PENINSULA ARTS WITH PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY

exhibition
film
music
performance
talks

guide

Apr-Aug 2017

The Tulse Luper Suitcases
Welcome to the visions season.

Artists have long been associated with having visionary outlooks, whether inspired by dreams or questioning existing ideas, we have come to expect artists and creative thinkers to provide new ways of understanding and seeing the world. These ideas about the importance of visions in the creation of culture were prompted by a number of conversations with the Plymouth History Centre. Thinking about Plymouth’s architectural heritage, from the visionary modernist design for the reconstructed city, post-Second World War by Sir Patrick Abercrombie, through to the present with the prospect of a new reinvigorated and expanded museum that will build on Plymouth’s architectural heritage and transform how we can experience culture and history.

Plymouth University is a key partner in the new History Centre, with Peninsula Arts contributing to the arts and culture programme whilst Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery is closed, and then the shared ambitious new programme of events when it opens in 2020.

These are exciting times for Plymouth and as a result, we have framed our summer programme around the theme of Visions. From the quiet, meditative drawings of the Thinking Tantra exhibition that traces the relationship between Indian Tantric art and aspects of Western abstract art, to the Words and Music Festival: The Roaring Twenties that explores the seismic cultural shifts that were happening across music, film and art at that time. Our programmers and academic colleagues, working with Plymouth History Centre, have sought to bring together a vibrant programme of films, talks, exhibitions, performances and music events that open up new opportunities to engage with the visions, both historical and contemporary, that have changed the way we experience the world.

Dr Sarah Chapman
Director of Peninsula Arts

01 Visualising Talks
Writers work by enabling the reader to visualise a space, a scene, an object, a character, a feeling, an action. The writers in this season’s programme are all wonderfully visionary, imaginatively speculative and sumptuous for their ability to give us visions via a written and sounded language.

02 New and mindful visions Music
In ‘Mindful Visions’ the music programme has looked at the human psychology, connecting the sense of self to visions. The 1920s programme explores ‘New Visions’ in the Roaring Twenties when a new vision of post-war positivity was coming to the fore. This was eagerly demonstrated with new ideas in dance, music and songs – jazz music became the rage with its catchy rhythms and slick, sophisticated song lyrics.

03 Visions of the past and future Exhibition
Visions as a concept speaks of imagination, experience and the way we see the world, and the effects of this can be seen no more clearly than in the work of contemporary artists today. For the 2017 Plymouth Contemporary, the selected artists have explored the theme ‘Visions’ in all its forms, from political to social, utopian to dystopian and more, and is representative of the turbulent social and political landscape today.

Regular Features
University of Plymouth Choral Society 19 Plymouth University Gamelan Orchestra and Friends 24
Plymouth University Orchestra 24

Cover image: Peter Greenaway (see page 12)
THINKING TANTRA
Fri 31 Mar-Sat 27 May
Mon-Fri 10:00-17:00, Sat 11:00-16:00 Peninsula Arts Gallery
Free admission

This exhibition explores how Indian Tantric drawings have inspired a range of artists, from those working in India in the latter half of the 20th century, and today, to contemporary international artists.

Thinking Tantra begins with anonymous Tantric drawings dating from the second half of the 19th century, then continues with works by Indian artists who directly associated themselves with Tantra in the 1960s, 70s and 80s, concluding with work by international contemporary artists who connect Tantric drawings to their own ways of working including: Tom Chamberlain, Shezad Dawood, Nicola Duvasula, Goutam Ghosh, Jean-Luc Moulène, Anthony Pearson, Prem Sahib, Richard Tuttle and Claudia Wieser.

The exhibition is a collaboration between Rebecca Heald, Drawing Room, London and Amrita Jhaveri, Jhaveri Contemporary, Mumbai. This is the exhibition’s only stop outside London and, Mumbai.

Colour pencil, gold leaf on colour paper, 46 x 33 cm.
Photo by Jens Ziehe. Courtesy: Claudia Wieser and Arratia Beer, Berlin
Family event

COLOUR EXPLOSION

Wed 12 Apr

10:30-12:30 & 14:00-16:00 Peninsula Arts Gallery
£2.50 per child, booking via www.motcolour.eventbrite.co.uk

Use the collage and colourful works in the Thinking Tantra exhibition as a starting point to create your own multi-coloured works of art using all sorts of materials. Led by staff from Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery, there will also be objects from the Museum’s collection to inspire you.

