

NORTH TYNESIDE ARTS

E-ZINE

No. 119

14 May 2007

www.northtynesidearts.org.uk

We haven't been able to publish an E-zine for a few weeks, so there's quite a lot to catch up with.

Coming up in the Buddle Arts Centre's **ADHOC GALLERY** is the second of our two shows this year by students from Tyne Metropolitan College who are taking the Foundation Degree in Fine Art. "FD2" is the final 'degree show' by second-year students, and features ten artists. This is the sixth year of our partnership between the Gallery and the College (and its predecessor institutions), and exhibiting in the gallery is a compulsory part of the course. Most of the students on the Foundation Degree course move on to studying Fine Art at university, so this is an excellent opportunity to see work by a new generation of artists in the region at an early stage in their careers. "FD2" opens on Wednesday 23 May, continuing until 7 July (the day of the Wallsend Festival). Admission free - standard opening times are Mon-Tues 10am-5pm, Wed 10am-8pm, Thu-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-5pm (closed bank holiday 27 May).

Weblink: www.tynemet.ac.uk

Incidentally, one of the artists included in "FD2" is also lead artist for the exhibition currently showing in AdHoc Gallery. "Such a Must" is an environmental art project supported by the Big Boost Lottery Fund. Working with TyneMet College student Jessica Patterson, students from John Spence Community High School in North Shields have created sketches, large-scale paintings and text panels inspired by the effects of climate change and the impact they feel it will have on their lives. "Such a Must" is showing until Thursday (17 May).

Two contrasting events in the Buddle Arts Centre theatre over the next couple of weeks:

On Friday 25 May, **NORTH TYNESIDE YOUTH MUSIC COLLECTIVE** present their latest monthly showcase for up-and-coming local bands, in association with the Buddle Arts Centre's music resource, TIME Studio. There's about 50 bands in the Collective, and each gig features three or four. In fact, for this event the headliners have already outgrown the 'up-and-coming' tag and are making a big name for themselves on the national music scene. **INDIGO COLONY** emerged from Whitley Bay in 2003 and quickly became noticed in the region for their melodic indie rock and upbeat powerpop. They've supported a number of well-known bands on tour including the legendary Half Man Half Biscuit, appeared alongside The Go! Team and Richard Hawley at the climax of last year's Orange Evolution Festival in NewcastleGateshead, and their debut single featured on Zane Lowe's Radio 1 show. Also on the line-up are Coalition plus one more band to be confirmed. Doors open

7pm, tickets £2.50 - and like all these showcase gigs, it's an alcohol-free event.
Weblink: www.indigocolony.com

If you'd like more info about these gigs, or to find out anything about the resources available in TIME Studio, contact Michael Lambert on 0191 200 1173 or timerecordingstudio@hotmail.com

The following Thursday (31 May) sees the latest monthly demonstration of the skills of floral design organised by **WALLSEND FLORAL ARTS CLUB**, with guest artist Karl Brunton. It starts at 7pm - as always, non-members are welcome to attend, but please note that there is a small charge which includes refreshments.

Into June, and the welcome return to the Buddle Arts Centre of "A Handful of Sand", **MONSTER PRODUCTIONS'** latest show for under-7s and their families. It was a sell-out last autumn, and is currently in the middle of a successful national tour. If you've seen one of their shows before, you'll know what to expect - captivating storytelling, wonderful visuals, delightful comic performances, catchy songs and loads of audience participation. "A Handful of Sand" is about a child's sandpit games magically transformed into a desert adventure where ancient riddles and mysterious mirages hide round every corner and nothing is quite what it seems. There are two performances a day from 5-9 June and 12-16 June - details of times in the Events Summary at the end of this E-zine. The show is suitable for schools, nurseries, playgroups and families - tickets available from the box office on 0191 252 3505. And another Monster Productions' show, "Feast", will be the Christmas offering at the Buddle Arts Centre this year - if you book for this at the same time as "A Handful of Sand", there's a 10% discount. Days and times in the Events Summary below.

There will also be a special performance of "A Handful of Sand" on Friday 15 June at 4.30pm in aid of UNICEF (the United Nations Children's Fund). Tickets for this are £10 (£5 children) and are available direct from Monster Productions on 0191 240 4011. Find out more about the company, who are based in the Buddle Arts Centre, from their website - and there's a double-page centrespread feature in the current issue of Informer magazine.

