



# THE NEW CULTURE LIST

17 June 2020 THE NEW CULTURE LIST  
Launching on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

REVEALING THE UNDERGROUND ARTISTS SHAPING THE FUTURE OF LIVE AND VIRTUAL CULTURE

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*"THE NEW CULTURE LIST introduces the dopest future-facing creatives making art at the crossroads of multiple subcultures. These artistic communities are rising to the surface, making waves and signalling what comes next."*

- Ivan Michael Blackstock, Artistic Director, CRXSS PLATFXRM

On 22<sup>nd</sup> June, CRXSS PLATFXRM will announce 18 artists selected for the inaugural NEW CULTURE LIST, highlighting the pioneering creative voices leading a new wave of Street Culture in 2020.

Selected by the organisation's Artistic Director Ivan Michael Blackstock, these artists represent diverse perspectives and reflect an increasingly global and technologically inventive approach to creating art.

From online art installations to satirical and disruptive embroidery and scavenger hunts to uncover secret listening parties; these artists utilise what they have available to them to create. Some work wholly or in part in the online space whilst some embrace analogue techniques and DIY materials and approaches. The talent featured includes UK artists from London, Birmingham and Manchester as well as international talent from China, Norway, Australia, Holland and Russia.

At this turbulent time, as the world battles a major pandemic and faces uncertainty and unrest around global issues from racism to climate change, these artists raw, honest voices challenge the status quo. THE NEW CULTURE LIST offers a series of bold new cultural directions across the art forms, illustrating the importance of creativity and art at times of turmoil and change.

-ENDS-

**PRESS CONTACT** - For further information about THE NEW CULTURE LIST and interview requests for Artistic Director Ivan Blackstock, please contact Georgina Harper [georgina@crxssplatfxrm.com](mailto:georgina@crxssplatfxrm.com) // 07951 723740.

## NOTES TO EDITORS

### ABOUT THE NEW CULTURE LIST 2020

- Launching on 22<sup>nd</sup> June the NEW CULTURE LIST 2020 will exist exclusively online at [www.crxssplatfxrm.com](http://www.crxssplatfxrm.com) and on social media.
- The list highlights the new and most influential artistic voices across the art forms and subcultures who are leading a new wave of culture in 2020.
- The NEW CULTURE LIST 2020 is supported by funding from Arts Council England and was selected by Artistic Director Ivan Blackstock, a leading cultural curator and commentator on Street Culture and Hip Hop.
- The list features artists from the UK including London, Birmingham and Manchester as well as international talent from China, Norway, Australia, Holland and Russia.

### THE FULL LIST OF SELECTED ARTISTS

**Able Zine:** is an artist led digital zine representing disabled and chronically ill creatives. In 2017, after becoming sick with Myalgic Encephalomyelitis, Claudia Walder founded Able Zine, aiming to break down taboos that inhibit personal freedom and equal opportunity, advocating for both mental and physical diversity. In the years prior to becoming ill, Claudia worked as a freelance fashion stylist and created directional imagery for fashion editorials and big music names such as Stormzy, D Double E and Slowthai and activist Munroe Bergdorf.

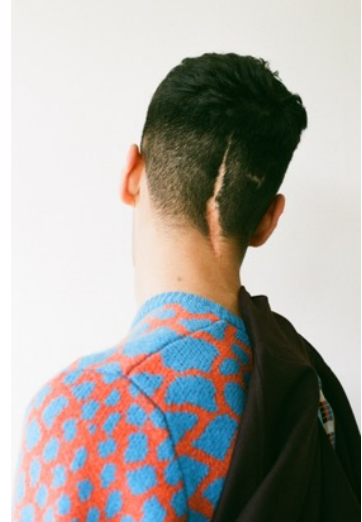
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Able Zine x K Swiss (photo by Daniel Mutton)



Able Zine's Claudia Walder (Photo by Michele Cote)



Able Zine (Photo by Christian Cassiel)

**Aidan Zamiri:** is a Glaswegian graphic designer turned filmmaker mixing analogue techniques and dynamic fashion imagery. During lockdown Aiden has been image making via FaceTime and Zoom, in particular a series for PAPER Magazine featuring musician and TikTok star Blu DeTiger, this images were made using only screenshots of Blu's TikTok videos.