Bite size

THINKING TANTRA

Wed 12 Apr

13:00-13:45 Peninsula Arts Gallery
Free admission, no need to book

Join a representative from Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery for a bite size look into this exhibition, which features works by Indian artists from the 1960s, 70s, and 80s including Prabhakar Barwe, Prafulla Mohanti, Sohan Qadri, G.R. Santosh and Acharya Vyakul, as well as contemporary artists such as Claudia Wieser. The drawings are in the tradition of the tantric art of the 1700s and 1800s which used not only drawings but also rituals, sculptures, maps and chants to create a sense of transcendence.

Workshop

MOMENTS TO SEE: THE ART OF EVERYDAY NOTICING

Thu 27 Apr

13:00-14:15 Peninsula Arts Gallery
Free admission, booking essential (spaces limited)

It can sometimes be hard to appreciate the world around us, we can so often be lost in a preoccupied world; yet we can find creative ways to disrupt our distracted habits. This workshop, led by Duncan Moss, Lecturer in Clinical Psychology, Plymouth University and artist, Karen Howse introduces us to ideas and practices of ‘Contemplative Seeing’ – using something as simple as a pencil or pen, or reclaiming our gadgets as cameras, we can mark and celebrate moments of real awareness of the world. If you have a phone/camera, pen and paper please bring it along, otherwise please just bring your eyes.

Meditation evening

IMAGINING INNER PEACE

Tue 16 May

19:00-20:30 Peninsula Arts Gallery
£4/£3 (including refreshments)

Explore your personal potential with this talk and guided meditation from Kadam Ben Seel, Resident Teacher at Ashoka Buddhist Centre in Plymouth. A mind at peace is a contented, happy mind. In our everyday lives moments of peace and feelings of well-being may arise but how do we create the causes for a more general improvement in our experience? Everything starts with the imagination ...

Lotus, Ashoka Buddhist Centre, Plymouth
Music

PENINSULA ARTS SINFONIETTA
MINDFUL VISIONS: METAMORPHOSIS, DAYDREAMS AND FANTASIES
Sat 8 Apr
19:30 Upper Lecture Theatre, Sherwell Centre
£10/£7

Simon Ible conductor
Nuria Bonet Filella piano
Marcelo Gimenes piano
Lona Kozik piano

Marcelo Gimenes Pensiveness
Sam Richards Pebbles, Waves, Clouds
Nuria Bonet Filella Tuna Fishing
Purcell Fantasias
Vivaldi Al Santo Sepolcro

Showcasing three new works by Plymouth University composers, this concert includes: Pensiveness, a musical piece for piano and string ensemble written by Marcelo Gimenes reflecting daydreaming, fantasy and melancholy images; Tuna Fishing, drawing on inspiration from Escher’s work Metamorphosis II where shapes morph into one another; Pebbles, Clouds and Waves is best expressed from John Lubbock’s The Pleasure of Life, “to lie sometimes on the grass under the trees on a summer’s day, listening to the murmur of water or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time”.

Performance

PLYMOUTH WRESTLING ASSOCIATION
VISIONS OF AGONY, REDEMPTION AND JUSTICE
Tue 25 Apr
19:00 Theatre 1
£6/£4.20/Friends free
Running time: 120 mins

Professional wrestling is an art form that is as culturally valid as a feature film, a work of art or a ballet performance. However, with a demographic often characterised as ‘blue collar’, it has been misunderstood by ‘white collar society’. For audiences from the 1500s to the present day, wrestling provides visions of agony, redemption and hope for justice that mark everyday life. This fun event combines an introduction to the historical significance of professional wrestling by Dr G.H. Bennett, Associate Professor (Reader) in History, Plymouth University and a demonstration ‘wrestling show’ by Devon’s oldest pro-wrestling promotion, Plymouth Wrestling Association.
MATTHEW WELTON
POETRY READING
Thu 27 Apr
19:00 Peninsula Arts Gallery
£6/£4.20/Friends free
Matthew Welton’s practice includes collaborations with musicians, visual artists and other writers. A lecturer in creative writing at the University of Nottingham, Matthew’s interest in poetry is related to explorations of the sounds of words and the possibilities of repetition. He is the author of Carcanet: The Book of Matthew (2003), We needed coffee but... (2009) and The Number Poems (2016) and has won the Eric Gregory Award, the Jerwood-Aldeburgh Prize, and received a recommendation by the Poetry Book Society.

