

Sexing up regeneration

The Projection Gallery at Liverpool Biennial arts festival 2006.

Every two years, Liverpool hosts an arts festival including both large galleries and a variety of small, independent and artistrun spaces. The Tate and The Walker rub shoulders with the small Independents' fringe, and for a brief time the audience is shared. Crucially, international curators and arts funding professionals get to see tiny, temporary shows, and emergent artists get entry to the institutional galleries with, for once, a bizarre sense of belonging.

This year The Projection Gallery.com brought a collection of over 150 filmmakers' work to the Liverpool Biennial. We converted a derelict building over ten long days into a cinema, with stage, screen and seating from second-hand timbers, borrowed TVs, Value DVD players and heaters, filled the walls and space with installations, and opened for twelve weeks to screen artists' short films to the public.

The films were mainly sent by post after a call-out from our website and various lists and blogs, and we had nearly 400 to select from. If you had a TV channel for a day, even an hour, how would you fill it, and who would that please? Would it be any better than the formulaic dross pumped through your telly-hole it replaced? Who would it offend? And would you be prepared to stand by your choices? The decisions were tough.

Films were eventually grouped according to the broad themes of nature; passion; and technology, over the three months, to keep it fresh and to show something new to repeat audiences. Shows were in the weekend evenings, helped along with popcorn and wine, to an improbable audience of artists, students, drunks, critics, and Joe Bloggs' who were just passing. **Continued inside...**

Sustainable Communities Bill

Stop the press! Possible legislation which might curb the rampant gentrification and regeneration which shatters communities without a care for those who have lived in them all their lives, Shock! Horror!

The Sustainable Communities Bill is what one group describes as a legislative saviour from the scourge known as 'Ghost Town Britain' and although you can imagine it being pushed by those who want to keep Britain British it is clearly a step in the right direction. 'The Bill is a radical proposed piece of legislation, drafted by community and environment groups, that will empower local people to make their own decisions on how to reverse the ongoing community decline in Britain.'

It's a fact that parts of the country are becoming unrecognisable to people under 25 let alone the old giffers who look at car-parks and 'remember when it was all fields'. Ordinary people are not getting consulted at any level for most developments and although some will relish the convenience of an allnight Tescos on the edge of town they should be informed of the damage it will have on their local businesses and amenities and actually be able to act upon it before permission is granted to thoughtless developers.

For instance, I've just seen a before-and-after pictorial piece on the lands being used for the 2012 Olimpdicks on www.derelictlondon.com – it's fucking shocking. I was living on the road where the main stadium and carpark will be built when they were trying to push to win the bid and I don't remember hide nor hair of anyone asking me for my opinion on that travesty of a sporting venture which is due to suck the taxpayer dry of a few billion quid.

Anyway, the campaign to back the SC Bill is cross-party and continues to build support from individuals and organisations across the country and although probably a wake-up call to many MPs who would rather see local networks and enterprises flourish rather than flounder it will still need plenty of support to see the Bill made law.

Localworks are a group who are currently leading the campaign and they reckon if introduced the Bill will mean that 'Central government will be required to provide for the implementation of local sustainability strategies that communities will be invited to create themselves.

These sustainability strategies will state ways in which community decline is to be reversed and real local sustainability is to be created. This could include measures to promote local shops and services, local jobs and local businesses; measures to reduce social exclusion and increase active citizenship; and environmental measures too. Local people will be able to set targets for these measures, or even introduce new measures and indicators, and these may differ from area to area. There may even be local referenda on issues such as: should the new superstore be built?

Politics will be turned upside down as communities are given the power to reverse Ghost Town Britain and decide how the places they govern are developed or conserved, rather than being dictated to by government.

Go to their website at www.localworks.org and sign up for free updates. Better yet, form your own campaign group and lob(by) things at MPs. Can some readers also start to consider how we can be a spanner in the works of the Olimpdick Games. After all if they're gonna waste all that money on some athletic dirge, they may as well fork out some more to make sure the thing goes off without some human hitches interfering!

VINYL REVIEWS

V/A – When the Shit Hits the Fan [Hex 8]

The latest releases from robotcore romantics Hekate will have lovers of electro in Hexstasy. The first 3 tunes on Hex 8 sound more industrial and dense than S.London electro, more mournful on the synths and less street tough, though the rhythms and inflections change throughout the actually minimal elements to defiant and stirring effect. The last tune – which features piano and an up-tempo break – comes across all baroque, a bit like some of Aphex Twin's 'Drukqs' LP.An unusual and danceable record that shows the depth of the Hex crew.