Weblink: www.monsterproductions.co.uk

Looking further ahead, and this year's **MOUTH OF THE TYNE FESTIVAL** which is taking place in Tynemouth and South Shields on 14 & 15 July. One of the undoubted highlights of last summer's Festival was the superb world roots music concert in the stunning setting of Tynemouth Priory, with Afro-Cuban All Stars, Natacha Atlas, Eliza Carthy and Bellowhead. It was so good that we're doing it again this year, with another top quality line-up.

Headlining is **MORY KANTÉ**, the first African artist to sell over a million singles - his number one hit "Yeke Yeke" remains the most successful African song of all time. Hailing from Guinea, Mory will be showcasing his latest album "Sabou" and the songs that have given him huge success and respect across the world, supported by his ten-piece band. Britain's most exciting young Latin-jazz pianist **ALEX WILSON** will be bringing his 12-piece Salsa Orchestra for a lively Latino-Cuban set which will get everyone dancing. And completing the line-up are Grammy-nominated **BOYS OF THE LOUGH**, one of the most respected Celtic bands in the world and now in their fifth decade of performing, whose influences include traditional music from Ireland, Scotland, Northumberland and North America.

The event is on Saturday 14 July at Tynemouth Priory, with entry from 5pm for a 6pm start. Tickets are £20 (£18 concs and Buddle Arts Centre Supporters Card holders) available from The Sage Gateshead - in person, by phone on 0191 443 4661, or via the website. If you want any more info about the event, contact our Events team on 0191 200 8909.

Weblinks: www.thesagegateshead.org

www.morykante.com

www.alexwilson.net

www.boysofthelough.com

The rest of the Mouth of the Tyne Festival is free, and we'll bring you details of the full programme in E-zine - and it'll be available on the Festival website shortly.

Weblink: www.mouthofthetynefestival.com

Last year, a new local network - North Tyneside Early Arts - was set up to be the umbrella body for developing projects in the field of arts and creativity for young children, building on the many excellent activities which have been happening in the borough over the last few years. The first result is "**THE HOUSE OF OBJECTS**", which is on all this month at the Rising Sun Countryside Centre in Benton. It's a specially-designed environment which creates a 'warehouse of wonders' for children, giving them creative play opportunities using recycled materials. A team of artists - Jyl Friggens, Annie Sheridan, Neil Canavan, Andy McDermott, Kath Bedingfield, Angela Nunn and Emma Paice - are on hand to inspire ideas and help the children use the materials in fun and imaginative ways. All the sessions for school, nursery and play groups were booked up before the project opened, but there's a free Family Day on Tuesday 29 May open to all (10am-12 noon & 1-3pm) - children up to 13 years must be accompanied by an adult. For more info, contact the Rising Sun on 0191 200 7841.

"The House of Objects" is a follow up to the "Exploratorium" project held at Globe (Hub) Gallery in North Shields last year, and is inspired by the ReMida model of creative recycling centres which can be found in various European countries - the aim is to establish a similar, permanent, centre in North Tyneside within the next couple of years.

The next production by the **TYNEMOUTH PRIORY THEATRE** company is Alan Ayckbourn's classic "How the Other Half Loves", an inventive, comical and brilliantly crafted masterpiece, premiered in 1969, which juggles time and space to present the lives and loves of three couples. Like all of Ayckbourn's work, there are serious issues to be found behind the glittering dialogue and complex stagecraft.

Performances are 26 May to 2 June, 7.30pm each night, with special 'theatre and dinner' deals available from local restaurants on 28 & 29 May. Tickets £7 from 0191 292 9292 (ansaphone service - leave your details and you will be contacted).

Tynemouth Priory Theatre is in Percy Street, off Tynemouth Front Street.