MEREDITH MILLER
BOOK LAUNCH AND READING: LITTLE WRECKS (A NOVEL)
Tue 2 May
19:00 Peninsula Arts Gallery
£6/£4.20/Friends free
Meredith Miller is a literary critic and fiction writer who grew up on Long Island, New York and now lives in Plymouth. Her work focuses on gender, power and human cruelty and is often described as both ‘lyrical’ and ‘raw’. Her stories have appeared most recently in Stand, Short Fiction, Prole, AltHist and The View from Here. She has two novels forthcoming from HarperCollins US in 2017 and 2018. Author Mindy McGinnis has called her novel Little Wrecks, “darkly atmospheric and brutally honest”.

JAMIE EDGECOMBE AND RACHEL GIPPETTI
FICTION AND POETRY READING
Thu 11 May
19:00 Peninsula Arts Gallery
£6/£4.20/Friends free
Plymouth-born Jamie Edgecombe, a fiction author mainly focusing on the Far East (predominately Japan), was the recipient of the inaugural Manchester Metropolitan University Novella Award in 2014 for The Art of Kozu. Spanning epic proportions as it moves between countries, continents and time periods, The Art of Kozu is a meticulously detailed and well-researched story. Rachel Gippetti recently published her debut poetry collection Birthright (Eyewear Publishing) and her work has previously appeared in Shearsman Magazine, The Stinging Fly, Thief and the Apple Valley Review.

MARY JACOBS MEMORIAL LECTURE
PROFESSOR LUCY BLAND
BRITAIN’S ‘BROWN BABIES’: THE CHILDREN OF BLACK GIs AND WHITE WOMEN BORN IN WORLD WAR II
Tue 16 May
19:00 Theatre 2
£6/£4.20/Friends free
Lucy Bland’s research has concentrated on the history of gender, sexuality and feminism in Britain between 1880s-1980s. Her new projects are a social and cultural history of transracial adoption in Britain since World War II, and an investigation of mixed race offspring of black GIs and British women born during World War II.

DR LUCY DURNEEN
BOOK LAUNCH AND SHORT STORY READING: WILD GESTURES
Thu 18 May
19:00 Peninsula Arts Gallery
£6/£4.20/Friends free
Lucy Durneen’s work has appeared in World Literature Today, Hotel Amerika and Litro, and performed on BBC Radio 4. Wild Gestures is her first short story collection, bringing together stories of loss, desire and opportunities missed, all orbiting the painful knowledge that the things we most long for remain the furthest from reach.
**Film**

**THE COOK, THE THIEF, HIS WIFE AND HER LOVER (1989)**

**Fri 5 May**

20:00 The House  
£6/£4.20  
Dir: Peter Greenaway  
Running time: 120 mins  
Cert: 18

This film put Peter Greenaway firmly in the public eye and it became notorious for its onscreen cruelty and power. The wife of a barbaric crime boss engages in a secret romance with a gentle bookseller. Food, colour coding, sex, murder, torture and cannibalism are the exotic fare in this modern fable.

**LOCAL STUDIES DAY**

**Sat 6 May**

08:45-16:30 Robbins Conference Centre  
£12, booking via www.lsd2017.eventbrite.co.uk

Kick starting the 2017 Plymouth History Festival, this day is packed with talks and presentations about heritage. It includes the Restoration, the Victorian era and an update about the Plymouth History Centre project.

