

December
January



at the Bluecoat.

December January

So, 2008. What a year it has been for the Bluecoat. Re-opening in March, a special Yoko Ono performance, dozens of exceptional live music events, Liverpool Arabic Arts Festival's return to the building, five diverse exhibitions in the new galleries, award winning participation projects, Chapter & Verse Literature Festival and a feast of live art at Liverpool Live 08.

So what's next? To celebrate the vibrancy of Liverpool's creative talent as we move into 2009, the Bluecoat presents **Next Up, Liverpool Art Now, Fri 12 Dec – Sun 15 Feb**, a showcase of the work of over 35 artists living and working in the city. From the local literature scene, **Cities on the Edge** examines what gives Liverpool and other port cities their peculiar 'edginess' and brings comedian, TV presenter and author **Alexei Sayle** to discuss his approach to writing about his birthplace.

Exceptional local musicians take the stage as **John Smith** performs, picks the bill and hosts the **John Smith Mini-Meltdown** and **Amos (aka Tom Rea Smith)** presents an immersive multi-sensory concert designed to send you off to sleep.

On top of this brimful of visiting local artistic ingenuity, the Bluecoat itself provides the perfect creative seasonal package. Throughout December, our mix of independent retailers **Landbaby, Pulesque, Drum, R&JP** and **the Display Centre** will be opening late on Thursday evenings until 8.00pm.

Upstairs at the Bluecoat, restaurant bar, reopened in November and Head Chef **Matthew Burns** has created a mouth-watering special seasonal Christmas menu for visitors to enjoy.

at the Bluecoat.



Fri 12 December – Sun 15 February 2009

10.00am – 6.00pm each day

(closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day)

Next Up

Liverpool Art Now

Free

Oliver Braid, Paul Bratt, Pete Clarke, Paul Clarkson, John Davies, Gina Czarnecki, Alan Dunn, Nina Edge, Jemma Egan, Leo Fitzmaurice, Stephen Forge, Emma Gregory, Sean Hawkridge, Lin Holland, Neil Keating, David Jacques, Alison Jones, Brigitte Jurack, Gareth Kemp, Harry Lawson, James Loftus, Brendan Lyons, Nicki McCubbing, Geoff Molyneux, Tabitha Kyoko Moses, Bernadette O'Toole, Richard Proffitt, James Quin, Paul Rooney, The Singh Twins, Tony Smith, Markus Soukup, Imogen Stidworthy, Nick Sykes, Chiz Turnross, Claire Weetman, Barry Worrall, Kai-Oi JayYung

Liverpool's year as Capital of Culture must come to an end but the cultural life of the city goes on regardless. To celebrate the vibrancy and depth of Liverpool's creative talent, *Next Up* brims with the work of over 35 artists currently living and working in the city.

Featuring painting, drawing, video, photography, sculpture, installation and animation, the exhibition presents a diverse range of works by artists with established national and international careers, alongside emerging names.

Next Up is not an exhaustive survey of the Liverpool art scene, nor is it dictated by prize money or a curatorial theme. Rather the exhibition presents a snapshot of artists' work that is engaging and accomplished, and maintains the Bluecoat's long tradition of commitment and support for artists in the region.

Tabitha Moses Accommodation, 2008 handkerchiefs, embroidery Photo credit: the artist



Wed 14 Jan, Wed 21 Jan & Wed 28 Jan 6.00pm
Art in a City Examined

Free

During Next Up, the Bluecoat presents a series of discussion events exploring aspects of art in Liverpool. The series continues in February and will be accompanied by the publication of *Art in a City Revisited* (by the Bluecoat and Liverpool University Press), a look at art in Liverpool 40 years on from John Willett's seminal study, *Art in a City*.

See January event listings for full event details.

Pete Clarke: Unrealise, 2008 (dipych oil on canvas Photo credit: the artist



Every Friday during Next Up, 12.00pm – 12.45pm

Next Up Exhibition Tours

Free

Experienced guides walk you through the exhibition, answer questions and challenge you to think beyond your initial responses to the art on display.

If you are interested in taking a special exhibition tour, let our experienced guides walk you through the galleries with tours tailored to your needs.