Weblink: www.homestead.com/tynemouthpriorytheatre/index.html

JAZZ AT THE EXCHANGE is back on Friday 8 June with its latest monthly concert, featuring The Three Pods of Pepper (and a couple of Hot Tamales!). The band consists of Spats Langham (banjo, vocals, guitar & ukelele), reedsman Norman Field and Frans Sjostrom on bass sax, plus Keith Nichols on piano, vocals and soprano sax, and occasional assistance from the cornet of Jazz at the Exchange supreme Mike Durham. On offer is a mix of classic jazz, vaudeville songs and crooning, recreating the sounds of Bix Beiderbecke, Louis Armstrong and Bing Crosby among

many other early jazz pioneers - "jazz archaeology of the highest order", according to Humphrey Lyttleton, and no-one's going to disagree with Humph! Starts at 8pm at Saville Exchange in North Shields - tickets £10 (£9 concs, £5 students) from the box office 0191 252 3505. Check out the website for info about future concerts for the rest of the year and to sign up for the mailing list.

Weblink: www.jazzexchange.co.uk

And if you're a trad fan, then you'll be interested in a new CD which captures one of the highlights of last year's Whitley Bay International Jazz Festival. In a special concert at The Sage Gateshead, ten jazz soloists led by Keith Nicholls and 17 members of Northern Sinfonia joined forces in a tribute concert to the great jazz impresario **PAUL WHITEMAN**. Known as 'The King of Jazz', Whiteman was a celebrated 1920s bandleader who worked with many of the stars of the period including Bing Crosby, Bix Beiderbecke, Jack Teagarden and Eddie Lang. Not only that, he commissioned George Gershwin to write "Rhapsody in Blue", and in this concert Gershwin specialist Wayne Marshall presented it in Whiteman's original 1924 arrangement for only the second time in the UK. Other works of the period were also performed. The CD of the concert - 18 tracks, an hour's music, top quality sound - is now available for £11 including postage from Mike Durham. You can contact him by post at 60 Highbury, Newcastle NE2 3LN or e-mail at mikedurham_jazz@hotmail.com - cheques & postal orders payable to 'M Durham'.

Details of all events coming up at **WHITLEY BAY PLAYHOUSE**, including the film programme, plus those they support at other venues such as Saville Exchange, are on their website - where you can also purchase tickets online and sign up for their mailing list.

Weblink: www.whitleybayplayhouse.co.uk

There are new exhibitions on now at both **GLOBE GALLERY** venues:

ELLY CLARKE's "Moscow-Beijing" at Globe Hub in Howard Street, North Shields is a record of a participatory project the artist undertook on the Trans-Siberian railway in 2005-06. She interviewed the Russian, Mongolian and Chinese passengers on video using prepared cue cards, and gave the passengers disposable cameras to take photos of their journey. Later, the interviews were translated and edited into a three screen video work, showing in the exhibition - along with large-scale hand-tinted photographs, images taken by the passengers, and other material from the project. The exhibition has previously been shown in Helsinki and Banff. Find out more about the artist, who is based in London, by going to the Axis website and enter 'Elly Clarke' in the search box - there's a link to an article by her about the project along with images. "Moscow-Beijing" continues until 23 June - phone 0191 259 2614 for more info.

Weblink: www.axisweb.org

Meanwhile at Globe City in Carliol Square, Newcastle, there's the first solo exhibition in the region by **BRASS ART**, a group of three artists from Manchester and Glasgow. "Here and Elsewhere" is a mix of drawings, video and animated light installations. The artists place themselves in specific locations, representing themselves as shadows, silhouettes, ghostly forms, reflections and models - alter egos which play off against the setting, creating an unsettling juxtaposition between the real and the virtual. Brass Art have recently exhibited in London, Edinburgh, Slovenia and The Lowry, Salford. "Here and Elsewhere" continues until 22 June - 0191 222 1666 for

more details.

Both Globe Gallery venues are admission free, open Wed-Sat 11.30am-5pm.
Weblink: www.globegallery.org

The current installation in **THE BRIDGE** Tynemouth Station is "Strangers", a collaboration between North Tyneside artists Tracey Tofield and Richard Jardine. Starting with an exchange of drawings, a journal was made and a dialogue between the artists began, resulting in this new installation where household objects, large-scale drawings and seemingly random items create a quasi-domestic interior signifying an internal conversation. Curtains suspended from the ceiling divide the space into 'rooms', worlds of chance encounters, superficial exchange and human connection. To quote from the artists' statement: "The bridge spans a choice of two directions, a traversing from one position to another, typifying a coming and going, arriving and departing. The space enclosed within the bridge is a site in limbo, a space out of time viewed as both private and public yet charged with the experience of encounter and its aftermath. It both excludes and invites the gaze." "Strangers" remains in situ until the middle of June - viewable 24 hours a day.

