London Decompression 2018

Event wrap up and financial report

2018 saw London Decompression move to a new venue, Fire in Vauxhall. A new venue meant new challenges. While the space worked for us on some levels, such as lots of different spaces to set up different theme camps, and an interesting outdoor area, we also had some teething troubles. The venue didn't know us, their security were more heavy handed than we felt was required and they failed to adequately staff their cloakroom leading to long delays. While these issues were out of our control, steps are being put in place for 2019 to smooth our relationship with the venue, such as bringing our own 'Black Ops' security to liaise with the venue security, and asking the venue to double the number of cloakroom staff. We were also obliged to quit some of the rooms earlier than others, which for the core team, made strike a more drawn out process, although the plus side of this was that we were finished and out by 8am!

The venue had a slightly lower capacity than our previous venue, the Coronet. We sold 1661 full price (£25) tickets and 121 low income (£15). There were also three free carer tickets issued. Total income came to £44K leaving a good surplus available for our future events, community grants and projects.

Theme camps represented included the Amphibian Lounge, Tutu Techno, the Merkin, Trashfence Sparklephonies, Neon Art Cave, Into the Woods, Crumpet, Fluffing Cafe, Cozy Planet and Digital Dance Dandies. Performers included fire and aerial acts, and a ceilidh band! Together they provided a good mix of eclectic dance music, chill out space, Decom's first play area, a speakeasy, and a lot of fun. The post event survey reflected that people enjoyed the variety of different spaces and the wider choice of music genres. This was all unified by the creative vision of the Design and Decor teams who curated the general theme of 'Underground Uprising'.

In addition the venue also hosted Daycom, which was a small, family friendly event and free to attend. While there were some challenges combining this with the ongoing Decom build, it was rewarding to welcome a wider section of our community and we hope that someone will take up the challenge of finding a more suitable space for this event to happen in future years.

The organisational team welcomed some new members bringing in fresh ideas and direction, but also a large proportion of dedicated regulars who were keen to embrace the challenges of the new space.

Our heartfelt thanks to all of them!

London Decompression Spend 2018





