

May / Jun / Jul  
2017

# Bluecoat

CELEBRATING  
300 YEARS

1717  
2017



Liverpool's  
centre  
for the  
contemporary  
arts

CELEBRATING  
300 YEARS

1717  
2017

This season Bluecoat's 300th anniversary programme continues with a range of exhibitions and events featuring artists who work with areas of knowledge from outside the arts.

In Larissa Sansour's exhibition *In the Future, They Ate from the Finest Porcelain*, which has an award-winning film at its heart, the artist draws on archaeology to explore the concept of a future civilisation. On show at the same time, *Louisa Martin: Proxy* reflects the artist's research into atypical experiences of embodiment, and a continued interest in pataphysics, or the science of imaginary solutions, originated by French playwright Alfred Jarry (1873-1907).

In July, following its successful national tour, Siobhan Davies Dance's *material / rearranged / to / be* takes over the gallery spaces with an installation and performances focusing on the body, inspired by neuroscientific research.

As Bluecoat is the oldest building in central Liverpool, architecture features across the year, and is reflected in our ongoing heritage display, *Bluecoat: at the Heart of Liverpool Culture*, and is the focus of discussion events that include the architect of our new arts wing, Hans van der Heijden.

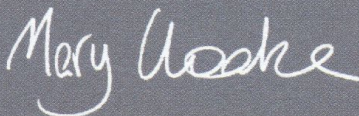
On Sat 13 May, our major music event for 2017, *Pierre Henry: The Liverpool Mass*, takes place at Liverpool's Metropolitan Cathedral. This electronic composition is being presented with a new sound design created especially for the interior of this striking brutalist building, for which it was composed 50 years ago.

Another half-century anniversary is being marked with an evening of new writing from contemporary poets made in response to influential 1967 anthology *The Mersey Sound*.

Programme details are in this brochure, but visit our website for other events, including Liverpool Arab Arts Festival, which has a long association with Bluecoat, and activities organised with our Sociologist in Residence, Dr Paul Jones.

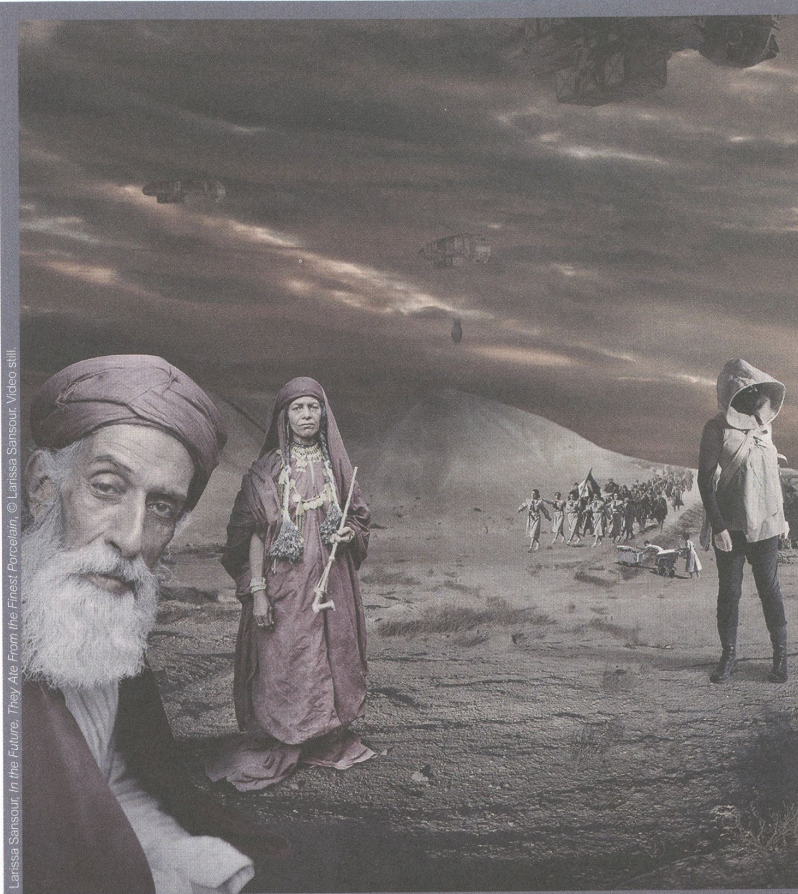
Finally, as part of our 300th anniversary celebrations you can tell us your Bluecoat stories by participating in our ongoing *My Bluecoat* heritage project. Share your memories of Bluecoat with us by posting on social media with the hashtag *#MyBluecoat*, emailing us at [mystory@thebluecoat.org.uk](mailto:mystory@thebluecoat.org.uk) or filling out a card when you're next in our building.