Two galleries in North Tyneside make their first appearances in E-zine:

GALLERY NO. 1 is in Back Front Street, Tynemouth, and is showing "Passionate about Paintings and Pots" from 26 to 31 May. The exhibition features the powerful paintings centred on the human figure by Adrian Swales, along with flamboyant, bold ceramics by potter Maureen Foster. Admission is free, open each day 10.30am-4.30pm. More info from 0191 258 3464.

Albion Road in North Shields is the location for a new exhibition space, the **BAKERY ART GALLERY**, which opened earlier this month. Established by Elaine and Michael Johnson, the gallery will be showing a range of work for sale in different media - current artists include Tom Dack, Trevor Craggs, Fern Wood, Michael Johnson and artist-in-residence and gallery manager Elaine Page. As its name suggests, it's based in a former bakery, and also contains artist studios and, opening in June, a recording studio. For more info contact 0191 258 3333.
Weblink: www.bakeryartgallery.co.uk

Finally in this exhibitions round-up, there's a new collection of work on show at **NORTHERN PRINT** - the regional centre for fine art printmaking, formerly based in North Shields but now in Ouseburn in Newcastle. On until 1 July is "trace - retrace", mixed media prints by Chris Jones; work by Northern Print Bursary Artists including Lauren Healey, Graham Patterson and Adinda van't Klooster; and printed ceramics by Hiroyuki Suzuki. Admission is free, open Wed-Fri 11am-5pm, Sat & Sun 12 noon-4pm. Phone 0191 261 7000 or check out their website for details of the printmaking resources and education activities on offer.
Weblink: www.northernprint.org.uk

Congratulations to artist **NATHAN COLEY**, who has been shortlisted for the Turner Prize 2007. The nomination is for his work over the past year, but he's best-known in North Tyneside for his public art project "Show Home" in May 2003 - a sculptural representation of a vernacular cottage, sited for one day only in three North Shields

locations, and accompanied by a fully-realised marketing and sales campaign. (We still have copies of the "Show Home" brochure and DVD available, free of charge - requests with name & address and Show Home in the subject box to mike.campbell@northtyneside.gov.uk) The Turner prize exhibition opens in October at Tate Liverpool, with the winner being announced on 3 December. Weblink: www.tate.org.uk/liverpool

Congratulations also to two North Tyneside based writers:

VALERIE LAWS has been announced as a runner-up in the Alfred Bradley Bursary Award for her play "The Seal". The award, named in honour of the great radio drama producer of the 1950s who nurtured many of the finest playwrights of the last half century, is intended to discover new writers for afternoon radio plays for BBC radio. Valerie will be assigned a producer to help pitch ideas to Radio 4. Valerie has written work for Cloud Nine Theatre Company including "Hadaway - the Making of a Writer" for the Tom Hadaway Festival in 2003, and attracted national attention for her "Quantum Sheep" public art project, where fragments of verse were written on sheep, whose movements created ever-changing random poems.

And the Andrea Badenoch Fiction Award has gone to **GLYNIS REED**, who is a graduate of the MA in Creative Writing course at Newcastle University. The award, one of the Northern Writers' Awards organised by New Writing North, is for women fiction writers over the age of 42 and named in honour of the Newcastle novelist who died of breast cancer.

Now, as promised in the last issue, news of the major development in the arts in North Tyneside for many years - the plans to create a **NEW ARTS CENTRE** for the borough in the Grade II listed Spanish City Dome building on Whitley Bay seafront. Readers in the Tyneside area will probably be aware of this from the extensive local and regional media coverage, and Buddle Arts Centre Supporters Card holders have previously been given information, but this may be new to some.

In outline, the Dome will house a mixed-use arts centre, incorporating a flexible performance space seating up to 200; a café/bar/bistro; a contemporary gallery; a youth music resource; artist studios/workspaces; other workshop spaces; offices and meeting rooms. Planning permission and Listed Building Consent have been given on the basis of the outline designs; the next stage is to work up the detail for each space and how they will relate to each other, and develop the programme plans, to create a twenty-first century facility in an iconic historic building.

