

NORTH TYNESIDE ARTS

E-ZINE

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www.northtynesidearts.org.uk

For the next two weeks, the **BUDDLE ARTS CENTRE** will be the place to see the very best in children's theatre, as we welcome back "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 Tuesday to Saturday until 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.

Weblink: www.monsterproductions.co.uk

If you're coming to see "A Handful of Sand", or even if you're not, don't miss the current exhibition in the Buddle Arts Centre's **ADHOC GALLERY**. "FD2" is the second of our two shows this year by students from **TYNE METROPOLITAN COLLEGE** who are taking the Foundation Degree in Fine Art and is the final 'degree show' by second-year students. Ten artists are showing work ranging from large-scale figurative paintings and more abstract and textured works to photographic images and even a wall-based model railway!

This is the sixth year of the 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" continues until 7 July (the day of the Wallsend Festival - more on that below). Admission free - standard opening times are Mon-Tues 10am-5pm, Wed 10am-8pm, Thu-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-5pm.

Weblink: www.tynemet.ac.uk

This year's **MOUTH OF THE TYNE FESTIVAL** is taking place in Tynemouth and South Shields on 14 & 15 July. You can now find the full programme details on the Festival website (www.mouthofthetynefestival.com), and we'll be picking out some of the acts to look out for over the next few issues of E-zine.

But one of the undoubted highlights will be the world and roots music concert on Saturday 14 July in the stunning setting of Tynemouth Priory. Headlining is **MORY KANTE**, 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.

Entry to Tynemouth Priory is 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.

(By the way, e-mail copies of the last E-zine might have suggested we don't know how to spell Mory Kante's name - unfortunately, copying the text into e-mail managed to make the letter 'e' with an acute accent at the end of his name disappear! So we'll leave off the accent, but it is Kante pronounced 'Kant-ay'.)

Weblinks: www.mouthofthetynefestival.com
www.thesagegateshead.org
www.morykante.com
www.alexwilson.net
www.boysofthelough.com

The week before Mouth of the Tyne Festival sees the seventh annual **WALLSEND FESTIVAL**. There'll be a wide range of daytime activities on Saturday 7 July - full details will be available soon on the Festival website - and it's all rounded off in the evening with a special event at the Buddle Arts Centre.

"Music, Mirth and Magic" brings together some very different performers who have never appeared on the same bill before. North Tyneside-based **CLOUD NINE THEATRE COMPANY** will present their new comedy sketch show "The Laughter Factory", written by Peter Mortimer and Valerie Laws, directed by Neil Armstrong - a fast-paced off-the-wall creation featuring terrorist sheep, talking houses, aristocratic charvers and a war hero with the runs! Music comes from **LOON** - based in the Buddle Arts Centre, they are five troubadours who play their own unique brand of world music and will make their first stage appearance in their home venue fresh from performing at the Glastonbury Festival. Completing the line-up is **STEVE MISCHIEF** (aka Steve Cousins) - performer, entertainer and creative mischief-maker, who wowed the crowds at last year's Mouth of the Tyne Festival.

Doors open 7pm with licensed bar for a 7.30pm start - tickets £5 (£4 concs and Buddle Arts Centre Supporters Card holders) from the box office 0191 200 7026.

Weblinks: www.wallsendfestival.org

www.cloudninetheatre.co.uk
www.loonmusic.co.uk
www.stevencousins.net

In the week leading up to the Wallsend Festival there are a number of other local events, one of which is a concert by **WALLSEND & DISTRICT CHORAL SOCIETY**. "Music for a Summer's Evening" will include a miscellany of popular choral music conducted by David Morley and featuring Paul Elliott on clarinet and Kayleigh Heslop on trumpet. It takes place in the Civic Hall (a few minutes along the road from the Buddle Arts Centre) on 4 July at 7.15pm. Tickets cost £4, available on the door or contact 0191 262 2801.

The latest **JAZZ AT THE EXCHANGE** concert is on Friday (8 June), featuring The Three Pods of Pepper (and a couple of Hot Tamales!). The band consists of Spats Langham (banjo, vocals, guitar & ukulele), 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 supremo 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 - next up are Jeff and Anne Barnhart in August.

Weblink: www.jazzexchange.co.uk

Also at Saville Exchange this month is a **LUNCHTIME RECITAL**, featuring flautist Fiona McLaughlin, who has recently been teaching and performing in the United Arab Emirates, and Athens-born pianist, composer and musicologist Panos Demopoulos. The programme includes works by Mozart, Poulenc, Gaubert and Faure. It's on 22 June at 1pm - tickets £5 from 0191 252 3505.

www.mastermusicians.co.uk

Two local North Tyneside societies have productions coming up at **WHITLEY BAY PLAYHOUSE** this month -

From tomorrow until Saturday (6-9 June), **TYNEMOUTH GILBERT AND SULLIVAN SOCIETY** present "The Mikado", G&S's perennially popular favourite featuring some of their best-loved songs such as "Three Little Maids". Performances are 7.30pm each evening, plus a 2.30pm Saturday matinee - tickets £8.50 (£6.50 under-16s & senior citizens Wed eve and Sat matinee only) from the box office 0191 252 3505.