**Workshop**

**HELEN CHADWICK**

**HARMONY SINGING WORKSHOP**

**Sat 6 May**

15:30-17:30 The House  
£10/£7, £15/£10 workshop and performance

Join Helen for an uplifting and fun afternoon singing gorgeous harmony songs. Helen has run workshops for community choirs, actors and amateur singers in venues in over 20 countries, including the UK’s National Theatre.

**Performance**

**HELEN CHADWICK SONG THEATRE**

**WAR CORRESPONDENTS**

**Sat 6 May**

20:15 The House  
£10/£7, £15/£10 workshop and performance  
Running time: 65 mins

War Correspondents bears witness to those who risk their lives in extreme circumstances in order to tell the truth to the outside world. Chadwick and creative collaborator Miriam Nabarro carried out interviews with over 30 journalists working in conflict zones across the world which were then transformed into songs.

“Chadwick ... an exquisite find” The Guardian
showcase

Plymouth in the 1950s

Tony Davey
Learning Development Officer, Plymouth History Centre

Plymouth entered the 1950s having witnessed the worst decade in its history.

Loss

The previous ten years had seen Plymouth lose 1,174 of its civilians to 59 German bombing raids. The City also lost thousands of homes and businesses and many public and civic buildings, resulting in the City’s pre-war population almost halving and finding itself having to re-house 30,000 people by the end of the war. Philip Larkin’s 1945 poem Plymouth refers to the City as a ‘God forgotten place’.

The City was swift in its response to the crisis, having appointed eminent town planner Professor Patrick Abercrombie (later to become Sir Patrick) in 1941 to work with city engineer James Paton Watson to develop ‘A Plan for Plymouth, 1943’.

Reconstruction

Reconstruction work started in 1947 and by the 1950s things had started to take shape. City centre infrastructure was in place and new housing estates, such as Ernesettle and Efford were welcoming people into their brand new three bedroom homes. These estates had new schools, community facilities and new industries typified by the new Rank Bush factory that opened in Ernesettle in 1949. The factory produced televisions and radios, including, by the end of the decade, the iconic Ogle Design TR82 Transistor Radio.

Even though Plymouth was still in the grip of austerity and widespread rationing, people embraced the opening of its first major department store; Dingles on Royal Parade, designed by prominent architect, Thomas S. Tait and marvelled at the latest shoe fashions, and shop fittings of ‘up-market’ retailers such as Dolcis on New George Street.

Confidence

A confidence returned to Plymouth. The City started to embrace new ideas in art and architecture. The City’s art gallery collections moved away from the figurative and historical works that were being acquired at the start of the decade to embrace more abstract and experimental works. By the end of the 1950s, Plymouth had acquired works by artists such as Peter Lanyon, Alan Reynolds and Jack Smith.

By the end of the decade ‘A Plan for Plymouth’ was almost fully implemented, making Plymouth the only city in the country to fully realise its post-war reconstruction scheme (and the only one that remains pretty much intact).

The architecture of the City began to reflect ideas first seen at the Festival of Britain, with buildings such as the new Pannier Market by local architects Walls & Pearn (1959) embracing modern engineering and building techniques. One building typified this newfound confidence – Plymouth’s new Civic Centre and Council Chambers. Originally conceived by city architect Hector Stirling in the early 1950s, the building was completed by Jellicoe, Ballantyne and Coleridge. Construction began in 1959 and it was officially opened by the Queen Elizabeth II in 1962. The building was a symbol of pride, shouting to the world that Plymouth had spent the 1950s reconstructing itself, and it was now ready to enter the 1960s with a swagger.

Visions

Visit www.plymhearts.org for more information on the 1950s programme of events and activities taking place in the City.

Dingles Department Store c. mid-1950s © Plymouth City Council

visit plymhearts.org for more information on the 1950s programme of events and activities taking place in the City.
Film
INTO GREAT SILENCE (2005)
Mon 8 May
19:00 Jill Craigie Cinema
£6/£4.20/Friends free
Dir: Philip Groning
Running time: 169 mins  Cert: U

After a 16-year wait, German filmmaker, Philip Groning, created Into Great Silence from footage acquired during six months of living in the monks quarters of the Grande Chartreuse, one of the world’s most ascetic monasteries nestled deep in the French Alps. Without a crew or artificial lighting, Groning filmed their daily prayers, tasks, rituals and rare outdoor excursions, and what he produced is transcendental filmmaking.

