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# **THE SHACKS FIGHT BACK! A talk by Richard Pithouse of Abahlali baseMjondolo. Centerprise, Hackney**

URL:

[www.metamute.org](http://www.metamute.org)

## **THE SHACKS FIGHT BACK: THE SHACK DWELLERS MOVEMENT IN SOUTH AFRICA**

A talk by Richard Pithouse of the South African shack dwellers movement, Abahlali baseMjondolo.  
<http://www.abahlali.org/>

Abahlali have fought for the right of Durban's shack dwellers to basic amenities housing, water, land. They have fought against eviction, racism, arson, apartheid and bureaucracy to defend their homes and improve their conditions, confronting the lies and evasions of local government and aid agencies.

Abahlali refuses to participate in party politics, NGO-style professionalisation or individualisation of struggle. Instead they seek to build democratic power where people live and work.

Fed up with fake democracy and endless 'consultations' and false promises (sound familiar?), Abahlali took matters into their own hands.

Richard Pithouse, an academic and journalist who has been active in the movement since its inception, will tell us about the struggle, show some short videos, and answer questions.

We also hope to have community activists from Hackney Independent and South London here for the talk. This is an opportunity to make connections and find inspiration.

Please come along and join in the discussion!

**7pm, Thursday 7th June, Centerprise**

**136 – 138 Kingsland High Street, Dalston, London E8.**

Entry: FREE

Bus: 67, 76, 149, 243 (direct); 242, 30, 38, 56, 277 (Dalston Junction)

Tube: Highbury & Islington, 1 mile

Train: Dalston Kingsland (Silverlink Metrolink)

Organised by Mute magazine [<http://metamute.org>] and friends

There is another talk this weekend - details as follows:

**2PM SUNDAY 10TH JUNE**

**CAMBERWELL SQUATTED SOCIAL CENTRE**

**192 Warham St, off Camberwell New Rd, Camberwell SE5 Bus: 36, 436 Tube: Oval**

[www.56a.org.uk/warham.html](http://www.56a.org.uk/warham.html) [blackfrog@alphabettthreat.co.uk](mailto:blackfrog@alphabettthreat.co.uk)