

Janet Hodgson
Bluecoat Gallery
6 March-17 April

Jonathan Owen
Monster
(right)



Janet Hodgson *History Lesson*

until 17 April

Supported by the National Lottery through the Arts Council of England, Liverpool Art School, Liverpool John Moores University, North West Arts Board's Shift Fund and the Henry Moore Foundation

History Lesson is a video installation specially designed for the Bluecoat, playing with notions of history and interpretation, authenticity and fabrication, fiction and truth. The Bluecoat Chambers originally began life as a charity school in the eighteenth century and has survived a number of modernisations to be transformed into its present day status as an arts centre. Actors and children dressed in period costume have been filmed earlier, acting out scenes of the Bluecoat's history which Hodgson eerily combines with guest appearances by the daily audience of the gallery in a fusion of past and present. The actual process of making the work is also recorded so the viewer is reminded that although the work appears to be an objective account of history, it is in fact a creation of Hodgson's imagination.

Window Box

Located next to the garden entrance between the bookshop and café bar, Window Box is an intimate exhibition space, arguably the smallest in Liverpool. Over the next three months it features mixed media installations by students and recent graduates.

April Alison Gross

A machine embroidered fabric map influenced by a collection of drawings made by members of the public describing familiar journeys.

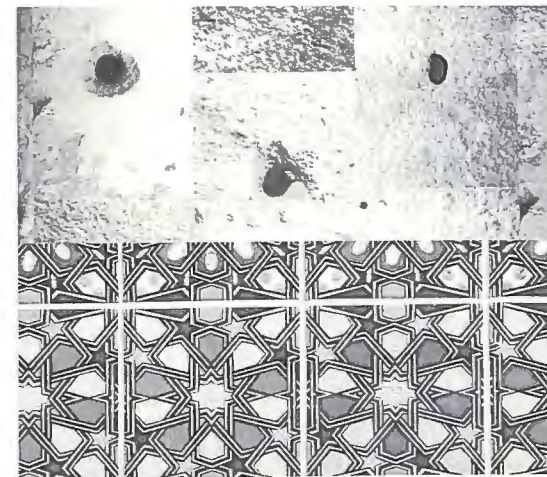
May Jonathan Owen

Monster, a punch bag covered with braille text examines themes of brutality and communication. The text is taken from *Mary Shelley's Frankenstein*, where a brutalised creature pleads with his creator for affection.

June Karen Gaskill

A synthetically produced cast of the human body which alludes to notions of cloning and loss of identity

Front cover **Washed Up** (detail) Smryn Gill



Bashir Makhoul
Points of View (detail)

Zineb Sedira
Quatre Generations des Femmes (detail)

The Order of Things

24 April – 5 June

An exhibition examining cultural perceptions and the seductive quality of surface through repetition and the familiar presented as the unfamiliar. Systems of organisation account for one definition of the term pattern, whilst another involves the complexities of decorative surface and structure. Like a word repeated over and over until it becomes unreadable, the repetition of marks and images forces the viewer to review their perceptions. The action ceases to be meaningful in a functional way and from the repetition arises new significance.

Louise Hopkins meticulously paints over world maps and furnishing fabrics, obliterating the original significance that the surface once held, creating monochromes that allow the viewer to look both at and into the surface. **Bashir Makhoul** papers a room with a 70s geometric wallpaper patterned with an abstract motif of bullet holes, leaving the viewer with no place to stand without the feeling of being vulnerable to hurtling missiles. The political and cultural images repeated within **Simon Periton's** doilies force the viewer to divert their attention from the image and reflect on the nature of his craft. **Zineb Sedira Reynolds** systematically breaks down the essential properties of latex sheeting by means of cutting and corrosion to salvage threadbare lacework patterns of leaf and flower.

