

BLUECOAT events Autumn 1984



Bluecoat Gallery

051-709 5689

Tuesday-Saturday 10.30-5

September 15-
October 13

ANTHONY DAVIES: Urban Portrait '84 plus ETCHING AT THE BLUECOAT

Printmaking as a medium available for artists connects these two exhibitions. The first, a selection of prints by Anthony Davies, displays this artist's versatility in exploring and combining different print techniques like etching, lithography and silk screen. Described by the art critic Edward Lucie Smith as 'both prophetic and completely contemporary, perfect statements of the moral discomfort of our time', Davies' work, with such titles as *In the heat of the day*, *Mean Streets* and *UB 40 — 1 in 10*, is a commentary on modern urban life, communicated through images at times humorous and colourful, yet despairing and violent. Such themes are explored elsewhere, as in a series of illustrations to the 18th Century narrative poem *Peter Grimes*, written by George Crabbe. The second exhibition consists of etchings completed in the Bluecoat's print workshop. This facility is available for individual hire by artists and is also used for regular evening classes under the tuition of George Drought and Meg Robbins. There will also be a documentary section about the workshop and the etching process.

October 20-
November 17

TONY BEVAN, JEFFORD HORRIGAN, GLENYS JOHNSON, JAN WANDJA.

In a culture increasingly dominated by the mass media, it is newspaper and television images themselves which form the basis of Wandja's and Johnson's paintings and drawings. Press photographs depicting moments of sporting triumph are reworked by Wandja — in her *Sebastian*, the agonised face of a victorious Coe, fixed as he crosses the winning line, is merged with a Union Jack which appears as a sort of halo, to suggest both Christian crucifixion and patriotic sacrifice. Religious connotations are evident too in the way Johnson re-presents images, derived from news photographs, of war and conflict. Removed from their original, ephemeral context — the T.V. screen or foreign news page — these images of, for example, the destructive aftermath of a bombing in Beirut or Nicaragua, are broken down into their key elements and reorganised into the composition of large paintings, in which the figures — aggressor, victim, survivor, observer — take on a central significance.

Front cover: *The Prophet* by Tony Bevan.

Bevan's large, emblematic paintings, usually of single figures depicted in some symbolic gesture such as head bowed or hands clasped in despair, convey the artist's interest 'in showing an individual reflecting the state of society that conditions our present'. Horrigan's sense of injustice, conveyed in previous work that dealt with specific issues like unemployment or the exploitation of Asian workers in the sweated industry of London's East End clothing factories, is continued in a new installation, centred on a series of judges wigs modelled in clay, which is concerned with matters being settled in a Court of Law at the same time 'as conventions and normal methods of arbitration are deliberately ignored or eroded'.



Living on the Front Line by Anthony Davies.



Sebastian by Jan Wandja.

November 24-
December 22

SMALL WORKS

Paintings, drawings, collages, mixed media works and prints — all limited in size — by a large number of artists from the region; promises to be a lively mixed exhibition in the pre-Christmas period!

EVENING CLASSES

Tuesdays: ETCHING (FOR BEGINNERS)

10 weeks: 18th September-20th November

Tutor: Meg Robbins

Fee: £19 (£10.50 unwaged, OAP's)

Enrolment through WEA, Door A, Bluecoat Chambers
051-709 8023

Wednesdays: ETCHING (ADVANCED)

10 weeks 10th October-12th December

Tutor: George Drought

Fee: £17

Enrolment through Bluecoat Gallery

Thursdays: LIFE DRAWING

10 weeks 11th October-13th December

Tutor: Dave Gleason

Fee: £17 (£10 unwaged, OAP's)

Enrolment through Bluecoat Gallery 051-709 5689/5297

Talk

Wednesday 26
September
7.15 for 8.00pm

GEORGE MELLY ON MAX ERNST

George Melly, who recently became patron of the Bluecoat Friends, will give a slide lecture on one of his favourite subjects, **Max Ernst**, the Surrealist painter and sculptor. With his well known talents as raconteur and erudite critic, Mr. Melly will bring to life this key personality of the Surrealist movement. The ticket price includes cheese and wine in the gallery beforehand and are on sale from 1st September.

Tickets: £5.00

This is a Bluecoat Fundraising Event.

Music



Peter Maxwell Davies.

