Throughout March, Ben Uri gallery will be hosting an exhibition curated by Paddington Arts exploring the history of the Elimu Carnival band, formed in 1980 and based at Paddington Arts since 2001. Each year, Paddington Arts is home to the Elimu band members in the lead up to the carnival, while they plan, choreograph, rehearse, design and make costumes in preparation for the final performance at Notting Hill.

The exhibition will explore the history of the Elimu Carnival Band exploring themes such as Creativity and Family, as well as inviting band members and relatives to share their memories, photographs and artefacts. Comprising short films, photographs and archive material, as well as costumes and costume designs, the exhibition will be an archive of the band’s past whilst providing an overview of the history of the Notting Hill Carnival.

This exhibition will be accompanied by an education programme of film screenings and carnival arts workshops, taking place at both Ben Uri and Paddington Arts. For further information on the exhibition or any of the associated learning content please contact Edward Dickenson, Ben Uri Learning Officer, 0207 604 3991.
The Carnival Battleground – We Ready!
*The struggles for cultural space in the public realm*

Lecture by Ansel Wong
Chaired by Althea Efunshile, Deputy Chief Executive, Arts Council England

Ben Uri Gallery & Museum
108a Boundary Road  St John’s Wood  London NW8 0RH
Wednesday 11th March 2015  7pm

**Admission: FREE**

London’s Notting Hill Carnival, whether defined as an event, festival, street party or art form, has three key modalities:

1. A ritual of resistance
2. A festival of otherness and
3. Performance art.

This lecture by Ansel Wong will look at the history of the event and examine the challenges facing all its constituencies – artists, performers, regulatory authorities, residents, service providers and the London Notting Hill Carnival Enterprises Trust – in their struggle to remain involved.

**Ansel Wong** is one of the Founders of Elimu Carnival Band and a former Director of the Flamboyan Community Association. He has served on The Notting Hill Carnival Trust and is currently a Director of the Carnival Village Trust, Cultural Co-operation and the Commonwealth Arts and Cultural Foundation. He is a Fellow of the RSA.