Call 0151 702 5324 or email gallery@thebluecoat.org.uk



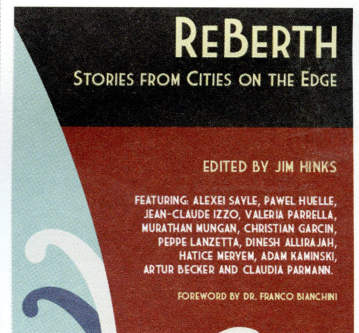
Thu 4 December
 5.00pm – 8.00pm
Sat 6 & Sun 7 December
 12.00pm – 4.00pm
Thu 11 December
 5.00pm – 8.00pm
Sat 13 & Sun 14 December
 12.00pm – 4.00pm

Sparkle 08

Free admission

mjman (Mersey Jewellers and Metal Artists Network) in collaboration with the Bluecoat present Sparkle 08, designer makers selling their latest creations. Mouth-watering innovative contemporary jewellery and precious objects.

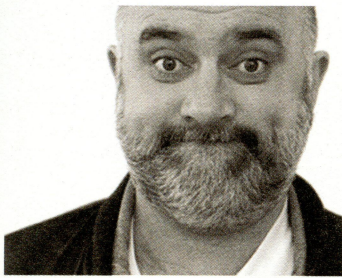
www.mjman.co.uk



Fri 5 December 1.00pm
ReBerth: Writing the City

Free, booking recommended

ReBerth is a new anthology of short stories from 'Cities on the Edge', six European port cities - Bremen, Gdansk, Istanbul, Liverpool, Marseilles and Naples. Authors, including Dinesh Allirajah, join translator Dr Rebecca Braun and sociophonetics expert Dr Kevin Watson to discuss what gives these cities their peculiar 'edginess'.



Fri 5 December 7.00pm
ReBerth: Stories from Cities on the Edge with Alexei Sayle

£5/£4

Liverpool-born comedian, TV presenter and author Alexei Sayle reads his exclusive new short story from *ReBerth* and discusses his approach to writing about his birthplace. He is joined by two acclaimed European short story writers – Valeria Parrella (Naples), winner of the Renato Fucini Prize and the Zerilli-Marim Prize, and Pawel Huelle (Gdansk), short-listed for the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize 2008 – reading their stories in the original languages, with English subtitles.

www.commapress.co.uk

Sat 6 December
10.30am – 5.00pm
Liverpool Book Market

Free

Tue 9 December
1.00pm – 3.00pm
Philosophy in Pubs presents Where is the Art: In the philosophy or the practice?

Free

The PiPs at the Bluecoat group brings its first year of twice-monthly discussions to a close with a pre-Christmas inquiry. All welcome, no formal training required.



Thu 11 December 8.00pm
Frode Gjerstad Trio with support from the Frakture Big Band

£7/£5

Acclaimed international saxophonist Frode Gjerstad's first Norwegian trio includes Paal Nilssen-Love (drums) and Øyvind Storesund (bass). Significant in creating a Nordic improvised sound, the trio have travelled worldwide and received recognition for their virtuosic interplay and energetic performances.

www.frakture.org

Fri 12 – Sun 14 December
10.00am – 6.00pm
Watch This Space

Free, in the Garden Room

The Bluecoat has been working with trainee art teachers and their mentors from Hillside High School, Bootle and Alsop High School, Walton. Come and enjoy an exhibition of the work produced.

www.engage.org

Sat 13 December
12.00pm – 5.00pm
Buy at the Bluecoat
Throughout the building
Free admission

Forget the high street for your last minute Christmas shopping. Purchase work directly from a selection of our independent artists and designer makers.



Sat 13 December
12.30pm – 2.00pm
Liverpool/Cologne Artists' Discussion

Free

Since October, Eight Days A Week, the ongoing artists exchange programme between Liverpool and its German twin city of Cologne, has set up a project space at the Bluecoat. Some of the artists involved and Jürgen Kisters, Cologne critic and writer, reflect on and discuss the future of this 10-year programme.



Sat 13 December
events from 1.00pm
Take Off: Liverpool Improvisation Collective (LIC)

Free, drop in basis

A one day buzz of performance and workshops showcasing dance artists Andrea Buckley, Paula Hampson and Mary Prestidge, based in a new dance studio at the Bluecoat. As well as their own creative practice, the studio will be a catalyst for sharing ideas and practices with other artists, creating a forum for physical dialogue and debate.

