

# NORTH TYNESIDE ARTS E-ZINE

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<http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/arts.shtml>

After getting a bit behind the times over the Christmas and New Year period, our **WEBSITE** is now fully updated. E-zine and the website complement each other - E-zine covering current and upcoming events, exhibitions, activities and news, with the website providing supporting material and downloads, plus a wealth of background information about what we do and the partners we work with, including links to most arts organisations in North Tyneside.

Following the final round of consultation on the key themes of the new **ARTS DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY** for the borough - with two lively and informative sessions with representatives from the local arts sector taking place at the Buddle Arts Centre - a report is being considered by the Council's Cabinet on Tuesday (12 Feb). Check the strategy page on our website to download the report and for more information.

[http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p\\_ID=17496](http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p_ID=17496)

The **BUDDLE ARTS CENTRE**'s music programme continues with two top notch gigs next week:

A double-bill on Tuesday (12 Feb) brings together two acclaimed blues guitarists from either end of the world. Australian singer-songwriter-guitarist **JEFF LANG** has built up a reputation for startlingly original performances, weaving skilled blues guitar around his songs, effortlessly playing complicated parts but never at the expense of the songs themselves, and allowing the unique energy of each gig to shape the songs. Inspired by elemental blues, gospel, Hendrix and Ry Cooder, he's developed his own distinctive sound. He has toured with the likes of Bob Dylan, Loudon Wainwright III, Richard Thompson, Dr John and Ani Di Franco, and his 2002 collaboration with Bob Brozman won an ARIA award (Australia's equivalent of a Grammy) for Best Blues and Roots Music album. Find out more on his website at <http://www.jefflang.com.au> From much closer to home, **JOHN WHITEHILL** has been a mainstay of the Tyneside blues and roots scene for more than two decades. A founder member of Paul Lamb and the Kingsnakes in 1988, he was with them for 15 years, and was also a long time stalwart of the Blues Burglars. Voted Best British Blues Guitarist no fewer than four times, he's regarded as one of the few home grown guitarists since Peter Green to capture convincingly the tone and phrasing of the Chicago-style blues guitar sound. He's released a solo album "Guitar Slinger", and toured and played with many of the biggest names in UK and US blues. <http://www.bluesburglars.co.uk/biogs.html>

Making his Buddle Arts Centre debut on 14 February, **ADRIAN LEGG** is another true guitar virtuoso. Impossible to categorize as a player, he incorporates virtually every genre on his guitar in a virtuosic instrumental style with striking use of effects, bringing electric approaches to acoustic playing. Regarded as comparable to Robert Fripp and Richard Thompson, over nearly 20 years London-born Legg has demonstrated his ability to combine superb technique with sensitive melodies into an almost orchestral sound. Find out more from his website.

<http://www.adrianlegg.com>

Both gigs start at 8pm (doors open 7.30pm - licensed bar available). Tickets for each event are £11 advance (£12 on the door) from the box office 0191 200 7026. Discount on ticket price available for Buddle Arts Centre Supporters Card holders.

The strong line-up of music at the Buddle Arts Centre this spring continues with the Matt Schofield Trio, Junco Partners, Tony McManus and Andy McKee - see the Events Summary below for dates and check out the Buddle Arts Centre programme page on our website:

[http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p\\_ID=5258](http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p_ID=5258)

A reminder that the Buddle Arts Centre is now the place to buy tickets for events at **SAVILLE EXCHANGE** in North Shields, and there are a number of performances coming up this month:

On Friday (8 Feb), **JAZZ AT THE EXCHANGE** presents its latest monthly concert, featuring a return visit to North Shields by Papa Joe's All Stars. Led by drummer Jerry Card, this London-based band plays the music of Louis Armstrong, Jelly Roll Morton and King Oliver (the 'Papa Joe' of their name). The band includes former Acker Bilk sidesman Ken Sims on cornet and legendary clarinettist Charlie Connors. Starts 8pm, tickets £11 (£10 concs & Buddle Arts Centre Supporters Card holders, £5 students). For more info about the Jazz Exchange programme over the next few months, and to join the mailing list, check out their website.

<http://www.jazzexchange.co.uk>

"A Swell Party" on 15 & 16 February is a celebration of the music of Cole Porter presented by **TYNEMOUTH AMATEUR OPERATIC SOCIETY**. Performances are 7.30pm each night, plus a 2.30pm Saturday matinee (16 Feb) - tickets £9 (£8 senior citizens & under-16s).

<http://www.taos.tv>

North Tyneside-based theatre company **CLOUD NINE** are about to premiere their most ambitious production so far. "The Selkie" is a new take on an old myth, written by Valerie Laws and directed by Neil Armstrong. Set amongst a present-day dysfunctional family living on the North East coast, the play blends ancient Northern myth, transformation, comedy, drama and live music. Roanne, an overweight, overworked and under-appreciated wife and mother becomes strangely drawn by the call of the sea and believes she may be turning into a selkie - legendary seal people

who could also live as humans. Her mother was lost to the sea - is she about to go the same way, or is she in touch with forces beyond normal understanding? The five-strong cast are supported by live sea music from The Keelers and singer Katie Doherty. "The Selkie" launches on tomorrow (7 Feb) at The Sage Gateshead before touring the region and finishing up with two performances at Saville Exchange on 22 & 23 February, 7.30pm each night. Tickets £9 (£6 concs, £1 discount on ticket price for Buddle Arts Centre Supporters Card holders).