We hope you can join us this season as we continue to celebrate Bluecoat's landmark 300th anniversary year.



**Mary Cloake**  
Chief Executive

# Exhibitions and Related Events



Larissa Sansour, *In The Future, They Ate From The Finest Porcelain*. © Larissa Sansour. Video still.

Sat 6 May – Sat 24 Jun

## Larissa Sansour: In The Future, They Ate From The Finest Porcelain

Palestinian artist Larissa Sansour returns to Bluecoat with a major solo exhibition of new work drawing on themes of science fiction, archaeology and politics. At its heart is a film combining live motion and computer generated imagery that explores the role of myth in history, fact and national identity. It depicts a resistance group from a fictional civilisation depositing elaborate porcelain underground, aiming to influence history and support future claims to their vanishing territories. Once unearthed, this tableware will prove the existence of this counterfeited people. By intervening in history in this way, they create both a myth and a nation.

The exhibition also features artefacts including the porcelain of the title, and a large-scale suspended sculptural installation based on miniature versions of the spaceships glimpsed in the film.

## Larissa Sansour Related Events:

Fri 5 May 5.30pm

### Larissa Sansour and Louisa Martin Exhibitions Launch

Be among the first to see our new exhibitions at our special launch event.

Free, drop in

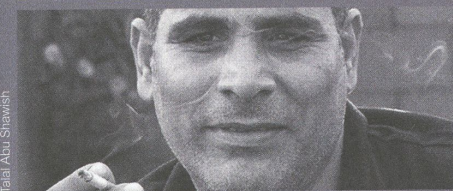
Sat 6 May 2pm

### Exhibitions Tour

Larissa Sansour and Louisa Martin lead this Tour of their exhibitions with Bluecoat's Head of Programme Marie-Anne McQuay.

Free, booking advised

See our website for more exhibition tours.



Talal Abu Shawish

Wed 14 Jun 7pm

### Liverpool Arab Arts Festival and Comma Press present: Talal Abu Shawish, Rabai al-Madhoun and Rawan Yaghi



In this evening of fiction from Palestine, three authors read and discuss work that encompasses science, speculative and future fiction. They are joined by University of Liverpool PhD candidate Beata Gubasci and artist Larissa Sansour.

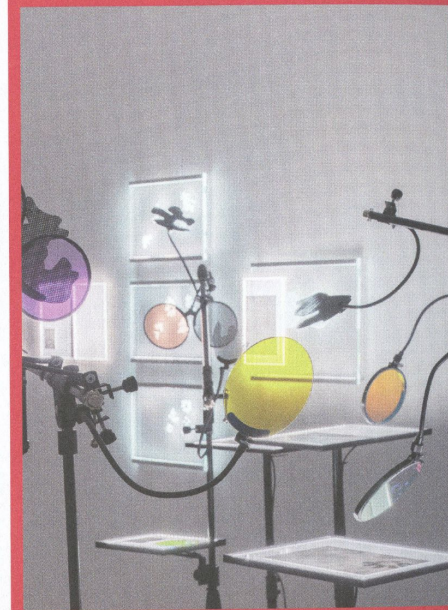
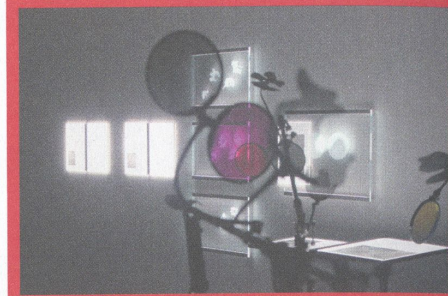
Liverpool Arab Arts Festival takes place from 8-16 July 2017. Visit [arabartsfestival.com](http://arabartsfestival.com) for full listings.

