



NURTURING HOPE

bafalw with Errol Reuben Fernandes



“A diverse community of plants, rich in textures, shape and pattern, grow together to reflect Peckham’s culture. The garden will be a safe, restorative space where people can spend time amongst nature and reflect.”

‘A garden of care’

How can we nurture hope? Designed as a place to pause within a busy thoroughfare, the garden will feel warm and inviting. Under each tree, lush planting surrounds a series of low, curved walls that form benches and planters. Sculptural metal forms animate the space, while a clay and gravel floor of earthy, reddish-brown tones offers a sensory contrast to the harder surfaces elsewhere in the square.

The planting scheme sees a rich mix of foliage and flowers chosen for multi-seasonal interest, providing colour and texture throughout the year. Elegant yet resilient, these plants are suited to the dry, shaded conditions beneath the trees and the public demands and liveliness of the local area.

Early evening, between the end of the school day and dinner, is a key moment when the square comes alive with people of all ages. Diverse in form and pattern, the garden will grow together as a reflection of Peckham’s vibrant and rich cultures.

It’s important that time and resources are set aside for looking after the garden. Not only is this necessary for the plants to thrive, it translates directly to respect and care for the community. Dedicated funds will support a gardener and community worker in getting to know the people who use the square; running events, film screenings, workshops and outdoor play sessions, bringing and ‘maintaining’ all kinds of life into the garden. Our hope is that this will eventually develop a team of volunteers and a long term plan that reaches beyond the first seeds of the garden being laid.

Nurture of our community embodies hope. This living, evolving garden, changing and growing through seasons and activities, stands as an ode to the legacy of Damilola Taylor and what can come through sustained and continuous practices of care.