Introduced by Duncan Moss, Lecturer in Clinical Psychology and Buddhist faith advisor at Plymouth University.

Talk
DR TODD GRAY
SLANDER AND INSULTS IN ELIZABETHAN DEVON
Tue 9 May
19:00 Theatre 2
£6/£4.20/Friends free/Devon History Society members free

Dr Todd Gray has taken a leading role in the study of Devon’s history, has written widely on Devon’s past and lectured to a large number of groups. His recent published work has included Strumpets and Ninnycocks and How to Swear Like an Elizabethan in Devon. His talk sheds light on the nature of society in Devon 500 years ago.

Music
PLYMOUTH MUSIC ACCORD
FUNDRAISING CONCERT
Sat 13 May
19:00 Upper Lecture Theatre, Sherwell Centre
£10

Mayflower Trio
Pete Twyman B.E.M and Douglas Clarkson clarinets
Mila Collier piano

Mendelssohn Concertpiece No.1 for two clarinets and piano in F minor Op.113
Ponchielli II Convegno (The Meeting), Divertimento for two clarinets and piano Op.86
Tausche Double Clarinet Concerto No.2 Op.26

Plymouth Music Accord is a registered charity supporting the appreciation and performance of music around Plymouth for the benefit of all and particularly young people. Activities include funding tickets for schoolchildren, funding instrument tuition, internships enabling budding musicians to perform in orchestras and choirs, and supporting young players to develop their professional careers.

Bookings to be made in advance by contacting Clive Jenkins on 01752 863348 or Peter Holt on 01752 873136, or on the door.
Film

FROM THE ARCHIVE:

PENINSULA ARTS FILM COMMISSION PREMIERE

Mon 15 May

19:00 Jill Craigie Cinema
£6/£4.20/Friends free

Award-winning artists, Frances Scott and Bryony Gillard, showcase their original pieces for the first time. Using archive footage from the South West Film and Television Archive (SWFTA), Frances and Bryony have created two new works exploring the theme of ‘Visions of History’. A prelude of visual highlights from SWFTA’s rich and diverse archive is included, introduced by Stacey Anderson, Archive Director, SWFTA.

Music

UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH CHORAL SOCIETY
SUMMER CONCERT

Sat 20 May

19:30 Minster Church of St Andrew
£15/£13 Friends

Simon Ible conductor
Anita Watson soprano
Samantha Price mezzo-soprano
Ross Scanlon tenor
Timothy Dickinson bass

Haydn Nelson Mass

"Arguably Haydn’s greatest single composition", as declared by his chief biographer, H.C. Robbins Landon, Haydn composed this highly dramatic and exciting work in 1798. Titled Missa in Angustis (Mass for troubled times), it was later nicknamed Nelson Mass following a performance attended by Admiral Nelson in 1800.
Words and Music Festival 2017: The Roaring Twenties

Kindly supported by the Suzanne Sparrow Language School
With sponsorship from PFK Francis Clark

Message from the festival founder, Suzanne Sparrow:
“The 2017 Words and Music Festival is based around the ‘Roaring Twenties’. This was the time when the First World War was over and a new fresh beginning was in process. The music was crisp, jazzy and fun matched with the ‘tempo’ of the time. The words and music that matched the 1920’s is pertinent to the situation we face today.”

Film

SOME LIKE IT HOT (1959)

Mon 22 May

19:00 Jill Craigie Cinema
£6/£4.20/Friends free
Dir: Billy Wilder
Running time: 116 mins  Cert: 12

Set in 1929, this cinema classic sees Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis play musicians Gerry and Joe, witnesses to a Chicago mob murder (inspired by the St Valentine’s Day Massacre), who flee to Miami Beach Florida with an all-girl jazz band disguised as Daphne and Josephine. They meet Sugar (Marilyn Monroe) a down-on-her-luck ukulele player with her heart set on marrying a millionaire. Wilder prioritised story and script over cinematic flourishes, and the simplicity of his direction lets you wallow in a whip-smart script and performances that are impossible to find fault with.Introduced by Simon Ible, Director of Music, Peninsula Arts.