The Flashbulb – Flexing Habitual [Sublight]

The Flashbulb is a virtuoso musician who has been hammering out some incredible releases in the last few years. He basically sounds like Squarepusher in his early days – and that's not a bad thing, now that Squarepusher sounds like a gnat's dud fart. Some of the Bulb's stuff also tends to be a bit washed out, but I guess that's what happens when you're a musical genius. This latest album though is chock full of rattly hyper-edited breaks wilth full funk and flavour. **Venetian Snares – Hospitality**

[Planet Mu]

Mr Snares is having another of his jazzy turns – hopefully it won't last long. Squarepusher'esque melodification with that classic 'Snares touch of class, written when he was in the same mood as the 'Chocolate Wheelchair' album. More at home in the living room than rig-side on a saturday night. Doormouse / Abelcain – Ghosts [Addict018] Dissapointingly not a collaboration, just separate tracks; variations on a sombre theme by two heavyweight dancefloor-destruction bringers. Violin laced kick-drums with a splatterhouse movie theme. Not either of their best work but still well worth bouncing around to.



Various Artists - Squat Breaks CD #1

"Imagine how much spare time you'd have to kill if you didn't just work to pay rent, bills, council tax and instead spent your days in exile of Babylon, carving out paragraphic sculptures and surfing sound waves. Well, this is that showcase of what goes on behind boardedup windows. Centered around the calmer sounds of squatlife, far from the hedonistic satan-worshipping squat parties which are for many people the only first-hand experience of (for want of a better word) the 'scene'. All the artists are, or have been, squatters and take influence from the broad spectrum of what goes down a treat in the darkened underbelly of London town."

"The CD format works well for these sonic delights and although it shows its age a lot of the music still holds the attention of the listener and gives a good platform for a whole host of musicians who would have found it hard to find vinyl homes for their audio babies. My favourite track is 'The Lost Papers' by Stitch and Rob de Zero which carries an exciting narrative that is a poignant comment on society and is also a havin' it dancefloor track - and it's a shame it never made it onto wax. I don't think the advent of Myspace degrades the idea behind the CD because the idea of having a real thing in one's hands and giving some money to a new project is definitely worthwhile."

"The music comes fresh, exciting and provocative from Headfuk, Random Artists, and friends – a roster of musicians less established, and daring to go. Lovingly sequenced into a skittering trip through the alleys of your mind, the depth of feeling and excitement truly inspires. I could describe each tune, the original breaks and shimmering, wonky synths etc, but just buy a copy, I doubt you'll be disappointed."

Squat Breaks is a new label with the sole purpose of creating a marketable platform for underground, unsigned and under-funded musicians. It is on sale at info stalls at parties and online on www.headfuk.net/squatbreaks/ You can also email squatbreaks@hotmail.co.uk and a downloadable version will be available soon for a donation.We hope you will find it worth paying for as all proceeds go towards the next release.



The Hekate-related releases, and other stuff in the electro/breakbeat/industrial vein, can be bought online from www.substancestrange.com

Base Level is a new shop for vinyl and clothing. at 4 Shelford Place, off Stoke Newington Church St, London N16 9HS. Call 07947 387429 or 07932 532054. www.baselevel.co.uk

Projection Gallery cont...

All this was run at our own expense and without a budget, so time was short, but the experience of friends, including Random Artists, Pitchless, The Art Organisation and many others made it possible, installing art, volunteering time, vehicles, getting a deal with developers, and putting in hectic 14-hour days to clear up the building. Spirits were high and their sacrifice made a space that is still in use today.

Riding on this wave of cultural activity, Liverpool city has, for the fourth time, tried to promote itself as a successful, clean, nice place to live and work, worthy of its status in the Big Seven list of European secondary cities, soon to be City of Culture 2008. The heart of the city is currently a mass of cranes and builders, which the institutional galleries were enthusiastic to document. Still, the rich/ poor gap remains and the working people are mainly in the dark about the festival, despite posters on every lamp-post.

Artists Hewitt, Jordan and Beech said that 'The function of public art for regeneration is to sex up the control of the under classes.' For up-and-coming artists, The Biennial is a glimpse of success and a chance to prove we can produce a show of the highest standards, with a positive atmosphere, and on the smallest of budgets.

The next group show is in SevenSeven Gallery, Broadway Market, East London in February 2007, then Sweden and Czech Republic later in the year. This and other articles are available in full on: **www.theprojectiongallery.com** If you have a short film that needs to be shown, get in touch.

Break first • Then Enter

Sizzlin' city beats R turnin' up tha heat Beneath my feet, My heads spinnin' Thoughts trippin' The lights fantastic. Gotta do sumink drastic To stop da world frm cavin' in. I need an urban fix, Under cover of night trix I'm pullin' out a section 6. Gotta get me shelter, Livin' on a helter skelta,



Bags packt 4 adventure Coz its callin' out my name And I won't B tamed. I've got a thirst to shout it out That only music can end this drought That's bin brought about By the murderous corporate game. And so I find us here again my friend, Standing on the corner of my sanity The beats R all I've got 2 stop me From goin' round tha bend. But if we don't break first... How we gonna mend?