Sat 13 December
2.00pm – 5.00pm
Turner's Travels Pete Clarke and Georg Gartz Artists' Studio Day

Free

The final Eight Days A Week event in the project space involves Pete Clarke and Georg Gartz, who have painted collaboratively since 1998, and are now exploring the journeys Turner made along the rivers Rhine and Mosel. Come and see this work in progress.

www.eightdaysaweek.org.uk

Wed 17 December 8.00pm
Singing in Harmony with Emily Barden Sense of Sound

£5

Award winning training organisation and residents at the Bluecoat, Sense of Sound, present this culmination of a 12 week course led by one of their leading workshop tutors. Featuring specially arranged a cappella songs from around the world and a performance of original songs and well known covers by Emily Barden.

www.senseofsound.net

Thu 18 December 6.00pm
The Big Voice and other works by John McHugh

£12/£10

A unique piece of music and multi media based on the melodies and rhythms in the Liverpool dialect.

Composer John McHugh brings together a 12 twelve piece band consisting of members of the RLPO and internationally renowned jazz musicians to celebrate the sound of Liverpool.

Sun 21 December 6.00pm

Blue Stocking Social Club Christmas Party

£7/£5 Free for Senior Citizens

A very special one-off Christmas shindig. Celebrating the festive season with a lively array of film, music, dance and dramatic turns.

Innovations, experiments, skilled professionals and passionate amateurs perform at this eclectic alternative cabaret, with good yuletide tuck and seasonal tipples.

Tue 13 January

1.00pm – 3.00pm

Philosophy in Pubs presents Imagination or Intuition: which is most human/artful?

Free

Make fresh thinking your New Year's Resolution – join in PiPs' regular session at the Bluecoat. Anyone with a curious mind is invited to take part; no formal training is required. Topics are selected by the group on an ongoing basis.

Wed 14 January 6.00pm

Studio Life

Free, booking recommended

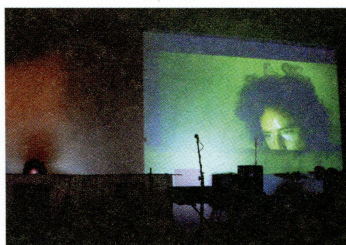
Representatives from artists' studio groups discuss how they support artistic practice in the city. Speakers include Kevin Hunt (The Royal Standard), Tony Smith (Arena Art & Design Association), Vanessa Bartlett and Josh Tennant (Red Wire).

Fri 16 & Sat 17 January

8.00am – 7.00pm

Record Fair

Free entry



Jean Sprackland

Sun 18 January 8.00pm

Music For Sleeping Amos

£5/£3

Roll up, lie down and doze off: Liverpool-based composer/electronica artist Amos (aka Tom Rea Smith) presents an immersive multi-sensory concert designed to send you off to sleep. Music For Sleeping will feature mats for you to lie on, specially composed music in 4.4 surround that's heavy on the sleep frequencies, and ceiling visuals.

Visuals by Pete Bamford and Sam Meech.
www.myspace.com/amosnoisefoundation

Wed 21 January 6.00pm

Art Market

Free, booking recommended

Representatives of commercial galleries assess the market for art in the city and offer valuable insight for artists and collectors. Speakers include Lucy Byrne (dot-art), Ceri Hand (Ceri Hand Gallery) and Sam Skinner (View Two Gallery).

Thu 22 January

7.00pm – 9.00pm

Poetry Cafe

Free

Liverpool Poetry Cafe launches 2009 in the Hub, with readings and events taking place the fourth Thursday of every month. Poets, publishers and poetry groups, together with the library service, have formed a partnership to develop themes and content for the Café, which will feature a Poetry Bookshelf.



Sat 24 January

10.30am – 4.30pm

Poetry School with Jean Sprackland

£45/£35

Jean Sprackland's own work is grounded in ordinary emotions and settings, shot through with an extraordinary imagination. Join her for exercises and experiments designed to surprise and reveal truths.

Bookings via The Poetry School only:
Julia Bird, Coordinator, The Poetry School, 81 Lambeth Walk, London SE11 6DX or programme@poetryschool.com

www.poetryschool.com

Tue 27 January

1.00pm – 3.00pm

Philosophy in Pubs

Free

See 9 December and 13 January.