Talk

DR JODY PATTERSON
Rhapsodies in Paint: Modern Art and the Jazz Age

Tue 6 Jun

19:00 Jill Craigie Cinema
£6/£4.20/Friends free

Art and music have long engaged in cultural dialogue and exchange. This talk by Jody Patterson, Associate Professor and Programme Leader for Art History, Plymouth University, will address the impact of jazz music and the dynamics of improvisation on the development of modern art. From Kandinsky’s early abstractions to Matisse’s vibrant paper ‘cut-out’ collages, the new rhythms of jazz inspired artists to fuse European tradition with African American expression, pushing the conventional boundaries of painting.

Talk

CHRIS ROBINSON
Plymouth in the Roaring Twenties

Wed 7 Jun

19:00 Jill Craigie Cinema
£6/£4.20/Friends free

Artist, author and broadcaster, Chris Robinson, has been writing about Plymouth for 40 years. He has produced dozens of books about the City including Plymouth in the Twenties and Thirties. His lavishly illustrated talk will look at the music, theatre, sport, entertainment and politics of Plymouth in the Roaring Twenties.

Some Like it Hot

1920 car rally, The Barbican, Plymouth
Music

KIT HESKETH-HARVEY AND JAMES MCCONNEL
NOEL COWARD AND HIS LEGACY
Fri 9 Jun
19:30 Upper Lecture Theatre, Sherwell Centre
£10/£7

Cabaret duo Kit Hesketh-Harvey and James McConnel pay homage to ‘The Master’, performing many of Coward’s enduring songs, as well as some lesser-known gems. Peppered with anecdotes and chat, plus one or two offerings of their own, join them for an evening of wit and sophistication.

Music

PENINSULA ARTS SINFONIETTA
THE ROARING TWENTIES GALA CONCERT
Sat 10 Jun
19:30 Minster Church of St Andrew
£13/£7

Simon Ible conductor
Alwyn Mellor soprano

Peninsula Arts Sinfonietta is joined by internationally praised star soprano, Alwyn Mellor, for this celebration of 1920s’ British and American music. Great songs and English pastoral classics make up this concert, celebrating the innovation, free spirit and sheer fun of the decade. The programme will include show songs by George Gershwin, Cole Porter, Richard Rodgers, Jerome Kern and Fats Waller including With a song in my heart, Can’t help lovin dat man, Ain’t Misbehavin and Let’s do it, Let’s fall in love. The orchestra items will include Vaughan Williams English Folksong Suite and Lonely Waters by E.J Moeran.

Music

THE ROARING TWENTIES TEA DANCE
Sun 11 Jun
16:00 The Ballroom, Duke of Cornwall Hotel
£17.50 (including afternoon tea)

Live jazz performed by the ArtDeco Band
Steve Chisolm band leader

Led by vocalist Steve Chisolm, for many years resident ‘crooner’ at the famous Burgh Island Hotel, ArtDeco recreates the authentic sounds of the jazz and ‘hot’ jazz bands of the 1920s. Join in, show off your Charleston and enjoy afternoon tea in the elegant Duke of Cornwall Ballroom. Period 1920s costumes invited, but not essential.
Music

PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY GAMELAN ORCHESTRA AND FRIENDS
SUMMER PERFORMANCE

Tue 23 May

16:00 Theatre 1
Free admission, booking advised

Saj Collyer conductor

The 20 instruments that originate from Indonesia are made of bronze and are built and tuned to be played together as an orchestra. They produce a unique rhythmical vibrating sound, allowing a variety of music to be played ranging from louder, flamboyant and dramatic pieces to quieter, contemplative arrangements. Plymouth University students and staff explored and developed their Gamelan skills during their visit to Bali.

Music

PLYMOUTH UNIVERSITY ORCHESTRA
MUSIC FOR ORCHESTRA, STRINGS, WIND AND BRASS

Thu 25 May

20:00 Theatre 1
Free admission, booking advised

Directed by Jamie Dove and Jonathan Hurdle

Plymouth University Orchestra performs a programme of popular classical music for orchestra and smaller wind, string and brass ensembles.

