

2014

Summer at the Bluecoat.

A busy programme of exhibitions, literature, performance, events, talks, workshops and other opportunities to join in.

Highlights include:

Sat 7 - Sun 15 June
Liverpool Arab Arts Festival

Thu 17 July - Sat 2 Aug
FLUX Liverpool
A pioneering arts festival engineered by young people, created for everyone.

Sat 5 July - Sun 26 Oct
Liverpool Biennial 2014:
A Needle Walks into a Haystack

Sat 30 Aug
Above the Beaten Track
The grass roots music festival returns to the Bluecoat.

June
July
Aug

www.thebluecoat.org.uk Tickets and Information 0151 702 5324

The Negligent Eye

Sat 8 Mar - Sun 15 June

Open daily 10am - 6pm. Free

Cory Arcangel, Christiane Baumgartner, Thomas Bewick, Jyll Bradley, Maurice Carlin, Helen Chadwick, Susan Collins, Conroy/Sanderson, Nicky Coutts, Elizabeth Gosling, Beatrice Haines, Juneau Projects, Laura Maloney, Bob Matthews, London Fieldworks (with the participation of Gustav Metzger), Marilène Oliver, Flora Parrott, South Atlantic Souvenirs, Imogen Stidworthy, Jo Stockham, Wolfgang Tillmans, Alessa Tinne, Michael Wegerer, Rachel Whiteread, Jane & Louise Wilson.

While printmaking has long embraced the digital, there has been an acceleration of interest amongst artists in approaching technology more critically. *The Negligent Eye* reflects this increasing experimentation with computers, rapid-form and 3D scanning and digital multiplication, through printed, sculptural, video and mixed media work, as well as earlier artworks using reprographic processes, and archival material.

Exhibition curator Jo Stockham observes, 'scanning is riddled with an internal contradiction: is it a close reading or a glance?' Here, she and over 30 UK and international artists, from recent graduates to established names, explore how scans are a particular kind of translation taking many forms. Stockham herself is producing a limited edition print with our Print Studio, which will be on sale.



Elizabeth Gosling, *Child (John Cura, Telesnap series)* 2011. Stack of digital prints in mock unit. 91 x 56 x 40 cm. Courtesy of the artist. Photograph by Jon Barraclough.

Liverpool Biennial 2014: The UK Biennial of Contemporary Art

A Needle Walks into a Haystack

Sat 5 July - Sun 26 Oct Open daily 10am - 6pm. Free

***A Needle Walks into a Haystack* is the Biennial's exhibition of international art that unfolds across Liverpool's public spaces and galleries. Curated by Mai Abu EIDahab and Anthony Huberman, it disrupts the way we assume our habits, and experience our habitats.**

The Bluecoat presents a single artist, American painter **James McNeill Whistler** (1834-1903). Through paintings, prints, drawings, sound, ephemera and key correspondences, this exhibition, the first of its kind in the UK, will explore elements of Whistler's practice and life that position him as the 'original' contemporary artist, in a reflection of how artists operate today.

A flamboyant public figure, controversially associated with the dandies of his time, he deliberately constructed the conditions with which to present and distribute his art. He not only paved the road for abstract painting and advocated 'art for art's sake', but also assumed a public persona that challenged art communities, theories, critics and conventions.

As well as bold experiments in colour, subject and technique, Whistler took control of how his work was presented. He created special environments in which to display his art: from shades of paint on the walls and a patented 'Velarium' system to diffuse light in a room, to the yellow socks he asked exhibition attendants to wear. He actively engaged in debate around the value and role of art and artists, as exemplified in his 'Ten O'Clock Lecture' and numerous legal entanglements, and re-worked criticism to his own benefit, often publishing his worst reviews together with his own clever and scornful retorts.

Significantly, Whistler had many connections to Liverpool. Speke Hall was the residence of his patron, F.R. Leyland, and the exhibition includes a number of works that reference this special relationship.

The 8th Liverpool Biennial Exhibition, A Needle Walks into a Haystack, takes place across the city at public spaces and galleries including the Bluecoat, FACT and Tate Liverpool. Also featured as part of Liverpool Biennial 2014 are the John Moores Painting Prize, Bloomberg New Contemporaries and shows at Open Eye Gallery and the Exhibition Research Centre. In addition, there will be work by artists and curators in solo and group shows and performances throughout the city ranging from artist run space The Royal Standard to the Walker Art Gallery.

www.biennial.com

Exhibition events

Sat 5 July 12pm

Exhibition Talk:

Margaret MacDonald

Leading Whistler scholar Margaret MacDonald from the Department of Art History, University of Glasgow, introduces the artist and the world-famous collection of his prints, copper plates and other works at the Hunterian Art Gallery.