Wed 28 January 6.00pm

Artists take the lead

Free, booking recommended

Artists involved in setting up international dialogue, artists' exchanges and initiatives beyond the gallery discuss their different approaches. Speakers include Pete Clarke (Eight Days A Week partnership with Cologne) and Lin Holland (Cyfuniad international workshops).

Thu 29 January

7.00pm – 9.00pm

Next Up: New Writers' Showcase

Free, booking recommended

Creative writing students from some of the region's institutions, including Edge Hill University, Liverpool John Moores University, Chester University and the Centre for New Writing in Manchester University, read from their work. Come along to hear the next generation of literary talent.

John Smith



Sat 31 January 7.30pm

John Smith Mini-Meltdown

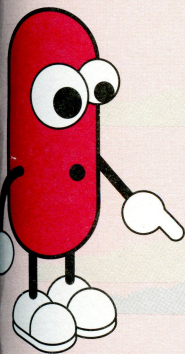
£10

When John Smith played a sell out show at the Bluecoat last May, the atmosphere he conjured was almost as stunning as the musicianship. We wanted some more of the same so we invited John back and asked him to pick the bill and host the night.

Expect the warm tones of vintage synths from Wrangler, featuring Ben Edwards (Benge) and Phil Winter (Tunng), performance poetry from Luke Wright (Aisle 16) and of course, John's breathtaking brand of acoustic folk.

See www.thebluecoat.org.uk for line-up updates
www.johnsmithjohnsmith.com

Families



Explore Tins

Everyday 10.00am – 6.00pm

Free

A £5 returnable deposit required.

A selection box of fun family activities to do while you explore the galleries. Learn along the way with creative experiments and find new ways of enjoying art together.

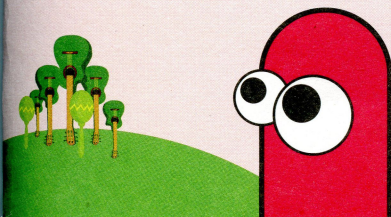
Every Sunday (except Sun 28 December) 12.00pm – 4.00pm

Explore in the Hub

Free

Go and explore the Next Up exhibition, then come to the Hub and make some art of your own with help from our artists and volunteers. Explore will be taking a break on 28th December but will be open every other Sunday – the perfect break for tired families on the Christmas or January sale shopping trail.

On 11, 18 and 25 January we'll have special guest artists from the Next Up exhibition joining us for Explore. It's your chance to meet the artists and make some art work with them!



shine

at the Bluecoat.

in association with
Yorkshire Bank

Available daily during opening hours or at

www.shineatthebluecoat.org.uk

Free

Shine is a monthly changing activity aimed at budding creative talent and winner of the Art 08 Creative Sparks award. December is your final chance to take part in 2008 and we want you to come up with the perfect music festival: ShineFest.

Pick up activity materials at the Bluecoat or visit our website:
www.shineatthebluecoat.org.uk

Sat 6, 13 & 20 December
11.00am – 4.00pm

ShineFest sessions in the Hub

Free

Come and work with us to mix your own festival soundscape and enter the competition.

The activities are open to all but if you are aged between 11 – 16 you can enter your work for the chance to win a masterclass with a professional musician and sound engineer who will help you capture the flavour of your ShineFest through a soundscape.

Fri 23 – Sun 25 January
10.00am – 6.00pm daily

Shine Exhibition Sandon Room

Want to find out what Shine is all about and see some of the fantastic work created by young people from across the city? Come along to our Shine exhibition to see sculpture, jewellery, creative writing, dance and music made by some of our upcoming talent.

Sun 7 & 14 December 12.00pm – 12.45pm

Children's Storytelling

Free

Imagined worlds and tall tales told by a storyteller from The Reader Organisation. Suitable for children aged 4-7yrs.

www.thereader.co.uk

Print Studio

Sat 24 January

10.00am – 4.00pm

Masterclass in Printing an Edition with Jason Hicklin RE

£60/£50 Fully booked

Suitable for competent etchers

Artist and masterprinter Jason Hicklin has printed for the likes of Norman Ackroyd, Bill Crozier and Ian McKeever. A rare opportunity to learn the basics of how to edition an etching including paper preparation, the press, your inks and studio set up. Invaluable tips from the man who knows.