Simon Periton appears courtesy of Sadie Coles HQ London

In Their Own Words

2pm free **Saturday 8 May**

Artists from **The Order of Things** talk about their work & explore themes raised by the exhibition

Artists' Talk

5.30pm free • Sandon Room **Thursday 22 April**

The second in a series of talks organised by CAIR. Artist Kim Merrington will discuss the influence of mass culture on contemporary art practice, focussing on drawing

cair



Simryn Gill
Forking Tongues

Simryn Gill

12 June – 24 July



Simryn Gill is a Malaysian artist now living in Sydney. She has exhibited widely in Australia and South East Asia as well as internationally, including in *Transculture* at the Venice Biennale 1995, the 5th Istanbul Biennial 1997 and solo shows at Kiasma Museum of Contemporary Art, Helsinki and ArtPace, Texas. This is her first exhibition in the UK. Simryn Gill's work encompasses a wide range of media including sculpture, installation and more recently, photography. Her approaches to making art involve adapting everyday and found objects, such as sets of cutlery, books, trinkets, banana skins and chillies into mordant, yet playful pieces. An Indian head dress for instance fashioned from dried chillies, a suit made from coconut shells. Text is also integral to the work, engraved onto the surface of plants or etched onto glass shards found washed up on the beach - delicate works which belie the sharpness of Gill's witticisms. The exhibition will be accompanied by an illustrated catalogue containing critical essays, produced by OVA with support from CAIR (Centre for Art International Research)

In Their Own Words

Saturday 12 June 1pm free

An opportunity to meet **Simryn Gill** as she conducts a guided tour of her exhibition and talks about her work in the gallery.



Peña for Chile

Peña for Chile

8pm £5.00 / £2.50 Thursday 22 April

Present events have brought Chile to the forefront of the world stage. The **Merseyside Chile Solidarity Campaign** presents a celebration dedicated to the disappeared and the victims of Pinochet's Chile. Merseyside artists pay tribute through song, dance, words and music to Chile's rich culture, its past and its people.

The Spark Collective *Strange Attractor*

8pm Free Saturday 22 May

A chance to see a piece of live art in the making and to help its future development. The Bluecoat hosts a week-long in-progress residency by Liverpool's Spark Collective whose *In Dreams* was nominated for a 1987 Manchester Evening News Theatre Award. **Strange Attractor** explores chaos theory through the use of improvisation, audience participation and for the first time in performance, random access digital video technology. Audience feedback, through questionnaires and an after show discussion will find its way into the finished product. *Refreshments will be served.*



Atlas
photo Tom Benjamin

Savourna Stevenson &
Catriona MacDonald

Atlas - Jazz Trio

Friday 9 April 8pm £5 / £3

John Law, 'one of Europe's most imaginative pianists' according to The Times, presents a new South African Jazz Project; **Atlas**. Bringing together three cultural strands of contemporary jazz, South African drummer **Brian Abrahams**, American bass player **Tim Wells** and **John Law**, underpin European and North American compositions and tunes with African rhythms and grooves. The evening will consist of a specially composed piece by John Law and will include tributes to two pioneering jazz composers, Thelonious Monk and Duke Ellington. Watch out for John Law's second appearance at the Bluecoat in June.

Savourna Stevenson and Catriona MacDonald

Friday 14 May 8pm £6 / £4

Catriona MacDonald and Savourna Stevenson present a captivating combination of virtuosi harp and fiddle, which celebrates the heritage of traditional folk and world music in a fresh and modern performance.

Catriona displayed her talent for the Shetland fiddle at an early age by winning Young Fiddler of the Year in the Shetland Folk Society competition and later, in 1991, as winner of the prestigious Radio 2 Young Tradition Award. She is now a presenter on BBC Radio Scotland's Celtic Connections programme and can boast Dire Straits' Mark Knopfler as a firm fan. Savourna Stevenson has been working as a composer since the early 1980s and draws her inspiration from sources as varied as ragtime, funk, folk and even the music of the Kora in Gambia. These diverse influences and playing styles have earned her the reputation of being a 'one-women revolution' in her field. She has worked with many renowned musicians including Dick Gaughan and June Tabor, both of whom have played at Bluecoat recently.