Free, booking required

Sat 12 July 2pm

Exhibition tour

Join the exhibition's co-curator **Rosie Cooper** (Project Curator, Liverpool Biennial) and the Bluecoat's exhibitions curator **Sara-Jayne Parsons**. Free, just turn up

Sat 9 Aug 2pm

Exhibition tour

Simone Mair (Assistant Curator, Liverpool Biennial) leads this tour. Free, just turn up

Other Displays

Open daily 10am - 6pm. Free

6 - 29 June

Choose Your Own Adventure

Poster works curated by **Danah Abdulla** for the Liverpool Arab Arts Festival (see page 4).

21 & 22 June

Kaleidoscope

An exhibition of work by the Bluecoat-based artists' collective whose members have all experienced mental health problems. It is the culmination of a period of skills development supported through the Bluecoat's participation programme, made possible with a Lottery grant through Awards for All.

3 July - 3 Aug

On New Grounds

This selection of intaglio prints takes its inspiration from Whistler's drypoint and etching work in the gallery. A range of artists explore the potential of traditional print processes within contemporary fine art practice.



Fri 4 - Sun 6 July 10am - 5pm

The Caravan Gallery

The well-travelled Caravan Gallery returns to the Bluecoat courtyard with an exhibition of photos from its ever growing *Is Britain Great?* archive that documents the reality and surreality of modern life, images that are thought-provoking, distressingly perceptive and beautifully absurd. www.thecaravangallery.co.uk

9 - 31 Aug

Above the Beaten Track poster display

Music posters of events at the Bluecoat selected from our archive, to tie in with Above the Beaten Track (see page 5)



James McNeill Whistler, *Old Westminster Bridge*. Image courtesy of Liverpool Central Library.



James McNeill Whistler, *Limehouse*. Image courtesy of Liverpool Central Library.



James McNeill Whistler, *Early Morning Battersea*. Image courtesy of Liverpool Central Library.



Summer at the Bluecoat.

Summer brings a diverse programme of visual art, literature, music, talks, walks and more!

The Negligent Eye continues until mid-June, followed by the opening of the **Liverpool Biennial 2014: The UK Biennial of Contemporary Art**. The Bluecoat is delighted to present an exhibition reflecting the significant contribution that the well-known American artist **James McNeill Whistler** made to contemporary art as we know it today. As Britain's oldest arts centre, and an organisation often at the forefront of artistic debate over the past 100 years, we are very pleased to be host to Whistler and his story at the Bluecoat.

We are delighted to bring the Whistler exhibition to life for families with a range of activities in the galleries during the holiday period. We hope our younger visitors will enjoy finding out more about the fascinating artist and his work. The initiative is the first organised by our new Engagement Unit, set up to deliver on our renewed commitment to public engagement.

The inaugural exhibition of work by the **Kaleidoscope Collective**, curated and installed by the group, is a great achievement. The last nine months has seen the members develop new skills in running their organisation as well as in their art practice with support from artists and staff. Meanwhile the Bluecoat's touring exhibition **3am: wonder, paranoia and the restless night** continues at The Exchange, Penzance (10 May – 12 July) followed by the Ferens Art Gallery, Hull.

We welcome an array of festivals including the **Liverpool Arab Arts Festival**, the new **FLUX Liverpool** festival, engineered entirely by young people, and the grassroots music festival **Above the Beaten Track**, as part of the **Liverpool International Music Festival**.

Our Creative Community continues to thrive, with our studio and retail spaces filled to capacity. Enjoy a glass of wine in our garden or a bite of lunch in our Upstairs bistro, browse the shops, and soak up our diverse programme of activity.

I look forward to seeing you here this Summer.