Last year, **WHITLEY BAY THEATRE COMPANY** presented a stage adaptation of four episodes of another classic, "Fawlty Towers", and it was so popular they're back with another four. Performances are 28-30 June, 7.30pm each evening - tickets £9 (£7 concs) from 0191 252 3505.

Details of other 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 sign up for their mailing list.
Weblink: www.whitleybayplayhouse.co.uk

TYNEMOUTH PAGEANT, the community drama group founded in 1990, presents a new hour-long play about slavery, "Breaking the Shackles", to mark the bicentenary of the Abolition of Slavery Act in 1807. The play - written by Pageant stalwart Roger Burgess and directed by John Winter - shows how black slavery and its results affected Tyneside as much as the 'slave ports' of Bristol, Liverpool and London. It contrasts the wealthy life of Tyneside ironmaster Clem Tasker, who is manufacturing and exporting slave shackles, with the cruel conditions endured by the black African slaves who are transported to America and forced by the whip to cut sugar cane for their English owners.

As well as actors from the regular Pageant company, the play features a guest performance from Angolan performing arts student Jose Tchilombo as an escaped slave who comes to England and is befriended by the Quaker women of Newcastle. There are 6 performances, 12-19 July, in venues in North Shields, Tynemouth, Monkseaton, Wallsend and Jesmond - see the Events Summary below for details. Admission is free for all performances, but a donation on the door to Pageant funds is requested.

For more info about these performances or Tynemouth Pageant, whose next triennial production in Tynemouth Priory is scheduled for 2008, contact 0191 258 7905 or check the website.

Weblink: www.tynemouthpageant.org

There are 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 22 June - phone 0191 259 2614 for more info.

Weblink: www.axisweb.org

Meanwhile at Globe City in Carlisle 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" also 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.

“North Shields Days” is a celebration of the people of North Shields past and present in words and pictures compiled by local writing agency **NORTHERN VOICES**, which is showing in North Tyneside libraries over the next month or so. It’s on this week and next (until 15 June) at Whitley Bay Library, and then goes to Wallsend and Killingworth. See the Exhibitions Summary below for details. Northern Voices are also staging an event at the Buddle Arts Centre on 5 July to mark the completion of their “Out to Sea” poetry, music and installation project - more details in the next issue.

EVENTS SUMMARY

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

6-8 June, 7.30pm - Tynemouth Gilbert and Sullivan Society “The Mikado”, Whitley Bay Playhouse (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)

9 June, 2.30pm & 7.30pm - Tynemouth Gilbert and Sullivan Society “The Mikado”, Whitley Bay Playhouse (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)

22 June, 1pm - Fiona McLaughlin & Panos Demopoulos recital, Saville Exchange (0191 252 3505)

28-30 June, 7.30pm - Whitley Bay Theatre Company "Fawlty Towers", Whitley Bay Playhouse (0191 252 3505)

4 July, 7.15pm - Wallsend Choral Society "Music for a Summer's Evening", Wallsend Civic Hall (0191 262 2801)

7 July - WALLSEND FESTIVAL, Wallsend town centre (0191 200 5733)

7 July, 7.30pm - Cloud Nine Theatre Company / Loon / Steve Mischief "Music Mirth and Magic", Buddle Arts Centre (0191 200 7026)

12 July, 7.30pm - Tynemouth Pageant "Breaking the Shackles", Linskill Centre, North Shields (0191 258 7905)

13 July, 7.30pm - Tynemouth Pageant "Breaking the Shackles", Crosskeys Community Hall, St Peter's Church, Monkseaton (0191 258 7905)

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

14-15 July - MOUTH OF THE TYNE FESTIVAL, Tynemouth & South Shields (0191 200 5895 & 0191 454 6612)

16 July, 7.30pm - Tynemouth Pageant "Breaking the Shackles", Holy Saviour's Church Hall, Tynemouth (0191 258 7905)

17 July, 8pm - Tynemouth Pageant "Breaking the Shackles", Christ Church Parish Centre, North Shields (0191 258 7905)

18 July, 7.30pm - Tynemouth Pageant "Breaking the Shackles", Friends' Meeting House, Jesmond (0191 258 7905)

19 July, 7.30pm - Tynemouth Pageant "Breaking the Shackles", Kings Estate Residents' Hall, Battle Hill, Wallsend (0191 258 7905)

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

Until 15 June - Tracey Tofield & Richard Jardine "Strangers", The Bridge Tynemouth Station (0191 257 2180)

Until 15 June - Northern Voices "North Shields Days", Whitley Bay Library (0191 200 8500)

18-29 June - Northern Voices "North Shields Days", Wallsend Library (0191 200 6968)

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

Until 22 June - Elly Clarke "Moscow-Beijing", Globe Hub (0191 259 2614)

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

2-13 July - Northern Voices "North Shields Days", Killingworth Library (0191 200 8266)

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

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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