The Listening Room

The Dead Hand

Friday 16 April 7.30pm Free

Hear musicians usually known for 'free improvisation' playing their own version of composed music. Does anything change when the dead hand of the composer is on their shoulder?

Canyon Camping

Friday 11 June 7.30pm Free

For this sonic experience the audience find themselves inside a large tent removing visual clues for the sounds they hear. Expect the usual suspects and a few more!



Dr. Eugene
Chadbourne
photo The Wire

Simon Fell
photo Jo Fell
(right)

Frakture Festival 99

Stephen Grew & Mick Beck

7.30pm £4 / £3 Friday 23 April

The **Grew Trio**, formed in 1995, have played extensively in the UK, including Lancaster's New Music Festival and the Royal Northern College of Music. For this performance, Mick Beck combines the mystery of the bassoon and the passion of the sax in a musical conversation with Stephen Grew's reflective and versatile piano – sometimes fast and frenetic and at other times pausing on moments of serenity.

Mondo Chadbournes 2000

8pm £4 / £3 Friday 4 June

American cult maestro **Dr. Eugene Chadbourne** is joined by two rising stars of the British music scene – **Chris Cornetto** and **Billy Kettle** to present a fusion of classic Country and Western, traditional folk music, swinging jazz, free improvisation and sound creation, carrying this musical aesthetic into the next millennium.

Extremely Trio

7.30pm £4 / £3 Saturday 5 June

A scaled down version of the outstanding contemporary jazz group Extremely Quartet – highlight of the '98 Nickelsdorf Festival, Austria, Extremely Trio explores extremes – light and dark, loud and soft, dense textures and sparse sounds, in tunes that reach the extremes of musical imagination.

Frakture Big Band & Simon Fell

8pm £4 / £3 Saturday 12 June

The Frakture organisation is proud to announce a major collaboration between the Frakture Big Band, itself a rising force in the North and Simon Fell, acknowledged as one of the foremost composers for improvising ensembles in the world. The Big Band will be rehearsing and then performing several of Simon's pieces with the composer himself at the Bluecoat. Simon Fell's *Composition 30* has recently been recorded by the RNCM Big Band and a cast of over 20 improvisers and released to critical acclaim on his own *Bruce's Fingers* label. This will be a rare chance to hear some of his other works for large ensemble.

Visit Frakture web site at <http://www.merseyworld.com/improvisors>



Saturday Art Club

10.30am – 1.30pm For children aged 8 – 14, £6 / £4 concs per session, per child
Join the club for a morning of lively and exciting activities led by local artists.
Early booking is advisable as places are limited. Payment should be made in advance.
Booking forms and further information available from the gallery on 0151 709 5689

Paper Tails Kelly Large

Saturday 10 April Help create a jungle full of wild animals using simple origami and paper sculpture techniques.

Flash Trash Stephen Jones

Saturday 1 May Recycle and transform everyday materials into pieces of sculpture.

Masked Raiders John M. Bailey

Saturday 5 June Create your own decorated mask to reveal or conceal your personality.

STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS STOP PRESS

Saturday Art Club is changing – it's going to be bigger and better than ever!
Watch out for details coming soon

Adult Art Classes *daytime and evening*

Life Drawing Commencing 10 May for 10 weeks • Mondays 10.30am – 1.30pm

Tutor: Laird Downie Commencing 12 May for 10 weeks • Wednesdays 6.00 – 9.00pm

Course fees £37.50 / £26.00 concs

Both classes use the structure and movement of the human form to explore methods of measurement and analysis, materials and techniques. All are welcome, from beginners to those who wish to develop existing skills whilst being encouraged to try new approaches.

