HUMAN it is to

When the black community rose up in Brixton in 1981 they didn't simply throw petrol bombs at the police – they threw them into the very heart of a British society indifferent to the cries for justice and equality.

During three days in April 1981, South London exploded. The consequences would resonate across the country, around the world, and down through successive generations. Forty years later and the drivers of the Brixton 'riots' have still not properly been understood by society at large, let alone dealt with.

For the first time in since the uprisings in 1981, we will tell the unheard stories of this exuberantly defiant act of rebellion that fundamentally changed Britain.

In 2021 we have an opportunity to gather, bravely and across difference, against a backdrop of the most bitter and divisive politics and austerity in modern British history. To recall, reflect and learn from the past and forge new understandings about how we secure our futures together.

There will be **81 Acts of Exuberant Defiance** to mark our way forward.

We will stand on the shoulders of giants and, fed by the need for hope, we will create new opportunities to both connect and collaborate.

We will interrupt.

We will surprise.

We will invite people to pause, reflect and see long term, entrenched problems with new eyes.

We will shine a light on the injustices that gave rise to the 81 protests - the inequalities, oppressions and injustices that continue to this day.

We will highlight issues around race, poverty, policing and criminal justice in an attempt to explore what has changed over the last 40 years.

We will harness the power, creativity and imagination of Brixton's exuberant diaspora.

We will catalyse and facilitate difficult conversations and host spaces to safely hold constructive conflict.

We will resist cold compromise and uniformity to embrace difference and encourage empathy.

We will shout the names of our fallen and forgotten heroes so that they can be heard by all.

We will render audible the stories of those who have been forgotten - lost in a swirl of voices who have shouted louder for longer.

We will make visible, that which has been suppressed or masked by newness.

We will reveal age old tropes dressed up as innovation or modernity.

Led by the community, it is an invitation to rethink, regroup and refresh.

To re-think our **strategies of resistance and resilience.**

To critically question how much has changed.

To learn the lessons of the past.

To incite actions that make the future of Brixton as defiant and brave as its past.