

ARNOLFINI STAFF

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ASSISTANT BOOKSHOP MANAGER

Our part time staff are: on Front of House, Sarah Blake, Jeremy Bowden, Carole Gray, Beatty Hallas, Andrew Robertson, Kelly Steed, Ellie Whitfield; accountant John White; 40 Gallery Information Assistants; 100 volunteer cinema ushers. Our bar staff (employed by Wadsworth's) include Manager Sophie Newman and Assistant Manager Will Holmes.

TRUSTEES
Roland Adburgham, Sue Clive, Jonathan Harvey, Robert Huddleston, Richard Johnson, Geraldine Lindley, Cllr Pat Roberts, Nicola Rylance, Peter Sapsed, Ken Stradling and Claire Warren

ALTERNATIVE FORMATS

If you would like to receive this newsletter in a different format, eg large print, cassette tape, Braille or email, please contact Sharon on 0117 929 9191 ext. 223, sharon@arnolfini.demon.co.uk

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Reminder of benefits

Are you making the most of your membership? After launching the Arnolfini Supporters scheme last autumn, we thought now would be a good time to remind you of the benefits Supporters are entitled to.

Arnolfini Supporters at all levels receive the bi-monthly brochure in advance of the mailing list. Several Supporters have been disappointed recently when they were unable to buy tickets at some sell-out cinema screenings. So don't forget to make the most of this exclusive benefit; you are entitled to priority booking up until the first day of the month that the brochure commences. Once Arnolfini closes for refurbishment, we will still be keeping in regular touch with you too. We've been delighted to see so many Supporters at exhibition previews recently. If you've not yet been able to join us we hope you will do so at the next preview on 18 July. And if we haven't met before, please do introduce yourself to us, we're always wearing name badges and will be pleased to introduce you to the artist(s) and to other members of staff.

We hope you're enjoying keeping up to date with our news through Inside Out. The activities included in here demonstrate how we use your annual

subscription and the difference it makes to both the programme and those taking part in the programme. Any donations we receive are currently being put towards the capital development project and they are making a real difference to our fundraising. We were also pleased to see so many Supporters attend the Annual Presentation and the launch of the Annual Review earlier this year. This was another opportunity to get together and celebrate the work that has taken place here. In addition to the benefits mentioned here, check the Supporters leaflet or the website for a reminder of the exclusive benefits our Associates, Affiliates and Ambassadors enjoy.

And don't forget, on top of the official benefits there have also been opportunities to meet the Arnolfini's development project architect, Robin Snell and project artist, Susanna Heron; attend the Inbetween Time Festival for a launch party and private reception; benefit from special offers such as Taster Passes to the festival and signed copies of the artist's book accompanying the recent exhibition by Jonathan Monk.

If you have any questions about the benefits, please contact Donna Baber on 0117 929 9191 ext. 224.



Piers Rawson

Fresh Today

Members of Art and Power taking part in a workshop at Arnolfini as part of Fresh Today, a project exploring personal experiences of disability through performance art. Participants worked with artist Aaron Williamson to build a body of work to be presented in a platform event at Arnolfini on Friday 25 July.

Staff update

Senior Curator **Catsou Roberts** is on maternity leave until later in the year. In her absence, **Simon Morrissey** is working with Exhibitions Coordinator Lucy Steeds on the current exhibition, Recognition 1, and the next show, Recognition 2. Simon is an independent curator and writer. He has worked on exhibitions for various commercial and public galleries, writes for Art Monthly and Portfolio magazines, and teaches at UWE, Goldsmiths College, London, and Christies, London.

Development Coordinator **Donna Baber** has become a Trustee of Streets Alive, the Bristol-based group which promotes a culturally thriving city through traffic-free street events.

Michael Prior has now been officially selected as one of a team of nine Creative Advisors for Creative Partnerships, the Arts Council England and Government initiative to make education more creative through partnerships with the creative sector. The team are working with nine Bristol schools in a year-long process of support and consultation.

We reported the death of Arnolfini's cinema programmer, Ed Lewis, in the last issue of Inside Out. The cinema is now being programmed by **Shira MacLeod**, a former colleague of Ed's at Riverside Studios, London.

ARNOLFINI inside out

No 3 Summer 2003

News from Arnolfini



Tara Molloy

Qasim Riza Shaheen at Inbetween Time 2003, Arnolfini's second festival of live art. Qasim presented *In My Father's Footsteps* in which, via a love affair with Hollywood icon Rock Hudson, he retraces his father through the marks left behind by him.