£5/£4

Wed 21 Jun 7pm

### David Jacques: Oil is the Devil's Excrement

Artist David Jacques, who shares Larissa Sansour's interest in the intersection of art and politics, fantasy and fiction, presents the Liverpool premiere of his new animated short film, which imagines alternative origins of OPEC (Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries).



Sat 6 May – Sat 24 Jun

## Louisa Martin: Proxy

*Proxy* is a new installation of choreographed light and sound that induces a set of particular emotional and physiological states. Sharing Larissa Sansour's interest in research and interdisciplinary practice, Martin's work explores how external factors influence both internal experiences and our ideas about what it means to have a body. In *Proxy*, Martin sets out to rethink our understanding of the singular body, generating an environment in which experiences, sensations and reactions can potentially be transferred between people.

See our website for events related to *Proxy*.

Louisa Martin, *Technical Rehearsal for a Lossless Body*, 2016, Installation view, Cubitt Gallery, London, 2016. Courtesy the artist.



**Sat 1 Jul - Sun 9 Jul**

Open 10am-6pm except Sun 11am - 6pm

**Dancers perform 11am - 5pm daily**

## Siobhan Davies Dance: material / rearranged / to / be

Exploring our bodies' capacity to communicate, Siobhan Davies Dance's most ambitious collaboration to date, *material / rearranged / to / be*, includes performance, film projection and sculptural objects presented as an ever-changing arrangement. Gallery visitors are immersed in a live environment that evolves around them. Inspired by the practices of the art historian Aby Warburg and the latest research in neuroscience, the artists will investigate how movement is felt, observed and how we reveal and conceal thought in our physical behaviour.

Featuring work by choreographers **Andrea Buckley** (from Bluecoat-based Liverpool Improvisation Collective), **Siobhan Davies, Helka Kaski, Charlie Morrissey, Efrosini Protopapa, and Matthias Sperling**; visual artists **Jeremy Millar, Emma Smith**; and designers **Glithero (Tim Simpson and Sarah van Gameren)**.

Presented in collaboration with Tramway. In association with the Warburg Institute. The Warburg Institute is part of the School of Advanced Study, University of London.

## Siobhan Davies Related Events:

**Sat 1 Jul 11am**

### Public Launch: Siobhan Davies Dance: material / rearranged / to / be

Be the first to see this acclaimed performance in our galleries.

**Free, drop in**

### Sat 1 & Sat 8 Jul 2 - 4pm Family Movement Workshops

Get your family moving with these workshops for all ages, exploring ideas related to *material / rearranged / to / be*.

Led by Liverpool Improvisation Collective. No previous experience needed.  
**Free, booking required**

Siobhan Davies Dance, *material / rearranged / to / be*. Photo by Ian Gavran/Getty

Stephenson Young Partners in their Bluecoat studio during post-war reconstruction



Throughout the year

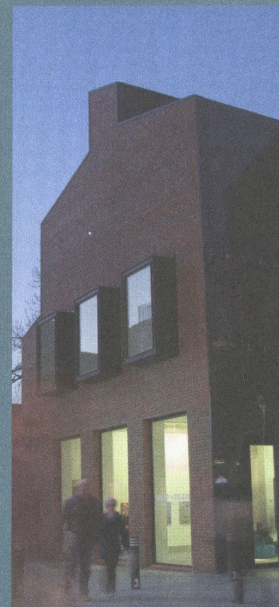
## Bluecoat: at the Heart of Liverpool Culture

Our popular heritage display continues with an additional focus on the building's architectural developments. Archival materials - drawings, plans and photographs - explore Bluecoat as home for a school of architecture, post-war renovations, Biq Architecten's 2008 scheme, and artists' architectural interventions - accompanied by a display of University of Liverpool architecture students' responses to the building.