The Orchestra rehearses on Thursday evenings at the Sherwell Centre and comprises of Plymouth University students, staff and members of the local community.

For more information about the Orchestra, email jonathan.hurdle@plymouth.ac.uk.
HOT’17 ART & DESIGN DEGREE SHOW

Sat 10-Fri 16 Jun

Mon-Sun 10-16:00 Room 101, Roland Levinsky Building; Scott Building and Mills Bakery, Royal William Yard

Highlights shown in the Peninsula Arts Gallery
Sat 10-Fri 23 Jun, Mon-Fri 10:00-17:00, Sat 11:00-16:00

Free admission

Showcasing the latest innovations, the brightest ideas and new emerging talent, Peninsula Arts is delighted to feature a selection of work from Plymouth University’s School of Art, Design & Architecture final year students.

The Show includes work created by Architecture, 3D Design, Digital Art and Technology, Fine Art, Graphic Communication with Typography, Illustration, Media Arts, TV Arts and Photography students. Selected artworks are available to buy and/or to commission.

Andy Francis, BA Media Arts, Plymouth University
**Music**

**PLYMOUTH MUSIC ACCORD**

**YOUNG MUSICIANS’ PLATFORM AUDITION PERFORMANCES**

**Thu 22 Jun**

*18:00* Upper Lecture Theatre, Sherwell Centre  
Free admission, no need to book

The Young Musicians’ Platform helps talented local young performers to start their musical careers. Plymouth Music Accord support those musicians selected at the auditions in finding local concert engagements, recitals and helping to purchase instruments. Young performers are invited to give a 20-minute recital followed by a short interview. Application forms can be requested via email: clivejenkinsmusic@btinternet.com.

**Dance**

**NATIONAL YOUTH DANCE COMPANY**

**TARANTISEISMIC**

**Sun 25 June**

*19:30* The House  
£12/£6  
Running time: 60 mins

Returning to Plymouth with their new work created by 2016-17 Guest Artistic Director Damien Jalet, National Youth Dance Company (NYDC) present a unique piece of theatre which addresses themes of melancholia, ritual, control and abandon.

Run by Sadler’s Wells, NYDC has established a reputation for producing performances with a diverse cast of dancers who are expressive, brave and shaping the future of dance in this country.

**Music**

**UNIVERSITY OF PLYMOUTH CHORAL SOCIETY**

**SINGING WORKSHOP**

**GEORGE FREDERICK HANDEL:**

**CHORUSES FROM JUDAS MACCABAEUS**

**Sat 1 Jul**

*10:00* St Paul’s Church, Yelverton  
Participants £14/£12 UPCS members  
Informal performance 17:30 Free admission

**Directed by Simon Ible**

Come and sing a selection of choruses from Handel’s celebrated 1746 oratorio Judas Maccabaeus. Interested singers can apply by contacting the University of Plymouth Choral Society Secretary, Jan Green: jan.fairview@gmail.com or 01752 844899.

Parting donations welcomed in aid of Brain Tumour Research.
Now in its second year, the Plymouth Contemporary, a History Centre partnership exhibition, is an open submission exhibition, providing a platform for new, up and coming creative talent alongside artists working nationally and internationally. The 2017 Contemporary has grown to include the City’s largest independent contemporary art venue, KARST, providing space to show more quality artwork and to extend the impact of the biennial.

The artists, selected by a panel of curators, art directors and artists, were asked to respond to the theme ‘Visions’, a pertinent subject at a time when the world, on the surface at least, seems to be going through turbulent change. Artists have explored what the concept of ‘Visions’ might mean for us now – from the political and social, to alternative realities and other dimensions, imaginary or absurd, utopian or dystopian, concrete or literal.

Nominate your favourite artwork to win this year’s audience prize when you visit.