Bristol-based building contractor joins project team

Arnolfini is continuing to plan for its major refurbishment works due to begin in September. This exciting £12 million project will create a fully accessible building, including the installation of much-needed lifts, and will see Arnolfini expand from two to four floors of Bush House, its home for over 25 years. Public facilities will be upgraded and expanded, creating a better environment for all visitors.

The plans include new galleries and education studio, a public library and archive, a new larger foyer and an additional 60-seat studio. Cowlin Construction, based in Bristol, have been selected as the main contractor on the project. "There is no doubt that this is a highly prestigious project in the eyes of not just the Bristol arts community but also that within the region" said Nick Higgs, Group Chief Executive of Cowlin Construction. "We are delighted to have been chosen to lead construction work with the

established team on the project and look forward to helping to create a superb arts environment in the area." During the works, the café bar, galleries and auditorium will be closed. However Arnolfini hopes to be able to keep a bookshop and information point open to the public. Some exhibitions and events are being planned to take place elsewhere in the city. We will be letting you know full details of our closing date, how to contact us and our activities after September as soon as they are confirmed. Arnolfini will re-open to the public in spring 2005. However we still need to raise £1.5 million to be able to undertake the refurbishment on schedule. You can support us by joining the Supporters scheme or, if you are interested in making a donation or corporate sponsorship, please contact Donna Baber, Development Coordinator on 0117 929 9191 ext. 224, development@arnolfini.demon.co.uk

CUTTINGS

SHARING OUR JOURNEYS

Artists from Art and Power screened their recently completed film, *Sharing Our Journeys* at the Legible Cities: Making the Case conference at Watershed in April. The film was made as part of a project, in partnership with Arnolfini, Bristol Old Vic and Watershed, exploring transport issues for disabled people in the city.

INSPIRING DANCE

A group of Gifted and Talented pupils from St Mary Redcliffe school have been working with writer Alyson Hallett to inspire their creative writing skills through contemporary dance. The students came to see Vincent Dance Theatre's show, *Let the Mountains Lead You to Love*, in April. It was the first time the group have used a live performance as inspiration for their writing.

DIALOGUE WITH TEACHERS

Dialogue is an international exhibition of new public art works set in and around Bristol's Harbourside from 4-20 July. Arnolfini is running a project with Dialogue, funded by Creative Partnerships. The aim is to work with six art teachers and coordinators to build their confidence in dealing with and responding to contemporary art. Each teacher sets themselves a challenge to be achieved by the end of the project – such as leading a tour for other teachers, or making a piece of work to be shown as part of Dialogue.

TESSA JOWELL VISIT

Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport Tessa Jowell visited Arnolfini in April. The minister made a presentation in which she revealed that Bristol has been given the status of UK Centre of Culture. The title was awarded to all six cities shortlisted for the title of European Capital of Culture 2008, which was recently won by Liverpool.

Inbetween Time success



Eve Dent

Tara Molloy



32000 Points of Light

Mark Simmons



Pacitti Company

Tara Molloy



Festival goes in the café bar

Mark Simmons



La Ribot

Tara Molloy

Arnolfini's second festival of live art, *Inbetween Time*, took place in February. Twenty eight events by over 70 artists were crammed into four days of performance, discussion, installation and intervention. It was the first time that the whole of Arnolfini (as well as the harbourside and three other venues) had been taken over by our live art programme.

Highlights of an incredibly diverse artistic programme included *32000 Points of Light*, an exploration of sound and light presented in a motion simulator, Eve Dent embedding herself into the gallery walls; Paul Granjon's hilarious *Lecture with Song and Robots* and a riotous karaoke night at the Cube presented by *Discoordination*.

The festival sold out and in total over 2300 people visited the festival from as far afield as Ireland, Sweden, Germany and Norway. An international delegation of live art producers and promoters from countries including Brazil, Mexico and Australia were brought to *Inbetween Time* by the British Council. One of the aims of the festival was to introduce new attendees to live art. Our target was for 30 people who had never been to a live art event to come to the festival. In fact, there were at least 100 new attendees. Overall the festival has helped to further build on the reputation and profile of Arnolfini as one of the most exciting producers and presenters of live and inter-disciplinary art in the UK. Helen Cole, Producer (Live Art and Dance), said:

"When we conceived of this year's festival we used the words 'curiosity, chemistry and intrigue' in an attempt to sum up the atmosphere we wished to create. Whether you were one of the delegates who saw almost everything or one of the many people who passed through the building, I hope each visitor experienced a touch of alchemy – a meeting of minds, over an intensive and tiring weekend. At the moment, we are gearing up towards planning for our next festival. The formula will evolve, but the aim remains the same – to distill shared experience, to challenge our thinking and to have a great time."