Beginners Printmaking Commencing 10 May for 10 weeks • Mondays 10.30 – 1.30pm • Course fees £45 / £30 concs

Tutor: Beverley Kantounais Commencing 11 May for 10 weeks • Tuesdays 6.00 – 9.00pm • Course fees £45 / £30 concs
All creative abilities welcome to explore beginners printmaking skills in drypoint, collagraph and etching. Enjoy learning step by step stages of plate preparation and various drawing methods. Develop inking techniques through to proof and final printing, creating exciting results and a personal collection of prints.

Advanced Printmaking Commencing 13 May for 10 weeks • Thursdays 6.00 – 9.00pm • Course fees £45 / £30 concs
Tutor: Graham Williams The advanced course is ideal for those who have attended the beginners course and for those who feel the need to extend their experience of printmaking. There will be the opportunity to explore traditional and experimental processes in both relief and intaglio printmaking including etching, wood and lino cuts and other closely related techniques. You will be encouraged to explore a variety of approaches whilst developing your own personal style

Early booking is essential as places are limited. Payment should be made in advance.
Booking details and further information available from the gallery on 0151 709 5689

The print room is available to hire for those experienced in printmaking on a daily, weekly or monthly basis. Please contact the Gallery on 0151 709 5689



Bluecoat Display Centre *0151 709 2001*

Monday – Saturday 10.00am – 5.30pm Admission to exhibitions is free
Telephone 0151 709 4014 • e mail: crafts@Bluecoat.u-net.com
Web Site: <http://Bluecoatcrafts.merseyworld.com>

30 March – 17 April **Sounds from near and afar**

This is a curated exhibition of recent, rarely shown jewellery works by young Bulgarian artist Nikolay Sardamov who expresses through his work his enthusiastic reaction to world cultures and civilisations.

27 April – 22 May **Glassworks**

An exhibition of work by leading contemporary glass makers working in Britain. The pieces shown will be broad ranging in scale with work suitable for interiors and exteriors, exhibitors include Angela Berry, Catherine Hough, Peter Layton, Simon Moore and Wendy Hooper



Wendy Hooper
Halo Light

22 June – 24 July **All Square**

This one person exhibition by German textile artist Inge Hueber brings together a large selection of her quilt work in two venues, the Display Centre & Liverpool University's Senate House.



Editions Limited

Monday – Saturday 9.30am – 5.30pm Telephone 0151 709 2001

Come and view our extensive range of contemporary etchings, wood engravings, collographs, lino and wood cuts all for sale. We also offer an in-house picture framing service at affordable prices, and a wide selection of cards, wrap, posters and gifts for every occasion
Credit cards accepted (Access & Visa).



Bluecoat Cafe Bar

Monday – Saturday 10am – 5pm. Telephone 0151 709 2179

The Bluecoat Café with adjoining courtyard provides the ideal place in the city centre to enjoy a drink or a meal. There is always a wide selection of hot and cold dishes, cakes, coffees, teas, wines and beers, as well as an ever changing exhibition programme on the walls
Available for private hire.

Bluecoat Art Shop and Bookshop

Monday – Saturday 9.30am – 5.30pm Telephone 0151 709 5449

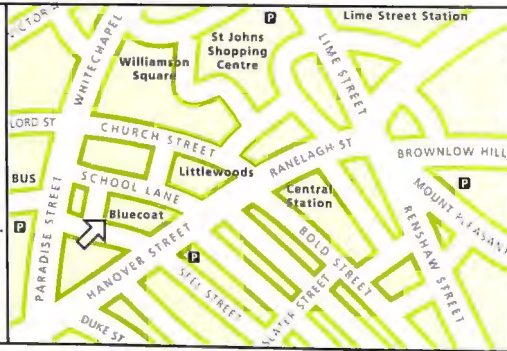
Art Shop Door G – A wide range of top quality art materials for either the professional or amateur, all at discount prices

Bookshop Door D – The best bookshop in town offering an ever changing range of books at absolutely unbeatable prices. New stock weekly, including fiction, art books, cookery and gardening books, children's books and local history. *Credit cards accepted (Access & Visa)*

Fairs

Sat 10 April & Sat 29 May Record and comic fairs in the Concert Hall.