<http://www.cloudninetheatre.co.uk>

Box office for all these events is 0191 200 7026. Please note that tickets booked in advance must be paid for in advance (most debit and credit cards accepted), although tickets can also be bought on the door if available (cash & cheque payment only). The seating arrangements vary for each event, so check with our box office. More information about Saville Exchange, including seating plan downloads, can be found on the Buddle Arts Centre programme page of our website:

[http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p\\_ID=5258](http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p_ID=5258)

Also at Saville Exchange, next month sees the return of the **LUNCHTIME RECITALS** programme featuring some of the best young international classical performers. The new series kicks off on 7 March with Russian pianist Evgeny Samilov presenting works by Mozart, Beethoven, Scriabin and Tchaikovsky. Starts 1pm, tickets £5 available on the door only (cash & cheque payments only) - phone our box office for more information. Download the full programme for March-July from the programme page on our website:

[http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p\\_ID=5258](http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p_ID=5258) The lunchtime recitals are presented by Master Musicians International.

<http://www.mastermusicians.co.uk>

The Buddle Arts Centre box office is also selling tickets for selected events at Tynemouth Priory Theatre - and the first of these is **WHITLEY BAY THEATRE COMPANY**'s new production of the classic Ray Cooney comedy "Run For Your Wife". Performances are 12-15 March, 7.30pm each night - all tickets £7. There's a WBTC ticket hotline on 01670 531604, but debit & credit card sales can only be made through the Buddle Arts Centre box office on 0191 200 7026.

<http://www.whitleybaytheatrecompany.com>

There are new exhibitions opening at both **GLOBE GALLERY** venues. From today (6 Feb), Globe Hub in North Shields is showing "New Adventures in Robotic Watercolour Painting" by Alex Charrington, who makes paintings using specifically made tools and 'painting machines'. The exhibition focuses on his recent work including a collaboration with robotics engineer Ray Bland, and continues until 16 February. In Newcastle, Globe City is hosting the first retrospective exhibition by London-based artist group Luna Nera, bringing together video, photography and installation, from Saturday (9 Feb) until 22 March. More information about both exhibitions, and the new Plan Chest programme offering original prints by leading artists, from the gallery website - or phone 0191 259 2614 (Hub) or 0191 222 1666 (City). Both venues are open Wed-Sat 11.30am-5pm, admission free.

<http://www.globegallery.org>

The new installation in **THE BRIDGE TYNEMOUTH STATION** is "Inside" by American artist Stephanie Imbeau, who has recently graduated with an MA in Fine Art from Newcastle University - this is her first public work since her degree show. "Inside" explores ideas of community, belonging and isolation by creating a series of 'villages' throughout the length of The Bridge, using a variety of materials including copper wire and cardboard, and a sensitive use of lighting to enhance the work. "Inside" is showing until the end of the March, viewable 24 hours a day. More info about the artist at <http://www.axisartists.org/seCVFU.aspx?ARTISTID=12765>

The installation programme in The Bridge is curated by Ylana First, arts co-ordinator for Friends of Tynemouth Station, who was awarded an MBE last year for services to the station and the arts in North Tyneside. Now, she is one of a number of recipients of honours who have been filmed by the Cabinet Office as part of an initiative to raise awareness about the UK Honours System - you can see the film on their YouTube channel at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3LMApZQ0cxo> For more info about The Bridge, e-mail [ylanafirst@talktalk.net](mailto:ylanafirst@talktalk.net) - and check the public art page on our website: [http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p\\_ID=5309](http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p_ID=5309)

The current exhibition in the Buddle Arts Centre's **ADHOC GALLERY** is "The Tyne", a collection of paintings by members of the **BUDDLE ART GROUP**, inspired by the river and its environment. There are some 40 works on show, along with a selection of paintings on other subjects by group members. The Buddle Art Group is an older people's art society - the oldest member is 99 - who meet every Wednesday at the Buddle Arts Centre, working with guest tutors and arranging occasional painting trips within the area. "The Tyne" continues until 16 February - open Mon-Fri 10am-5pm (Wed until 8pm), Sat 11am-5pm and during evening events. For more information about AdHoc Gallery and forthcoming exhibitions, go to the gallery page on our website:  
[http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p\\_ID=5254](http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/tourist/artsnews.shtml?p_ID=5254)

Some items of particular interest to local arts organisations:

The Department of Culture, Media & Sport is undertaking the first ever national survey of voluntary and amateur arts activities, in order to get a clearer picture of the voluntary arts sector and it how it can be better supported. The research for the survey is through an online questionnaire, which can be found at the website link below. The survey is live until the end of February, with the results published in the summer.