## Exhibition related event:

**Wed 7 Jun 6.30 - 8.30pm**  
**A Solid Relic in a  
Glazed-Over City**

This discussion examines processes that have shaped Bluecoat's architectural evolution, its role in public life and the central presence of art. The panel includes **Emma Curtin** (Lecturer in Architecture, University of Liverpool), **Hans van der Heijden** - formerly of Biq Architecten, who designed Bluecoat's arts wing, and Bluecoat's Sociologist in Residence **Paul Jones**, who comments on the changing urban environment around the arts centre.  
**Free, booking required**



Bluecoat's new arts wing, 2009. Photograph by Jon Barraclough



## Throughout 2017

### My Bluecoat

Our 300th anniversary celebrations continue with displays in the Vide as part of our *My Bluecoat* project. During 2017, we are also inviting people to share their Bluecoat memories with us. Get in touch by picking up a form in our building, tag us on social media with **#MyBluecoat**, or email **mystory@thebluecoat.org.uk**

### Heritage Tours

To arrange a guided building tour for your group contact Tickets and Information on **0151 702 5324**  
**info@thebluecoat.org.uk**

# Events



Archive image of Geoff Travis. Courtesy of Writing on The Wall.

**Fri 5 May** 7.30pm doors,  
8 - 9.30pm

Post-event DJ in the bar

## **Geoff Travis: The Culture of Independence**

Indie icon Geoff Travis founded Rough Trade record store - the countercultural epicentre of punk - in 1976. As a distribution co-operative it serviced independent shops (including Liverpool's Probe, now Bluecoat-based) and enabled small labels like Factory and 2 Tone to distribute nationally. Here Travis discusses keeping independence alive, grassroots movements and the spirit of revolution.

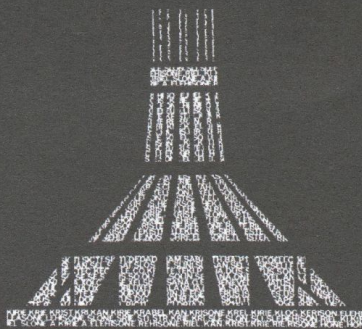
Part of WoWFest 2017,  
in partnership with *Bido Lito!*

**£6/£4**

**Free to Bido Lito!  
Members**

To become a member,  
and to book,  
visit [bidolito.co.uk/events](http://bidolito.co.uk/events)

## **pierre henry** **the liverpool mass**



**Sat 13 May** 7pm doors, 7.30 - 9.45pm

## **Pierre Henry: The Liverpool Mass at Liverpool's Metropolitan Cathedral of Christ the King**

Pierre Henry is known worldwide for developing electronic music through *musique concrète*, composition that uses electronically treated natural sounds. Regarded as a sonic pioneer, his music has been sampled by contemporary musicians and DJs like Fatboy Slim.

Originally commissioned to compose a piece for the inauguration of Liverpool's Metropolitan Cathedral in 1967, Henry's work was not completed in time. Now, 50 years on, *The Liverpool Mass* will be staged in full at the Cathedral, in an immersive and memorable experience. Using 40 speakers created especially for the circular space, the work will be presented as a live mix by Henry's collaborator **Thierry Balasse**.

The evening also includes a set from Paris-based contemporary electronic sound designers **Vincent Eppley** and **Samon Takahashi**.

**£10/£7**

**Group rate (for ten people or more): £7**

Pierre Henry: *The Liverpool Mass* will be accompanied by a programme of events, including **Concrete Utopias: Metaphor and Material** on Fri 12 May. This symposium will explore concrete as a construction material and its use metaphorically to describe experiments in music and poetry. See our website for more details.