Every Tue, 6 January –
10 February 6.30pm – 9.30pm

Six week course in Acrylic Intaglio / Safe Etching

£95/£90

Some printmaking experience required.

Learn how to etch metal safely using salt solutions and acrylic resists. This course will give you the confidence to hire the studio and etch on your own afterwards. Taught by Emma Gregory.

To book a place visit
www.thebluecoat.org.uk
or call 0151 702 5324

Tracey Hill



Thu 4 Dec & Thu 10 December
10.00am – 4.00pm

Liverpool John Moores University Print Department with Neil Morris

£120/£100 concs

For beginners upwards.

Learn how to create photographic stencils which look hand-made or painterly and use them to print your own multi-layered multi-coloured screenprint. Neil Morris heads up the Printmaking Department at Liverpool John Moores University.

To book a place visit
www.thebluecoat.org.uk
or call 0151 702 5324



upstairs at the Bluecoat.

Our much-missed restaurant bar, re-opened in November after a period of closure following a fire in May.

The team from Upstairs at the Bluecoat have been busy scouring the Northwest for the finest local produce to create a mouth-watering menu especially for the re-launch. For Christmas, Head Chef Matthew Burns has created a delicious seasonal set menu (3 course lunch £22.95, 3 course dinner £27.95) including roast duck, mash potato & Madeira poached grapes and spiced poached pear with red wine ice-cream.

Book a table at www.thebluecoat.org.uk or call 0151 702 7783



espresso at the Bluecoat.

Located in the Hub, offers illy coffee, Jing leaf teas, Monbana hot chocolate, soft drinks, sandwiches, salads, homemade cakes and biscuits to enjoy on site or to take away. Espresso now serves a range of seasonal hot food including chicken hotpot and chilli bean and butternut squash hotpot.

Entertaining

The Bluecoat is one of Liverpool's most iconic venues and offers a variety of fantastic rooms for hire with the flexibility to accommodate any kind of event from conferences to meetings or receptions.

The Bluecoat provides a fully dedicated service for your event adding value with delicious catering and creative activity, plus the unique nature of the building, its artistic programme, an excellent standard of service and high quality seasonal food.

For more information visit www.thebluecoat.org.uk, email entertaining@thebluecoat.org.uk or call 0151 702 7782

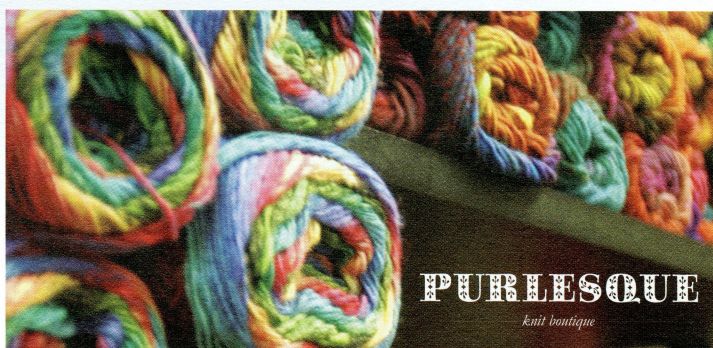


Creative Christmas gifts and late night shopping Thursdays

Throughout November and December the Bluecoat's mix of independent retailers are open late on Thursday evenings until 8.00pm. If you are looking for a unique, creative gift, the shops at the Bluecoat provide a mix of specialist products you won't find on the high street.



Landbaby sells hand-made bags, and purses, as well as earrings and other accessories from vintage fabrics, garments, linens, haberdashery and assorted treasures. If you have a favourite piece of fabric, item of clothing or accessory that you would like reborn into something truly original, it can be arranged.



Purlesque Knit Boutique supplies bright and beautiful yarns, buttons, fabrics, fantastic contemporary knitting and crochet books and handmade gifts with a contemporary twist. If you are new to knitting Purlesque will kit you out with the basics and if you have time they will show you how to cast on and get you started in time to make your own gifts.



Drum specialises in tribal arts, djembe, mbira and other percussion instruments and provides a range of old and new items, originating, mostly from the African continent. Drum's handcrafted collectables include textiles, carvings, masks, stone sculpture and jewellery made by artisans and craftsmen using traditional methods.