New god same shit

Leon Harrison screamed down the A13 with the flickering lights of the speed paparazzi accompanying him as he rammed the revs, undertaking, pushing in and generally making a nuisance of himself. Leon did not care as he was late and, as always, his god was on his side. *** Noid entered through the sitex door into what used to be the anteroom of The Lord Cecil, which to the untrained eye it looked like any other squat. The occupants did not covet attention - they had enough of that in their daily work. There are reasons other people's gods don't work for them; in general they are apathetic, lethargic and confused. Leon had invented Noid - and she is fresh, young and only has him to care for. Most people want for too much, they want utopia in a world that disagrees, they want cash in a world where no one wants to fit the bill. Anyway, Leon couldn't drive very well and could do without a crash.

The Adjudicator sat across the room with a large set of scales clasped in his arms. He paid Noid no heed as she made her way into the main room but The Adjudicator's older sister Karma hissed at Noid from under the table. Noid tried not to look down – what would be, would be.

Noid was a new god, which wasn't to say that she didn't have power, because power was forged from belief, and although she only had one believer, his faith was unwavering. Noid was lucky she didn't have to go through the internal debate the hippie at the bar often suffered from; a never-ending conflict of desires; who to serve and why?

Standing towards the back of the bar, a shadow of their former selves, you could

see the long forgotten Greek and Nordic deities playing out their days before they finally ceased to exist. The old jakie Dionysus loitered near the one-armedbandit trying, but failing miserably, to connect with a succession of cheeky arseslaps. Loki sat losing card game after card game – a worn out old trickster whose game was up.

Noid avoided the Alan Sugar look-alike Cash as the east Londoner was obviously here to see about a possible takeover. Noid made directly for the very back of the bar where The Laws of Physic's sat lamenting the plight of the national cricket team's failure to perform on foreign soil. Usually it was best to follow a disciples' wish about safe journeys and prearrange things so you had control of the right people at the right time; if need be, resorting to tricks like prank calling or traffic light switching to avoid vehicles that could crash into his. However, this was a last minute thing; which was why Noid was here.

*** Leon played with the tuner trying to find something that wasn't ten year old jungle or teeny-pop. Directly in front of him a Sainsbury's HGV careered between the lanes, screeching and buckling just about to jacknife. Leon jammed on the breaks.

*** The four old Laws who stank generally of pipe smoke and surely wore more tweed than most of Hackney sat round a booth tucking into a Sunday roast "Ahh the young Ms Noid, please take a seat." This was going to be hard thought Noid, The Laws were impossible to bribe and difficult to convince. The best you could hope for was a blind eye.

"This is all rather irregular, did you not see fit to pursue this through the regular channels?"

"Sorry" said Noid "but Leon left in a hurry without saying my sacred rites

and I didn't have time to prepare. If you could see within your powers to make Leon blind drunk and have only a minor accident, then not only would that give good cause to administer the memory loss... and as he would lose his license and probably have to do community service Karma would rest contented and Leon would have been taught a lesson."

"You can't go breaking us wily nilly." Said one of the Laws distorting his brow into a thousand worry lines.

"Your disciple does seem to be a rather petulant young man, he trusts in you a little bit too much." Chimed in another of the Laws as he stroked his grey beard.

Pausing for a moment and taking time to read the faces of the other three, the oldest of the Laws spoke "As you do seem to have performed your duties particularly well, and as this is the first time you have come to see us, we can arrange it just this once..." *** Leon pulled himself free of the

wreckage. Out the corner of his vision he saw the blue flashing lights getting steadily closer. His head was heavy and his vision blurry which was bizarre as he had been teetotal since the start of the millennium. He cursed something about what a great help his goddess protector had been for the crash to happen, until he remembered he hadn't prayed before he left the house. From somewhere above him someone in a uniform asked him if he was alright. He was suddenly overwhelmed by the urge to vomit.

*** Noid headed out from the old pub and down to Hackney Central to jump on a 106. She hoped it would be a long time before she needed to return.

The Adjudicator knew she would soon return, but as he was bored of spoiling the outcome of people's lives he decided not to say anything and instead settled down to drink his beer which was fast becoming flat.

