

Danny Boyle's shuffle festival nears funding goal

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by [Toby Roddham](#) / March 4, 2015 / ARTS, NEWS, TOWER HAMLETS / No Comments



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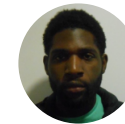
Danny Boyle is heavily involved in Mile End's Shuffle Festival. Pic: Kate MacTier

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£59,000 target, the building will include a café, music venue and a gallery space, all to be used by the community.

Shuffle Festival moves around Mile End and hosts events such as film screenings and exhibitions in different areas.

Previous locations included St Clements, a former mental institution, which was reopened by Shuffle. Director Danny Boyle, known for being the artistic director for [the London 2012 Olympics opening ceremony](#), is a strong advocate of Shuffle Festival, helping them find a location for their inaugural festival, as well as giving public support for the festival's, and Mile End's, community causes. Boyle annually curates a selection of films, art and community workshops to show off the Mile End community spirit.

Alongside the newer additions to The Lodge, the space will also be used as an educational area, where Shuffle will hopefully stage workshops for children and adults. While The Lodge now finds itself in Cemetery Park nature reserve, run by the Friends of Tower Hamlets Cemetery Park (FTHCP), it continues to hold free nature and science based classes that work alongside the national curriculum for members of the Tower Hamlets community. After being held at St Clements last year, Shuffle quickly saw an opportunity to begin a permanent addition to the community.

"10,000 people came and we knew we were onto something", said Kate MacTeirnan, director of Shuffle Festival. She began to construct a festival that worked to better the community, as well as showing strong elements of Tower Hamlet's culture, not just specific an anti-gentrification message.



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