<http://www.artsurvey.org.uk>

Applications are being invited for the latest round of the North Tyneside Elected Mayor's Well-Being Fund for Community & Voluntary Sector groups, which has supported a number of arts activities in the past. Application forms and guidelines can be downloaded from:

[http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/mayor/mayorinfo.shtml?p\\_ID=19733](http://www.northtyneside.gov.uk/mayor/mayorinfo.shtml?p_ID=19733)

Contact Felicity Shoesmith, lead officer for the Community & Voluntary Sector, for more info and to discuss whether a project or activity is eligible - phone 0191 643 7071 or e-mail [felicity.shoesmith@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:felicity.shoesmith@northtyneside.gov.uk) Deadline for applications is 14 March.

A reminder that Voluntary Arts England (VAN) are holding two free workshops in North Tyneside next month for voluntary arts groups and anyone involved in voluntary arts provision, looking at the ways in which IT can help groups develop and promote themselves - covering topics such as websites, specialist software, technical support, financial management, etc. The workshops are on 26 February at the Shiremoor Centre - find out more by contacting Brian Bell at VAN on 0191 230 4465 or e-mail [brian@vaengland.org.uk](mailto:brian@vaengland.org.uk) There are more details about the workshops, and information about the work that VAN do to support the voluntary arts sector nationally, on their website.  
<http://www.vaengland.org.uk>

The winners of the 2008 **BBC RADIO 2 FOLK AWARDS** were announced earlier in the week, and there were a couple of gongs for Martin Simpson, whose show at the Buddle Arts Centre was one of the highlights of last autumn's programme - Best Album for "Prodigal Son", and Best Original Song for "Never Any Good". And the Best Live Act award went to Bellowhead, who many of you may remember from the Mouth of the Tyne Festival's Tynemouth Priory concert in 2006. You can hear highlights of the awards event on Mike Harding's Radio 2 show tonight (6 Feb).  
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio2/events/folkawards2008>

Finally, we were sorry to learn of the death of the North Tyneside writer **LEONARD BARRAS** at the age of 85. Born in Wallsend, Leonard spent his whole working life in the offices of Swan Hunter, and combined his 'day job' with a writing career over more than half a century. One of the group of writers (with the likes of Alex Glasgow and Henry Livings) who brought new, Northern voices to national radio, television and stage prominence, he was regarded as the only true Geordie surrealist, mixing the fantastic with the everyday - seen in his final work, "The Purple Pullover", which was commissioned by theatre company Cloud Nine and toured to North Tyneside venues last year. He wrote a number of books, published by Iron Press, including a novel "The Chocolate Cream Society".

The next E-zine will be published towards the end of February.

## **EVENTS SUMMARY**

**8 Feb, 8pm - Papa Joe's All Stars, Saville Exchange (0191 200 7026)**

**12 Feb, 8pm - Jeff Lang and John Whitehill Band, Buddle Arts Centre (0191 200 7026)**

**14 Feb, 8pm - Adrian Legg, Buddle Arts Centre (0191 200 7026)**

**15 Feb, 7.30pm - Tynemouth Amateur Operatic Society "A Swell Party", Saville Exchange (0191 200 7026)**

**16 Feb, 2.30pm & 7.30pm - Tynemouth Amateur Operatic Society "A Swell Party", Saville Exchange (0191 200 7026)**

**22 & 23 Feb, 7.30pm - Cloud Nine “The Selkie”, Saville Exchange (0191 200 7026)**

**7 Mar, 1pm - Evgeny Samilov recital, Saville Exchange (0191 200 7026)**

**12-15 Mar, 7.30pm - Whitley Bay Theatre Company “Run For Your Wife”, Tynemouth Priory Theatre (01670 531604 / 0191 200 7026)**

**14 Mar, 8pm - Matt Schofield Trio, Buddle Arts Centre (0191 200 7026)**

**29 Mar, 8pm - Junco Partners, Buddle Arts Centre (0191 200 7026)**

**19 Apr, 8pm - Tony McManus, Buddle Arts Centre (0191 200 7026)**

**17 May, 8pm - Andy McKee, Buddle Arts Centre (0191 200 7026)**

### **EXHIBITIONS SUMMARY**

**Until 16 Feb - Buddle Art Group “The Tyne”, AdHoc Gallery (0191 200 7132)**

**6-16 Feb - Alex Charrington “New Adventures in Robotic Watercolour Painting”, Globe Hub (0191 259 2614)**

**9 Feb-22 Mar - Luna Nera “Postindustrial Baroque”, Globe City (0191 222 1666)**

**Until 31 Mar - Stephanie Imbeau “Inside”, The Bridge Tynemouth Station**

### **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](mailto:mike.campbell@northtyneside.gov.uk)

*To join the mailing list, just e-mail to [the.buddle@northtyneside.gov.uk](mailto:the.buddle@northtyneside.gov.uk) with 'Subscribe to E-zine' in the subject box.*

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