And a few quotes from visitors:

"I really enjoyed the whole buzz and mix of *Inbetween Time*. Fantastic and memorable."

"Fine balance between exciting unpredictability and smooth, unobtrusive organisation."

"Amazing value, jam packed but well programmed so you could see everything."

"Thank you very much for the professionalism demonstration and, of course, the gentleness that sparkle from your staff!" (from a Mexican visitor!)

CUTTINGS

SPEEDWELL AWARDS

Short films made by pupils at Speedwell Technology College in a project with Arnolfini have scooped two prestigious national awards. The films won first and second prize in the Creativity in Digital Video awards. The Year 7 pupils worked with artists Duncan Speakman, Alex Bradley and Andy Gracie on a 12-day intensive course in using sound and image to produce the three-minute films. Four pupils attended the awards ceremony in Birmingham to receive their prizes from British film producer David Puttnam.

GUARDIANS OF DOUBT

What is the nature of risk? How do we reclaim the radical? These two questions were debated by Helen Cole, Live Art and Dance Producer with other members of the 'Guardians of Doubt' – a dance network set up to support a context for experimental dance practice in the UK. The discussion took place over three days at Utrecht's Spring Dance festival. Funded by Arts Council England, the group meet six times and offer two dance commissions each year.

BREATHING SPACE ON TOUR

Five Arnolfini Breathing Space commissions have been shown in Manchester as part of *Meanwhile*, a festival of performance and installation in May. Breathing Space is the commissioning and touring scheme initiated by Arnolfini, which enables up to five new commissions of live artworks to be produced biennially. It offers live artists the chance to experiment with their practice in a supportive environment and gives audiences an insight into the artistic process. The five were Dan Belasco Rogers, Host Productions, Low Brow Trash, Pacitti Company and Qasim Riza Shaheen.

The Reflective Practitioner

The Matrix Reflective Practitioner project, funded by Arts Council England South West, offered bursaries to selected artists to enable them to reflect on, investigate and develop their practice. Arnolfini hosted two bursaries, which were awarded to Paul Clarke and Alex Bradley. Here, Paul Clarke looks back on his experience of the project.

"The Matrix Reflective Practitioner project has enabled me to take a number of approaches to professional development and reflection that have been really productive. I've done both conventional training and learnt through making work and exchanging skills with new collaborators.

I've had a close relationship with Arnolfini for a number of years as director of performance and multimedia company *Uninvited Guests*, who recently presented their performance *Offline* there. *Offline* explored what happens when disembodied confessions, written-to-be-read on the web, are spoken live, face-to-face with an audience. The Matrix bursary has enabled me to further explore possible interfaces between on and offline spaces. I focused on producing a new work-in-progress, *Live Chat*, in collaboration with my mentor Duncan Speakman. *Live Chat* took place simultaneously in Arnolfini Bar, Watershed Digital Café and online, in December 2002.

Two performers hung out in Arnolfini bar, speaking text to each other that was being written live in Yahoo chatrooms. Sound and image from the bar was transmitted wirelessly to Watershed's Digital Café, where it was projected. Participants at Watershed could join in the online chat and hear their text spoken at Arnolfini. Video was also streamed back to the web so that people could participate remotely. The artwork produced a complicated social space that



raised questions about the realness of chat, both on and offline.

Live Chat marked a number of shifts in my practice. I moved from making rehearsed performance for studio contexts into producing a durational intervention into social spaces, both real and web-based. My approach involved bending my practice into another form, approaching similar ideas from within a different field, and from there, looking back at my work as a theatre director. I've gained 'hands on' knowledge of interactive media and video editing, and a video documentary made with artist Anna Lucas will enable me to market the work.

The collaboration with Duncan Speakman will be developed with *Uninvited Guests*. For our new work, *Schlock*, Duncan is designing software that will sample and process speech and sounds from the performers' bodies live.

For me, the Reflective Practitioner has been a really successful pilot project which has enabled artists working in very different artforms and with different host organisations to engage in productive dialogue and learn from each others' differing approaches."

Spreading the word . . . s l o w l y



Kieran Brown

Artist Kieran Brown has been working with Artists Without Homes, a group of artists who are all homeless, as part of an ongoing relationship between the group and Arnolfini. The artists made small placards from balsa wood which they personalised with slogans and temporarily placed on the backs of garden snails. The snails were then released into flower beds in the city centre to spread their words.