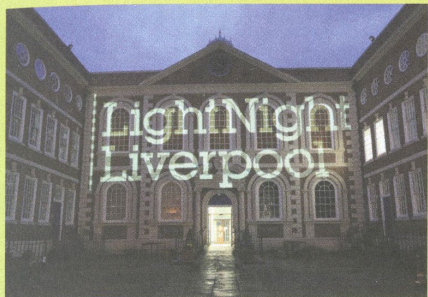


Liverpool  
City Council

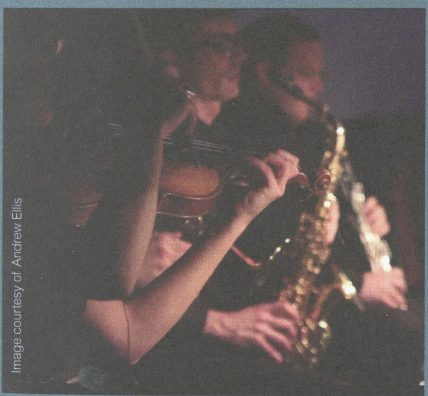


Golden Jubilee  
Celebrations  
2007 - 2012



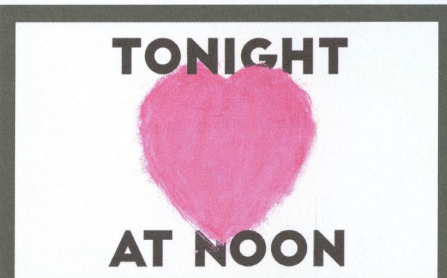


**Fri 19 May 5-11pm**  
**LightNight 2017 at Bluecoat**  
Bluecoat celebrates 300 years at the heart of Liverpool culture by revisiting the costume parties held by artists here over the years. Dress up as a figure from your favourite historical period and have your portrait created with our stunning building as a backdrop. Enjoy live music, performances and discover our artists' open studios.  
**Free, drop in**  
**LIGHTNIGHT LIVERPOOL 2017**

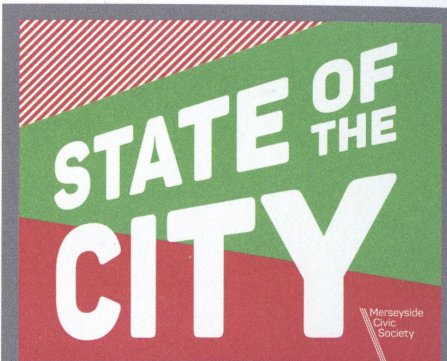


**Thu 8 Jun 7.30pm**  
**Immix Ensemble Presents New Collaborative Works**  
by **Luke Abbott & Daniel Thorne**  
Local new music ensemble Immix perform new works for traditional instruments and modular electronics by Norwich-based experimental electronica composer Luke Abbott and Liverpool composer Daniel Thorne. Support from Immix composer-in-residence, **Andrew PM Hunt**.  
**£5**

Image based on Adrian Henri *Valentine Painting*, 1967, acrylic on paper. © CM-Estate of Adrian Henri



**Fri 16 Jun 7.30 - 9.30pm**  
**Tonight at Noon: New Writing**  
Published in 1967, *The Mersey Sound* by Liverpool poets Adrian Henri, Roger McGough and Brian Patten, became a bestselling poetry anthology. Resolutely urban and contemporary, its impact has resonated with generations of writers and performers. Part of a Liverpool-wide programme to celebrate the book's 50th anniversary, award-winning poets **Paul Farley**, **Deryn Rees-Jones**, **Eleanor Rees**, **Lizzie Nunnery** and **Andrew McMillan** read new work made in response to the collection, with **Roger McGough** and **Brian Patten** in attendance.  
**£10/£7**



**Sat 17 Jun 11am - 4pm**  
**Civic Day: State of The City**  
**Merseyside Civic Society's** annual Civic Day focuses on identity, amenity and community. As civic space is being eroded, are there alternatives for maintaining and extending civic engagement? This interactive day introduces ideas from speakers who are restoring and running their own public spaces. Through discussions and workshops, find out how to take an active role in your neighbourhood.  
**Free, drop in**

© Brian Roberts



**INHABIT** is Bluecoat's programme of New Dance, which champions both the independent dancer and the role of non-dance specialists in the making of new work.

**Thu 15 Jun 7.30pm**  
**On the Way: Question Your Answers**  
Join us for this movement based interdisciplinary performance with **Jo Blowers** and guests, as they tell stories that resonate on a personal and universal level. The work plays with the idea of people as objects and objects as performers, and the re-enchantment of everyday life. It is a tender and playful exploration of contemporary culture seen through the eyes of a diverse range of people.  
**£6/£4**



© Brian Roberts



**Every Saturday 1 - 4pm**  
**Explore**  
Drop in for artist-led activities inspired by our exhibitions. Get creative with your little artists, who can make their own masterpieces. Suitable for children of all ages.  
**Free**

Photo courtesy of Bluecoat Display Centre



**Sun 16 Jul 1 - 5pm**  
**Bluecoat Summer Garden Party**  
We're throwing a garden party with Bluecoat Display Centre, and you're invited! Highlights include live music, family activities, beautiful prints and crafts for sale, delicious cakes and a raffle with prizes that are not to be missed.  
**Free, drop in**