Friday 26 October
7.30pm

Rosemary Furness
viola, violin

Jonathan Williams
cello

Philippa Davies
flutes

David Campbell
clarinets

Stephen Pruslin
piano

Gregory Knowles
cimbalom,
percussion

FIRES OF LONDON

Founded by composer **Peter Maxwell Davies**, (who celebrated his fiftieth birthday in September 1984) the Fires of London is one of the leading contemporary music ensembles in the country. For their first visit to the Bluecoat they bring together two major forces in contemporary music.

The Sunday Times said of **Elliot Carter's Triple Echo**, . . . one of his best works, noisily exhilarating, immediately accessible, and this is contrasted by Maxwell Davies' delicately beautiful *Image Reflection Shadow*, which features the work of percussionist Gregory Knowles playing cimbalom. Also included in the programme is *The Sentinel of the Rainbow*, a new piece by **Robert Saxton**.

Tickets: £3.25 (£1.65 concessions)

The concert is part of the Contemporary Music Network, which receives financial support from The Arts Council of Great Britain and Merseyside Arts.

Friday 9 November **SEQUENTIA**
7.30pm

Barbara Thornton
voice, organ,
symphonia

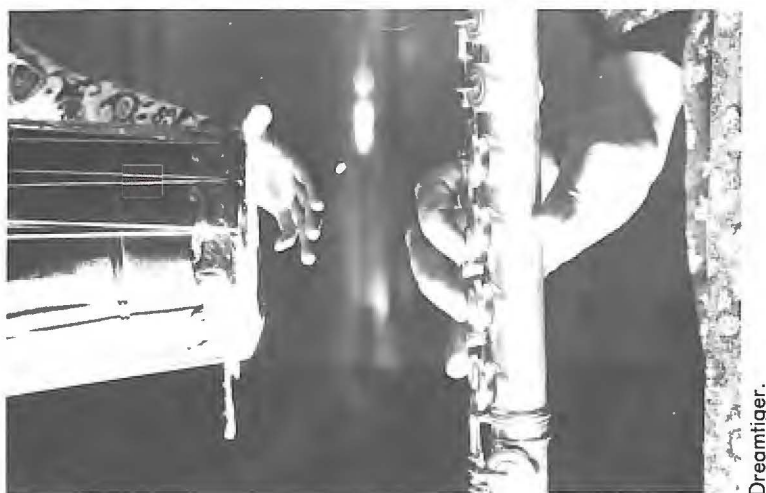
Benjamin Bagby
voice, harp

**Margaret
Tindemans**
fiddle,
psalterium

Love and Lamentation in Medieval France.

Widely acclaimed as the best in their field, this international early music group, based in Cologne, make their first visit to this country with a short tour organised by the excellent Early Music Network. This exciting and controversial performance illustrates the whole spectrum of emotions that fall under this title; from an indictment of the citizens of Orleans, the 'city of blood', where in 1236 at least 100 students were killed in anti-student rioting, to suffering and ennobling lamentation which were the proper expressions of fin' amor.
Tickets £3.25 (£1.65 concessions).

This concert is part of the Early Music Network administered by the Early Music Centre which receives financial support from the Arts Council of Great Britain and Merseyside Arts.



Friday 16
November
7.30 pm
Michiko Hirayama
soprano

Kathryn Lukas
chinese and
european flutes

James Wood
percussion

Rohan de Saram
kandyan drum

DREAMTIGER **From Sri Lanka to China**

This ensemble of international soloists focuses its attention on the relationships and influences of Eastern cultures to the music of the West. For this programme they present traditional music from Sri Lanka and China coupled with new music inspired by non-European sounds. **Xenakis'** *Psappha* and **Young's** *Ukusa and Musladi* show the intertwining of two cultures and rely on the virtuoso performance of Rohan de Saram on Kandyan drum.
Tickets: £3.25 (£1.65 concessions).

This concert is part of the Contemporary Music Network which receives financial support from the Arts Council of Great Britain and Merseyside Arts.

Bluecoat Shop

Monday to Saturday 10-5

The Bluecoat Shop occupies the area to the right of the main entrance on the ground floor. It overlooks the garden and serves light refreshments as well as selling original works by local artists, postcards of Liverpool, artists postcards and art journals. Tickets for events promoted by the Society are also on sale.

BOOKING TICKETS for events in this leaflet

By phone: tickets may be reserved by telephone but must be collected and paid for 30 minutes before the start of the performance.

In person: tickets on sale in the Bluecoat Shop Monday to Saturday 10-5.

By post: cheques made payable to **Bluecoat Society of Arts.** Please enclose a stamped addressed envelope.