16.12.06 **HEKTIK – The Xmas** Masked Ball

Several rooms of D&B, Techno, Hip-Hop, Breakcore, Electronica and cinema. Masks expected. 07092 017667 + 07974 892670

22.12.06 **NO FIXED ABODE FUCK XMAS**

NFA invite you to spend, spend, spend... all your money elsewhere. London venue tbc - mailing list only. No flyer or infoline. info@nofixedabode.info

22.12.06 KSS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Techno, breaks, reggae, dub, ska Free entry. 9pm – morn The Red Star, 319 Camberwell Rd London SE5 www.redstarbar.co.uk

RADIO LISTINGS

DECIBEL BREACH is broadcast every Saturday night from Midnight GMT til morning on RESONANCE 104.4FM in London and over the internet at www. resonancefm.com

Thumbs up from the Resonance management means the Decibel Breach show continues into the first quarter of 2007. We hope this will give us even more incentive to roster in some special guests and keep the intense and interesting beats flowing over the airwaves. redZEROradio take 6 Jan, 3 Feb, 3 March; No Fixed Abode take 13 Jan, 10 Feb, 10

26.12.06 **INTERNATIONAL PIZZA** PUNK DAY

Pizza punx of all nations unite for the annual holiday that will replace Christ!mass.

www.eroding.org.uk/pizzapunx.htm

31.12.06 **NOO-Y'EARS-EVE**

No big plans as of yet but you can phone this number on the day to see what's happening. Location from 9pm: 07092 350834

05.01.07 BRAINDROP

4 deck turntablist electro-filth drum & breaks mash up. £3 b4 9pm, £5 after. 7pm – 3am. The Purple Turtle, Crowndale Road, London NWI www.braindrop.co.uk

13.01.07 **DISSIDENT vs LIFE4LAND**

Home team Dissident play host to another head2head rig soundclash. 10pm – 5am. £5 entry. The Black Swan, Stapleton Road, Bristol.

27.01.07 SOCIAL CENTRES GATHERING

A space for discussion, practical workshops, sharing ideas, skills & experience followed by MAYHEM cabaret and cocktails at the lin12 Club, Albion Street, Bradford, BD1 www.linl2.com

17 - 21.03.07 **DRAGON FESTIVAL** Near Orgiva, South Spain www.dragon-festival.com

06 - 08.06.07 **G8 SUMMIT**

March; iIIFM take 20 Jan, 17 Feb, 17 March; Adverse Camber have 27 Jan, 24, Feb, 24 March and who knows what will happen on 31 March?! Mp3s of the show, playlists and waffle are uploaded here: dbreach.fm

WW.ILLFM.NET

Live internet radio, Thursday nights from 8pm GMT to midnight.

DECEMBER... 21st: The ILL FM XMAS SPECIAL!!!!!! with The Pirate, Mark P, 3d!t, Luke. 28th: Black Mass Plastics presents The Thorn Industries show. Lineup tbc. Check the web site for archive and updates. For our mailing list or submissions email info@illfm.net.

In Heiligendamm on the north coast of Germany near Rostock. For more see g8-2007.de

THROUGHOUT 2007: TAA EXHIBITIONS

Temporary autonomous art fever takes the nation by storm. There are already provisional dates for shows in London in May (finally! after many years absence) and other dates in that season for Bristol and Manchester with possible events in Leeds, Nottingham, Glasgow and more in the South-East.

Tying it all together will be the central website which aims to keep up the communication so that we can have a roving band of instigators ready to put art back in the hands of the people. www.taaexhibitions.org



PARTIES ◦ EVENTS

www.headfuk.net www.nofixedabode.info www.dissident-faction.co.uk www.pitchless.org www.ketwork32.com www.squatjuice.com www.crossbones.co.uk www.partyvibe.com www.hekate.co.uk www.tribeofmunt.co.uk www.clubneurotica.com www.ragandbonerecords.co.uk www.disjunkt.net www.uglyfunk.com come.to/shockraver www.dayliterobbery.org www.rif23.org

ART ○ MEDIA ○ THE REST PARTYLINES

www.taaexhibitions.org www.randomartists.org www.network23.org www.resonancefm.com www.dbreach.fm c8.com www.indymedia.org.uk schnews.org.uk www.eroding.org.uk www.squatter.org.uk www.riseup.net www.56a.org.uk libcom.org en.wikipedia.org www.myspace.com www.braindamageradio.com www.dirtysquatters.com

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Hekate	07092 017667
Pitchless	07946 839775
III Eagle	07780 986765
Abacus	07974 892670
FUBAR	07984 199768
Disjunkt	07835 175534
Malfaiteurs	020 7644 5179
HDFK	07092 230023
PRANK	07870 827511
Unsound	07946 466573
Club	
Neurotica	07788 856941

If anyone who runs the above infolines reads this - please put the fucking date on your messages so that people don't travel to empty buildings!