© Bluecoat



**Print Club**  
Interested in screenprinting, etching and other printmaking? Join our popular workshops and masterclasses, or contact us for a customised course or event. Available for all levels, including beginners.  
**Visit our website for listings and to book.**

**Fairs**  
**Fri 12 - Sat 13 May, Fri 16 Jun and Fri 14 - Sat 15 Jul**  
9am - 6pm  
**Book Fair**  
**Free**  
**Sat 3 Jun 10am - 6pm**  
**Record Fair**  
**Free**



**Coming soon:**  
**Fri 21 Jul - 1 Oct**  
**Abacus**  
Save the date for our summer exhibition, *Abacus*, which will transform our gallery with a range of interactive artworks aimed at families and younger visitors.

# Diary

May / Jun / Jul  
2017

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Sat 6 May – Sat 24 Jun	<b>Larissa Sansour: In The Future, They Ate From The Finest Porcelain</b>	2
Sat 6 May – Sat 24 Jun	<b>Louisa Martin: Proxy</b>	3
Sat 6 May	<b>Larissa Sansour &amp; Louisa Martin Exhibition Tour</b>	3
Fri 12 - Sat 13 May	<b>Book Fair</b>	8
Fri 12 May	<b>A Symposium - Concrete Utopias: Metaphor and Material</b>	6
Sat 13 May	<b>Brutalist Liverpool: a walking tour</b>	Web
Sat 13 May	<b>Pierre Henry: The Liverpool Mass</b>	6
Fri 19 May	<b>LightNight 2017 at Bluecoat</b>	7
Sat 20 May	<b>Roger Hill: Resilience and Revolution</b>	Web
Wed 24 May	<b>Bad Taste Reading Group</b>	Web
Wed 24 May	<b>The Oompa Loompa of Doom and the Brexit Elephant in the Room</b>	Web
Sat 3 Jun	<b>Record Fair</b>	8
Wed 7 Jun	<b>A Solid Relic in a Glazed-Over City</b>	5
Thu 8 Jun	<b>Immix Ensemble Presents New Collaborative Works by Luke Abbott &amp; Daniel Thorne</b>	7
Fri 9 Jun	<b>Good Morning, Good Morning</b>	Web
Sat 10 June	<b>Larissa Sansour &amp; Louisa Martin Exhibition Tour</b>	Web
Wed 14 June	<b>Comma Press present: Talal Abu Shawish, Rabai al-Madhoun and Rawan Yaghi</b>	3
Thu 15 Jun	<b>On the Way: Question Your Answers</b>	8
Fri 16 Jun	<b>Tonight at Noon: New Writing</b>	7
Fri 16 Jun	<b>Book Fair</b>	8
Sat 17 Jun	<b>Civic Day: State of the City</b>	7
Wed 21 Jun	<b>David Jacques: Oil is the Devil's Excrement</b>	3
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Sat 1 & Sat 8 Jul	<b>Family movement workshops</b>	4
Fri 14 - Sat 15 Jul	<b>Book Fair</b>	8
Fri 21 - Sun 1 Oct	<b>Abacus</b>	8
Wed 26 Jul	<b>Bad Taste Reading Group</b>	Web
Weekly, every Mon	<b>Print Club</b>	8
Weekly, every Tue until 6 Jun	<b>Jo Blowers presents Post-it!</b>	Web
Weekly, every Sat	<b>Explore</b>	8
Third Tues of the month	<b>Talking Poetry</b>	Web
Monthly, 2nd & 4th Tues	<b>Philosophy in Pubs</b>	Web
Monthly, 2nd Weds	<b>The Gathering</b>	Web

## Our Core Funders



Liverpool  
City Council



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ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND

## Opening Hours

**Building  
& Espresso cafe:**  
Mon - Sat 9am - 7pm  
Sun 11am - 6pm

**Gallery:**  
Mon - Sat 10am - 6pm  
Sun 11am - 6pm

**Upstairs Bistro:**  
Mon - Sat 11.30am - 4pm  
Sun closed

## Tickets & Information

**Telephone:**  
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info@thebluecoat.org.uk

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Liverpool, L1 3BX

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fb.com/thebluecoat

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