On the door: ticket sales commence half an hour before the advertised start of performance.

Concessionary prices (claimants): apply to students, pensioners, under 16s and the unemployed.

Bluecoat Friends: 10% discount on tickets bought in advance. Please note that you must produce your membership card and that this discount does **not** apply to tickets bought on the evening of performance.

LATECOMERS

Latecomers may not be admitted until a suitable break in the performance. This must be strictly observed in a small auditorium as any interruption disturbs both the audience and the performers.

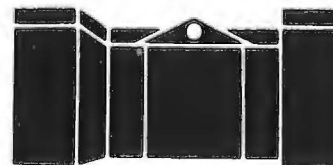
Blundell's

051-709 2179

Monday to Saturday 12-3 and 5.30-10.30 pm

Licensed restaurant named after one of the founders of the Bluecoat, Bryan Blundell.

Why not enjoy a meal before or after an evening performance in these friendly surroundings. Parties, receptions etc. can be catered for by arrangement. Telephone Mary McCarthy for details.



**... not just a
pretty façade ...**

Bluecoat

The Bluecoat is a Grade 1 listed building of architectural importance. It is the oldest building in the city centre, but it isn't simply a monument to times past. It is an active arts centre open to the public six days a week until 10.30pm. The Bluecoat houses a number of cultural societies including Merseyside Arts (051-709 0671). The Workers' Educational Association (051-709 8023) and The Merseyside Film Institute Trust (051-709 4260) and other tenants include The Bluecoat Display Centre (051-709 4014), artists, craftsmen, musicians and many more.

The Bluecoat Society of Arts administers and maintains the building and is directly responsible for the gallery, concert hall, coffee shop and rooms hired out for meetings etc. It has done so since 1927 when the Bluecoat was saved from demolition specifically to promote the arts in this historic and beautiful building.

ROOM HIRE

Rooms of various sizes are available for hire for meetings, concerts, wedding receptions, music practice etc. Please ring 051-709 5297 Monday to Friday 9.30-5 for details.

FAIRS, MARKETS, etc.

Details of regular book markets, record fairs, collectors fairs, etc. held at the Bluecoat, can be found in the local press.

Volunteers

The Bluecoat is always in need of voluntary help. We would like to have two special teams of people, some to help during the day in the gallery and some to help in the evenings at performances.

Gallery helpers are urgently required to invigilate and assist visitors in the gallery. The exhibitions change approximately every four weeks and assistance with the changeover would also be welcome, as would poster distribution. Changing exhibitions provides a chance to meet the artists and become familiar with the works before the exhibition opens to the public.

Performance helpers are required to sell programmes, usher and help with the get-out after the performance is over. We'd particularly like to hear from young people willing to lift and carry equipment. For anyone interested in the performing arts, this behind-the-scenes activity provides a unique sight into life after the performance is over.

If you are able to help in any way at all please ring (or write to) the Director on 051-709 5297.

Events listed in this leaflet are all promoted by the Bluecoat Society of Arts.

The Bluecoat Society of Arts acknowledges financial assistance from Merseyside Arts and Merseyside County Council.

Bluecoat Friends

Conserving and running a building like the Bluecoat is quite a complex operation. We need help in a variety of ways, both practical (see 'Volunteers') and financial. By joining the Bluecoat Friends you can help in both ways. In return for your subscription (£5. ordinary membership, £3. concessions) you will receive:

- invitations to exhibition private views
- discount on tickets and priority booking
- a newsletter keeping you up to date with Bluecoat activities



We are pleased to announce that **George Melly** has agreed to become patron of the Bluecoat Friends. On accepting, he had this to say:

As one whose childhood was enriched by contact with the then Sandon Studios Club and whose initial interest in architecture was stimulated by the beautiful building which contained it, (the Bluecoat) I am delighted to be asked to bring to the attention of the public the renaissance of the building as an amenity and artistic centre.

In the painfully depressed Liverpool of today, anything which helps stimulate pleasure and signs that life is for living should be carefully nurtured.

I wish to join Bluecoat Friends

I enclose a cheque £..... made payable to BLUECOAT SOCIETY OF ARTS.

Name

Address

Telephone.....

Signature.....

(*concessionary category applies to students, unemployed and pensioners).

**Bluecoat Society of Arts, Bluecoat Chambers, School Lane,
Liverpool L1 3BX 051-709 5297**

- Alison Edis — Director
- Bryan Biggs — Gallery Director
- James Beirne — Artistic Administrator