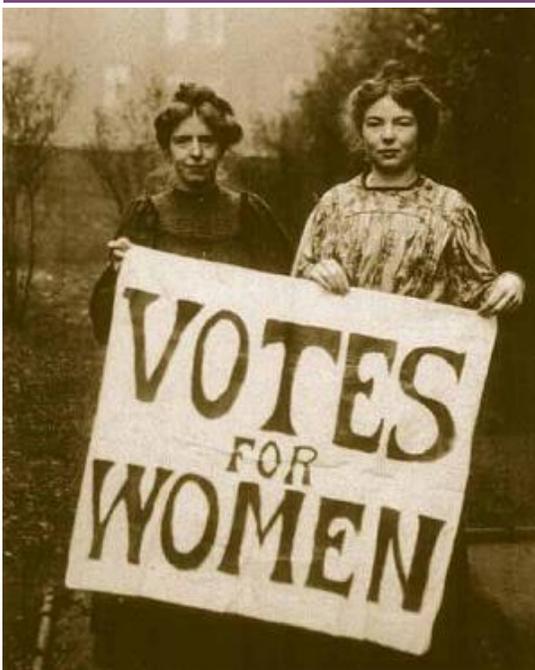


MAUK | Votes for Women Centenary Celebrations



**MAUK VOTES FOR WOMEN
CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS**
02 TO 28 APRIL 2018
KERALA HOUSE | 671 ROMFORD ROAD | LONDON E12 5AD

**1918 - 2018
CELEBRATING
Votes for
Women** **Inauguration** *Bank Holiday Monday, 02 April, 2 pm - 4 pm*
Project Launch | Discussions
Cultural programmes | Refreshments

Protest Poetry *Saturday, 07 April, 2 pm - 5 pm*
Create your own poems to express the struggles that women face today. Explore performance poetry using dance & music
Age group 5 to 15. Workshop conducted by Jasline Antony

DEEDS NOT WORDS **Act on Progress** *Sunday, 08 April, 11 am to 3 pm*
Explore the creative and dynamic world of theatre with Manoj Shiva and prepare for an improvised drama performance to express the underlying themes of women's rights

We Can Draw it! *Saturday, 14 April, 2 pm - 5 pm*
Immerse in the world of creative expression with Artist Jose Pindian. Whether you want to draw the lines of freedom or paint a picture of protest, join us to make your mark about women's freedom

VOTES FOR WOMEN **Suffragettes go Digital** *Saturday, 21 April, 2 pm - 5 pm*
Design and create your own ebooks about the Suffragettes and explore film making. Age group 5 - 15
Workshop conducted by Jasline Antony

The Grand Finale *Saturday, 28 April, 2 pm*
Guest Speakers | Cultural Performances | Performance Poetry
Improvised Drama Exhibition of Expressive Arts | Tea & Cakes

Further info and to register:
07960 212 334 / info@mauk.org
All workshops are FREE. All resources will be provided
Must register your places 5 days prior to workshops
These activities are funded by Women's Vote Centenary Grant Scheme

mauk.org

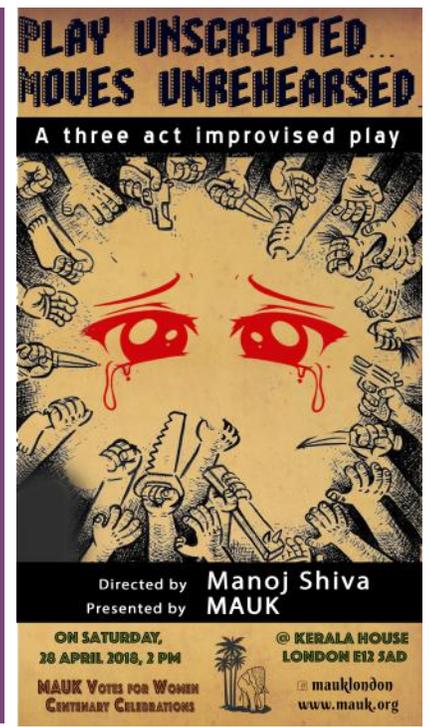
MAUK has built up an excellent reputation for hosting events that stand out from the rest. The 'Votes for Women Centenary' celebrations were no different and lived up to and exceeded all expectations!

The Suffragettes

It wasn't until 1918 that working-class men and some women were granted the right to vote, which was thanks to the tireless campaigning of a group of women called the Suffragettes who were led by a very fearless woman during her era- Emmeline Pankhurst. Prior to this, only wealthy men could vote, and it wasn't until ten years later that all women over 21 could vote. Many Suffragettes were arrested, and a few even died during their protests since they resorted to violent protests as a desperate means of being heard.



To mark centenary of Votes for Women, MAUK hosted a series of different workshops throughout April and celebrated the Votes for Women Centenary with the wider community. All workshops were free-of-charge and led by professionals and response from the community was overwhelming



Children took part in a 'Protest Poetry' workshop with experienced Primary School Teacher, Jasline Shimmy Antony, who also coordinated the whole project. Children wrote poems about the struggles that women face today and engaged in performance poetry using music and dance. She also ran an ICT workshop giving children the opportunity to design and create eBooks about the Suffragettes and explore filmmaking to share their views about how gender equality can improve today.