Jane Adam: Necklace Hand Painted & Dyed Aluminium Jewellery

The Display Centre originated as one of this country's earliest craft galleries, established in 1959, as a non profit distributing organisation promoting the finest contemporary craftwork by leading designer/makers. Founder Robert Gardner-Medwin intended the work shown at the Display Centre to enhance good architecture and interior design and today is still the place that leading professionals involved in Liverpool's renaissance visit to achieve this.



Master Engraver, Silversmith & Gifts
Robert & Joan Porter

Bob Porter specialises in hand-engraving and silversmithing. Using traditional skills learned as an apprentice and through extraordinary attention to detail Bob can engrave on glass and metal, producing intricate words and images. Bob also sells a range of silver and glass gifts and handmade jewellery.

For more information about the shops at the Bluecoat visit www.thebluecoat.org.uk

Opening hours

General building opening times

Tue – Sat 8.00am – 10.00pm
Sun 10.00am – 10.00pm
Mon 8.00am – 6.00pm

Open daily.

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day only.
The building will close at 6.00pm on Wed 24 December and Wed 31 December.

Galleries at the Bluecoat

Open daily 10.00am – 6.00pm
(closed during exhibition change overs)

Tickets and Information

Tue – Sat 8.00am – 10.00pm
Sun 10.00am – 10.00pm
Mon 8.00am – 6.00pm

Upstairs at the Bluecoat, restaurant bar

Tue – Sat 11.30am – 11.00pm
Sun – Mon 11.30am – 6.00pm

Espresso at the Bluecoat

Mon – Sat 8.00am – 6.00pm
Sun 10.00am – 6.00pm
(extended hours for special events)

Access

The number of wheelchair spaces in the Performance Space and the Sandon and Garden rooms will depend on each event. Please contact Tickets and Information or email info@thebluecoat.org.uk

Alternative formats

Alternative formats of this brochure are available. To request please contact Tickets and Information or email marketing@thebluecoat.org.uk

Tickets and Information

For further information and to book tickets visit www.thebluecoat.org.uk

Tickets and Information **0151 702 5324** the Bluecoat, School Lane, Liverpool, L1 3BX

Concessions

Students and those claiming benefits can purchase tickets at the advertised concessionary rate on presentation of ID. Those purchasing tickets via the internet or telephone should show ID on collection.

Group tickets

Group discounts are available. For every 10 tickets you buy, you get the tenth free.

The Bluecoat is supported by:



Book tickets at www.thebluecoat.org.uk Tickets and Information **0151 702 5324**

For more information sign up for regular updates about the Bluecoat at

www.thebluecoat.org.uk

or call Tickets and Information **0151 702 5324**

In December and January, why not:

Get a snapshot of Liverpool art now by visiting
Next Up in the galleries

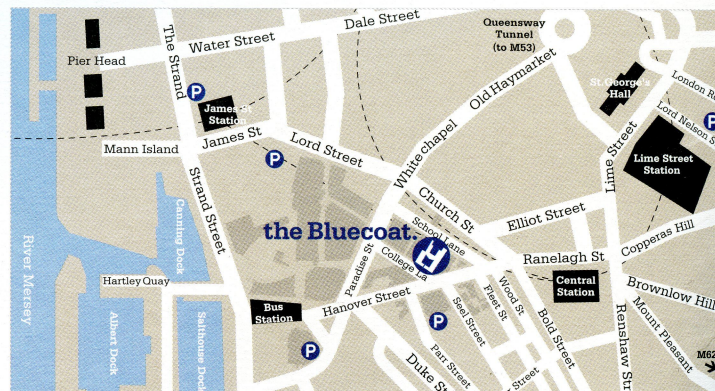
Fri 12 December - Sun 15 February

Book a table at the newly re-opened
Upstairs at the Bluecoat restaurant bar

Buy creative gifts at one of the unique
independent shops in the building

How to find us

Situated in the centre of Liverpool, just behind Church Street, down Church Alley and in front of the new Liverpool One development. Enter the Bluecoat from School Lane or College Lane.



the Bluecoat, School Lane, Liverpool L1 3BX

Registered charity number: 700862