The Dome arts centre is a key part of the wider £60 million Whitley Bay regeneration programme, which also includes refurbishment of the Leisure Pool, a new library and joint service centre, an upgraded park and public realm improvements with new playsite and skate park - and most directly relevant, a major refurbishment of Whitley Bay Playhouse, which is only about 100 yards from the Dome. What this will create is an 'arts complex' - two distinctive, complementary facilities, each with their own personality and programmes, but with great potential for collaboration on events and festivals, and with far more opportunity for attracting cross-over audiences than is currently the case, with the Buddle Arts Centre and Whitley Bay Playhouse being in different towns. As to timescale - Whitley Bay Playhouse is due to close in early August for work to begin, and scheduled to re-open by the end of 2008; we are looking at a Spring 2009 opening date for the Dome.

We will of course have regular updates on progress in E-zine, but if you are particularly interested in the plans for the Dome or would like to get involved in some way, then drop us an e-mail to art.river@northtyneside.gov.uk

This obviously has implications for the future of the Buddle Arts Centre - the intention is to maintain it as an arts facility, but with a different focus and management arrangements. We are also at an early stage of exploring the idea of establishing a dedicated children and young people's theatre resource in Wallsend, which would be the only such facility in the region. More on both these developments in future E-zines.

EVENTS SUMMARY

31 May, 7pm - Karl Brunton, Wallsend Floral Arts Club, Buddle Arts Centre (0191 200 7132)

25 May, 7pm - Indigo Colony / Coalition, Buddle Arts Centre (0191 200 7132)

26 May-2 Jun, 7.30pm - Tynemouth Priory Theatre company "How the Other Half Loves", Tynemouth Priory Theatre (0191 292 9292)

29 May, 10am-12 noon & 1-3pm - "The House of Objects" family day, Rising Sun Countryside Centre (0191 200 7841)

5-8 June, 10.30am & 1.30pm - Monster Productions "A Handful of Sand", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

8 June, 8pm - The Three Pods of Pepper, Saville Exchange (0191 252 3505)

9 June, 11am & 2pm - Monster Productions "A Handful of Sand", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

12-15 June, 10.30am & 1.30pm - Monster Productions "A Handful of Sand", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

15 June, 4.30pm - Monster Productions "A Handful of Sand" UNICEF benefit, Buddle Arts Centre (0191 240 4011)

16 June, 11am & 2pm - Monster Productions "A Handful of Sand", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

14 July, 6pm - Mory Kanté / Alex Wilson Salsa Orchestra / Boys of the Lough, Tynemouth Priory (0191 443 4661)

14-15 July - MOUTH OF THE TYNE FESTIVAL, Tynemouth & South Shields

27-30 Nov, 10.30am & 1.30pm - Monster Productions "Feast", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

1 Dec, 11am & 2pm - Monster Productions "Feast", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

4-7 Dec, 10.30am & 1.30pm - Monster Productions "Feast", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

8 Dec, 11am & 2pm - Monster Productions "Feast", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

11-14 Dec, 10.30am & 1.30pm - Monster Productions "Feast", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

15 Dec, 11am & 2pm - Monster Productions "Feast", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

18-21 Dec, 10.30am & 1.30pm - Monster Productions "Feast", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

22 Dec, 11am & 2pm - Monster Productions "Feast", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 252 3505)

EXHIBITIONS SUMMARY

23 May-7 July - TyneMet College "FD2", AdHoc Gallery (0191 200 7132)

26-31 May - Adrian Swales & Maureen Foster "Passionate about Paintings and Pots", Gallery No. 1 (0191 258 3464)

Until 15 June - Tracey Tofield & Richard Jardine "Strangers", The Bridge Tynemouth Station

Until 22 June - Brass Art "Here and Elsewhere", Globe City (0191 222 1666)

Until 23 June - Elly Clarke "Moscow-Beijing", Globe Hub (0191 259 2614)

Until 1 July - Chris Jones "trace - retrace" et al, Northern Print (0191 261 7000)

HAVE YOU GOT NEWS FOR US?

Let us know if you've got anything to tell us about arts events and activities in North Tyneside and we'll do our best to include it - e-mail to mike.campbell@northtyneside.gov.uk

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North Tyneside Arts is part of the Community Services Directorate of North Tyneside Council and supported by Arts Council England, North East.*