Accomplished artist, Jose Pindian conducted a very popular Art workshop titled "We Can Draw it" where participants immersed in the world of creative expression. Some drew the lines of freedom, others painted pictures of protest, but all participants let the art do the talking. An art workshop for under 14s also coincided with the adult workshop.

Poems and artwork created at the workshops were exhibited at Kerala House till the 31 May 2018, to further highlight and celebrate the Suffragette movement and women's rights to visitors and users of Kerala House.

Adults were also invited to explore the creative and dynamic world of theatre with multitalented Manoj Shiva. This workshop wasn't for the faint hearted as it explored the capacity of spontaneous improvisation to underpin the underlying themes of women's rights. The outcome of the series of workshops was an improvised play called 'Play unscripted - Moves unrehearsed', which was performed at the Grand Finale on 28th April from 2 p.m. at Kerala House and left the audience awe-struck,

“Votes for Women! Deeds, not Words”, the famous words from the Suffragettes were chanted by children holding placards as they performed their Protest Poetry to open the Grand Finale. **Rokhsana Fiaz**, Mayor of Newham, spoke at the opening ceremony highlighting the gender inequality in politics and encouraged the mostly women audience to take part in local politics actively.

MAUK VOTES FOR WOMEN CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS



ROKHSANA FIAZ
GUEST



ARTIST JOSE PINDIAN
TRAINER



ARTIST MANOJ SHIVA
TRAINER



JASLINE ANTONY
TRAINER
PROJECT COORDINATOR

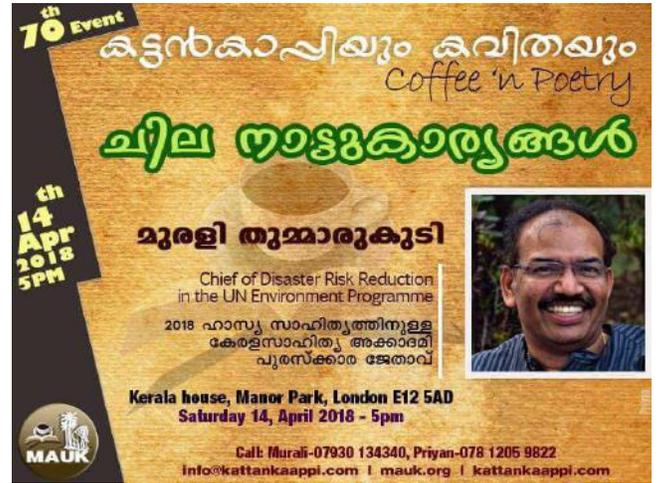
The audience were treated to a variety of high-quality performances including Bharathanatyam by Ashvini Ajith, Semi-classical dance by Jona Prakash and Shruthi Sreekumar, Kathak by Ashlyn Mathews, Cinematic dance by Shradha, Musical fusion by Mithun Mohan and Shradha, as well as Chenda melam by MAUK’s Chenda team led by Vinod Navadhara.

Guest speakers included Ashwathy Mohanaprakas, an Oxford graduate and freelance writer, who touched on various topics related to women’s rights- including the role of Asian women in the Suffragette movement and how women from all walks of life can bring about positive changes in society.

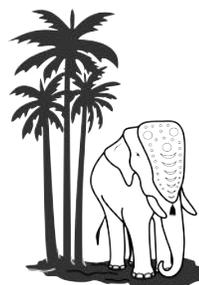
Sanjay Kumar IPS, who is a cybercrime expert from Bangalore, India, highlighted the importance of educating parents and children about internet safety as well as raised awareness of the dangers that lurk behind the screen for women users of the internet.

Participants of the various workshops were given opportunities to present their work at the Grand Finale. Selected ebooks created during the workshop were introduced to the audience. Some participants of the art workshops described their vision of their creative artwork. Children also recited poems that were written during the poetry workshop.

Other activities of the evening included a Suffragette themed quiz, face and hand painting of Suffragette symbols, tea and cake stall, question & answer session with the guest speakers and the audience sharing their life experiences. Motivational video clips promoting gender equality were also played during interludes.



As part of MAUK Votes for Women Centenary Celebration, MAUK's Literary Forum Kattankappium Kavithayum (Coffee & Poetry) held a special edition session with Guest Speaker Muralee Thumarakuddy. Muralee who is an award winning writer as well as the Chief of UN Disaster Risk Reduction Team spoke about his experience of the sufferings and the perseverance of women in disaster zones.



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MAUK managed to attract quite many new volunteers through this project. Thanks to their expertise and dedication and the financial support of Women's Vote Centenary Grants Scheme, MAUK was able to celebrate the Votes for Women centenary successfully and free of charge.



The feedback we received from the participants of the workshop and the audience of the events was overwhelmingly positive. It was evident that this project had made considerable inroads in educating the local communities about the Suffragette movement, which many haven't even heard of before the publicity of this project had started. This isn't the first at the time that MAUK has conducted projects that raise awareness and tackle social inequality. It indeed won't be the last.

MAUK takes this opportunity to thank all the participants, volunteers and Women's Vote Centenary Grants Scheme for their help and support that ensured the success of this project.