**Chunky:** is an elusive Mancunian MC whose music you'll need to follow a text scavenger hunt to discover. CRXSS PLATFXRM's Ivan Michael Blackstock comments *"He has a true underground philosophy; audiences and fans have to work to discover his new music, with innovative ideas like scavenger hunts, private listening parties and T-shirt campaigns"*.

**Denzel Himself:** is a gothic hard-core rapper whose DIY approach breaks boundaries. During the lockdown his self-directed videos have illustrated his raw and unfiltered expression at its best.

**Izaak Brandt:** is a new renaissance B-boy bringing together fine art and the materials of Street Culture. He is the producer of Brkn' Nest, an international dance and movement collaboration between the UK and South Korea and is the founder of IHB Films, a video production company in London. During Lockdown Izaak has made experimental film 'The Circle Has Moved', bringing together breakdancers remotely.

**Jocelyn Anquetil:** is a London based filmmaker and extended reality artist with a saturated, satirical vision. During Lockdown Jocelyn is writing a new short film about hysterical women and 5G.

**Karimah Hassan:** is a painter and visual artist who challenges the delineation between street art, fine art and community art. Ivan Michael Blackstock notes how Karimah's faith and heritage influences her work; *"born in Wales with Yemeni and Bangladeshi heritage, and a Muslim artist, Karimah is not your stereotypical Street Culture artist and interestingly a lot of people assume she is a man due to her artistic style, which says a lot about preconceptions."*

**Lil Lonely:** is a Canadian musician with a digital doppelganger creating 3D worlds with music. Jessie-Jamz Ozaeta aka Lil Lonely is a Montreal-based multi-disciplinary artist whose work reflects on ego and narcissism in the digital age.

**Marlou Fernanda:** is a visual artist from the Netherlands who creates a character that inhabits her painted self-portraits and transcend the canvas. Marlou's painting and digital art express her innermost feelings and confront expectations. Focused on womanhood, her paintings come to life in her live performances.

**Morten Jensen Vågen:** is a pioneering Norwegian artist, re-purposing raw materials and throwing a light on Scandinavian Street Culture. Living and working in Oslo, Norway He works primarily with video and sculptures, and is thematically interested in urban environments, surveillance and prepper culture.

**Netti Hurley:** is a London based filmmaker exploring females-centric subcultures from sex work, beauty and body type. Ivan Michael Blackstock describes her as *"taking a bold, surrealist approach to the realities around her and what stands out for me how she uses any camera, from a DSLR to her phone - whatever is needed or available to capture what she sees"*. During lockdown Netti has been working on new collaboration, inspired by a poem found in an anthology of anonymous poetry written by sex workers from all over the world. The film is primarily about friendship, opening new conversations around sex work.

**Nicole Chui:** is a disruptive embroideress exploring themes and ideas with a political edge. Nicole is Hong Kong born, London based and remixes photography, illustration

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and embroidery with a unique, radical energy. Nicole was commissioned to create the headline campaign for NSF CRXSS PLATFXRM Festival 2019.

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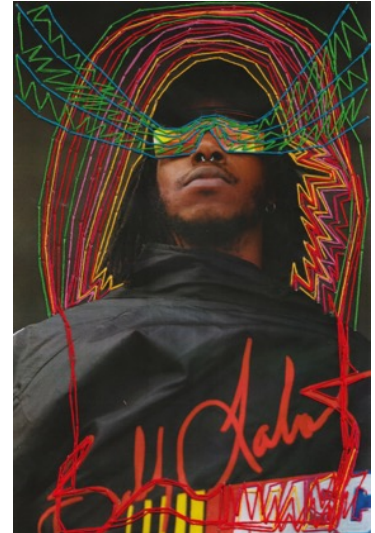
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'All Stretched Out' for NOW Gallery by Nicole Chui



Nicole Chui (Photo by Martin Brown)



CRXSS PLATFXRM FESTIVAL 2019 by Nicole Chui

**Nwaka Okparaeké:** is a film artist bringing dreamy visuals and a new Afro-surrealist aesthetic. Filmmaker Nwaka Okparaeké is drawn to themes of peace, serenity, love and freedom and her short films include 'Out Loud', 'A New Room', 'Plantain = Love', 'Lean Back'. Ivan Michael Blackstock, Artistic Director at CRXSS PLATFXRM comments; *"Nwaka creates utopian worlds using saturated colour, glitter and flowers - it's transcendental - and shoots through the lens of Black female experience"*. During lockdown Nwaka has been exploring self-portraiture in small spaces and editing photography and films.