**General enquiries,
room bookings,
tickets and
reservations**
Monday – Friday
0151 709 5297



Events Mon – Friday
0151 708 8877

Gallery Tues – Saturday
0151 709 5689

email
bluecoat@dircon.co.uk

How to find us

School Lane, Liverpool L1 3BX. We are situated just off Church St, behind Littlewoods.

Public Transport By train to Central or Lime Street stations which are only a few minutes away.

Bus routes into city centre Liverpool, nearest stops are Lewis's Department Store, Hanover Street or Paradise Street Bus Station.

Disabled visitors

The Bluecoat is fully accessible on the ground floor, with ramped access at the front and back of the building. We regret there is currently no wheelchair access to the Concert Hall on the first floor of the building, however plans for further access improvements, including lift access to the Concert Hall, will form the basis of a capital bid to the National Lottery.

Tickets

Monday to Friday 11am – 4pm • For information, reservations and credit card bookings (by telephone only), please ring **0151 709 5297**. Tickets can also be purchased from the Box Office three quarters of an hour before each performance. The Box Office at Virgin Megastore also sells tickets for Bluecoat events. Call in or ring 0151 256 5555 (booking fee applies)

Please note Visitors who may have difficulty with the stairs leading up to the Bluecoat Reception should notify one of the staff in the gallery or bookshop, and our Box Office staff will come to where you are to deal with your enquiry.

Concessions Available for unwaged, under 16s, students, Stage Pass card holders, people with disabilities and senior citizens. Contact us for details and please bring proof of status when collecting your tickets

Group Booking A group concession is available of 1 free ticket for every 10 booked and paid for

Gallery

Tuesday to Saturday 10.30am – 5pm, except during changeover periods • Exhibitions are free

Please contact the gallery for further information about the following

Group visits The gallery welcomes group visits from school, college and other educational organisations. Please phone in advance should you require an introductory tour of our exhibitions or if you want to discuss ways in which our displays may be of use to your group

Gallery Notice Board Information for artists, including details of exhibition opportunities, commissions and studio space to let, is regularly displayed on the noticeboard outside the gallery office

The Art Purchase Scheme You can now buy a wide range of arts and craft work on display in our gallery (on selected exhibitions), and in the Bluecoat Display Centre, through The Art Purchase Scheme (TAPS) run by North West Arts Board. For further information, please talk to our gallery staff

and finally...

Support the Bluecoat In addition to visiting our exhibitions, performances and other activities, there are additional ways you can be involved in supporting the Bluecoat. One way is to become a **Bluecoat Friend**, which enables you to enjoy a whole range of privileges. If you'd like to know more about this scheme, or would like to discuss use of the Bluecoat for sponsorship and other opportunities, then please contact us on 0151 709 5297. We look forward to hearing from you.

Room Hire We offer a range of rooms for daytime and evening hire at reasonable rates, for rehearsals, piano practice, workshops, meetings, conferences, parties or receptions.

Volunteers We value and rely on the help of volunteers to assist with performances and in the gallery. We are actively recruiting volunteers at present. If you can spare the time, we look forward to hearing from you. Telephone 0151 709 5297.



Bluecoat, School Lane, Liverpool L1 3BX

Please tick to indicate your areas of interest

- Any
- Jazz
- Folk / Roots / World
- Contemporary Dance
- Theatre
- Poetry / Literature
- Children's Activities
- Video / Film
- Asian / Indian Arts
- Visual Arts
- Performance / Live Art
- Other (please specify)

Join our mailing list

Would you like to receive a copy of Bluecoat's quarterly brochure, plus details of special offers and up and coming events? If you would, please complete the following form and post it back to:

**The Marketing Department, Bluecoat,
School Lane, Liverpool, L1 3BX**

Title

First name

Surname

Address

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.....

Town

Postcode