania's development and the creation of this exciting new work.

The Lowry's support includes:

- £1500 cash investment confirmed as part of our 'Developed With' Artist Development programme
- A guaranteed programming fee of £1500 for 2 performances (1 of which will be livestreamed) in the Aldridge Studio in Spring 2024
- In-kind rehearsal and performance space at The Lowry valued at £8000
- In-kind technical support for 2 performances (1 livestreamed) valued at £3840
- In-kind marketing & PR support valued at £800
- On-going producing support, advice and advocacy from myself and our Artist Development & Access Producer.

At The Lowry we are passionate about supporting the development of artists and the creation of ambitious new work, and we are delighted to be working with Tania through our 'Developed With' programme. Tania is an exciting and highly skilled artist, making engaging and bold work that is relevant and timely. This project will create spaces for people to have much needed conversations about race and identity, sharing and raising awareness of under-represented stories and experience. The project also offers strategic opportunities for short and longer-term audience development / engagement across different communities, through a high-quality, artist-led creative experience.

With best wishes



Antonia Beck
Senior Producer: Artist Development, The Lowry