**Oliver Hassell:** Birmingham based surrealist exploring pop culture, horror and psychedelia via paint, digital and creative reuse. Oliver combines detailed ink drawings with simple acrylic painting which are then edited, composed and coloured digitally. Themes the dark side of the media and the state of society. Ivan Michael Blackstock notes; *"Oliver's dark approach and focus on mental health, social media and relationships is really compelling. I love how his characters live with darkness inside a world of colour."*

**Serwah Attafuah:** is an Australian digital artist who makes software in her garage and afro-futurist dreamlike cyber wastelands. Originally working with illustration and oil paints, she has further developed her practice to encompass 3D digital art and graphic design, creating bold digital art from an original perspective.

**Taet Vremya:** is an anarchic dance crew bringing international Street Culture to new audiences and breaking all the rules. This international art group of insanely talented dancers unite different genres, directions and ideas. The team includes creatives from different countries including Russia, Germany, Ukraine, France, South Korea, Kosovo and Japan and encompasses different faiths. Pioneers in the European experimental dance scene their style is performative, punk and rebellious.

**Yehaiyahan:** is a music producer, vocalist and technical innovator from underground Shanghai. Yehaiyahan (a.k.a ChaCha) first found her sound with legendary Shanghai bass



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crew Uprooted Sunshine, rising up in the sound worlds of hip-hop, dub, bass, and trip-hop. Fiercely independent and endlessly innovative, she has a unique take on Chinese culture and recently created a solo experimental alter ego called Faded Ghost.

**Zaiba Jabbar:** is a director, curator and founder of HERVISIONS, building the foundations of a new digital future and artistic digital encounters. HERVISIONS offers a portal into a vibrant world of femme-focused digital art, from augmented reality face filters to virtual dates, Algorithmic Intimacies, performative workshops and online conversations and salons. Zaiba challenges how audiences experience art from different womxn outside of the white cube space.

## ABOUT CRXSS PLATFXRM

CRXSS PLATFXRM is an arts organisation led by Artistic Director Ivan Blackstock. It aims to showcase under the radar Street Culture artists. As well as the flagship Peckham event, CRXSS PLATFXRM has also collaborated with key cultural organisations to bring the latest in Street Culture to new audiences, including **Peckham Festival, Central Saint Martins, Ace Hotel, Dance Umbrella, Latitude Festival, Southbank Centre, Turning Tides Festival.** In the past CRXSS PLATFXRM has received sponsorship and support from brands like **Nike**, project funding from Arts Council England and headline sponsorship from NSF Group.



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## ARTISTIC DIRECTOR IVAN BLACKSTOCK

Artist, choreographer and curator Ivan Blackstock was born and raised in Peckham, South London. He has created dance and theatre work for The Young Vic, NOWNESS, Dizzee Rascal, The National Theatre, BVLGARI and JD Sports. Most recently he was awarded breakthrough cultural excellence in Film and Video for the inaugural NOWNESS Awards 2019.



Ivan Michael Blackstock - Photo: Hanna Hillier

@ivanmichaelblackstock



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Photo credits top left to right: Claudia Walder by Michelle Cote; Aidan Zamiri; Chunky by Benji Reid; Denzel Himself; Izaak Brandt; Jocelyn Anquetil by Reuben Bastienne-Lewis; Karimah Hassan by Francis Augusto; Lil Lonely by Lucho Calderon; Marlou Fernanda by Robin De Puy; Morten Jensen Vagen; Netti Hurley; Nicole Chui by Martin Brown; Nwaka Okparaeke; Oliver Hassell by Kira Swain; Serwah Attafuah; TAET VREMYA; Yehaiyahan by Wang Wei; Zaiba Jabbar