Get involved with our Family Workshop where you can make your own costume and experience with Let’s Make Art on Wednesday 9 August, 14:00-16:00 in the Peninsula Arts Gallery – only £2.50 per child! Visit www.peninsula-arts.co.uk for more information.
showcase

Plymouth Contemporary

Q&A with Liam Symes, winner of the Plymouth Young Contemporary Open (24-30 years category) by Dr Sarah Chapman, Director of Peninsula Arts

Liam Symes was awarded a £2,000 commission to create new artwork to be included in the 2017 Plymouth Contemporary. Born in Plymouth, Liam went to Tor Bridge High, Plymouth and is a Fine Art graduate from Plymouth College of Art. Liam works primarily with paint, drawing inspiration from old archive film and TV stills to explore ideas about memory, isolation and serenity.

Working and living in Plymouth, how do you feel the City supports new artists?

I have personally benefitted from a number of opportunities within Plymouth. The first opportunity was winning the Young People’s Portrait Competition (age 14-25 category) held by Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery in 2014. My painting Transmission 2 was featured alongside historic and contemporary works from the City’s permanent collections in the exhibition, ‘In the Frame: Plymouth’s Portraits Revealed’. I had just graduated and this was a real boost to my confidence and kept me going. I share a studio with four other artists at The Pipe Gallery on the Barbican and also have a good relationship with KARST. I recently had an exhibition ‘Rhythmic Exercises’ at The Pipe as part of Plymouth Art Weekender 2016 – there is a lot happening in Plymouth at the moment.

How has winning the Plymouth Young Contemporary Open commission supported your development?

Again, it was a real boost to my confidence but also the recognition has helped my profile as an artist – 2016 has been a good year. I was recently interviewed by the online Wall Street International Art magazine and featured on their front page and I am also in the Saatchi Art one-to-watch category.

How will you respond to Plymouth Contemporary 2017 theme ‘Visions’?

I am really excited by this theme. In particular, I am interested in the opportunity to explore a specific period of time – that of the space age. I am keen to look at human space flight, from the very first which was the launch by the Soviet Union in 1961, to Tim Peake’s most recent space mission, ‘Principia’.

What are your plans for the future?

I am quite ambitious so have set myself a 15-year plan with a number of goals … watch this space.

You primarily work with paint – can you explain your attraction to this medium?

Whilst I was initially taught to produce installation-style works, very quickly it became apparent that I had a real connection to paint. Painting is a complex language – it is also a shared language amongst painters – you start with a blank canvas, a paintbrush and a load of mud. Working in a studio requires hard work and I find painting forces a brutal honesty; what you put in is what you get out. My favourite painters currently are: Alex Kanevsky, Michael Borremans, Adrian Ghenie and Lou Ros.

The Plymouth Contemporary 2017 theme is ‘Visions’. How do you think you will respond?

“… painting forces a brutal honesty, what you put in is what you get out.”

“I recently had an exhibition ‘Rhythmic Exercises’ at The Pipe as part of Plymouth Art Weekender 2016 – there is a lot happening in Plymouth at the moment.”

“– is it social media or anti-social media?”

The Plymouth Contemporary is a bi-annual exhibition with the Plymouth Young Contemporary Open running during the intervening years. The Open is a partnership between Peninsula Arts and Effervescent and supported by Plymouth Culture and the Plymouth History Centre. It supports and encourages young artists working in Plymouth and the surrounding region between the ages of 4-30.
Plymouth History Centre

In the heart of Plymouth, an engine for Plymouth’s current regeneration and a museum for the future.

Our vision is to transform the existing museum and art gallery on North Hill into a new, unique visitor attraction. Showcasing Plymouth’s rich and colourful history, as well as hosting ground-breaking exhibitions, musical compositions and performances, the History Centre will be a venue of international significance.

The History Centre is expected to open for the Mayflower 400 commemorations in spring 2020 and will bring together the collections of Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery, the Plymouth and West Devon Record Office, the Local History Collections of the Central Library; the South West Film and Television Archive; the South West Image Bank, and some of the Naval Heritage Centre collections in Devonport, with a curated, contemporary programme complemented by rich academic research, from the University’s Peninsula Arts.

For more information visit www.plymouth.gov.uk/loveourpast.
## Calendar

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**Buy tickets online:** [www.peninsula-arts.co.uk](http://www.peninsula-arts.co.uk)

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