Mary Cloake
Chief Executive

Mary Cloake

Sat 7 - Sun 15 June

Liverpool Arab Arts Festival

Liverpool's popular festival celebrating the diversity of Arab culture takes place at venues in the city including the Bluecoat. Here are some highlights:

Fri 6 - Sun 29 June
daily 10am - 6pm

Choose Your Own Adventure

Exhibition of poster works by designers invited to imagine new worlds. Curated especially for the festival by **Danah Abdulla**.
Free

Sat 7 - Tue 17 June
10am - 6pm

Al Noor - Fragile Vision

Exhibition by **Rachel Gadsden** exploring themes of fragility and resilience. In partnership with DaDaFest.
Free

Sat 7 June 12 - 5pm

The Big Saturday

Music from **DJ Funky Pharaoh, Amira Kheir, Maya Youssef** and the **Al Awadhel Band**, plus food and more for all the family.
Free

Sat 7 June 6pm

El Gusto (15)

Documentary film about a group of older Algerian musicians coming together.
Free

Sun 8 June 5pm

Hassan Abdulrazzak: A Fire Blazing Brightly

Exclusive reading from award winning playwright's new play.
£5/£3

Mon 9 - Thu 12 June 5pm

Freedom Hour

Thought provoking daily debates on current affairs, culture, freedom and change in the Arab world.
Free

Wed 11 June 6pm

Book of Gaza

Launch of anthology by ten fiction writers in English translation for the first time.
Free

Fri 13 June 6pm

A Land

Without Jasmine

Conversation with Yemeni writer **Wajdi al-Ahdal** and *Banipal* editor **Samuel Shimon**.
Free

Fri 13 June 7.30pm

When I Saw You (12)

Adventurous Tarek, 11, struggles to adjust to life in a refugee camp.
£6/£5

Sat 14 June 1.30pm

Simona Abdallah: Drumming Workshop

Fantastic workshop with one of the very few female darbuka players.
Free

Sat 14 June 3pm

Wadjda (PG)

Saudi Arabian film about a young girl's attempts to buy a bike in a society where women are not allowed to drive.
Free

Sat 14 June 5pm

Syria Speaks

Marking the publication of anthology *Syria Speaks: Art and Culture from the Frontline*.
Free

Sat 14 June 7.30pm

Sarmada

Diwan return with a remarkable performance of Arabian Nights that places women at the heart of the story.
£7/£5

Full programme: www.arabartsfestival.com

Sun 1 June 11am – 6pm
**Spaces of Dissent:
News from
Nowhere's WeBe40
Radical Book Fair
& Forum**

Liverpool's radical bookshop marks its 40th birthday by highlighting literary spaces of dissent, through talks and readings from celebrated authors and poets, a fabulous array of radical books and a display of the bookshop's history. Free, book for talks

Sat 21 June 11am-5pm
**Merseyside Civic
Society's Civic Day:
State of the City 2**

Civic Day returns with another opportunity to celebrate Liverpool, as local residents meet and share ideas for developing greater ownership of our vibrant city. Picnic to local music, share photos, create maps and help plan the city's future. Free, book for talks

Sun 22 June 2pm
**Deep Seas
& Dead Fathers**

Literary walking tour. Free, booking recommended

**Thu 26 June & Thu 24 July
7.30 – 9.30pm**
Liverpool Poetry Café

Monthly readings by contemporary poets continue with **Sean Street** and **Alicia Stubbersfield** with music by **Dominic Williams** (26 June), and **Sarah Maclennan** and the **Dead Good Poets Society** (24 July). Tickets: £3/2

Fri 27 June 7.30pm
**The Return of the
Katona Twins**

The world's greatest guitar duo return for an evening of stunning music, from Bach to Queen. Tickets: £12

Sun 29 June 3.30pm
Joyce in June
Join Leopold Bloom to remember his odyssey through Dublin on a sunny June day in 1904. James Joyce's modernist masterpiece is celebrated through music, song and readings from *Ulysses*. Free, booking recommended

Sun 6 July 2pm
**Malcolm Lowry's
Liverpool**

Literary walking tour. Free, booking recommended

Thu 10 July 6pm
The Art of Business

Inspired by Liverpool's International Festival of Business, management specialist **Peter Bond** discusses how art and artists can provide solutions to some of the thorny problems facing today's managers. Free, booking required

Sun 13 July 2pm
Visiting Victorians
Literary walking tour. Free, booking recommended

Sun 3 Aug 2pm
**Radicals &
Renegades**
Literary walking tour. Free, booking recommended

Sat 30 Aug 2 - 10pm
**Above the
Beaten Track**
Following a two-year break, grass roots festival Above the Beaten Track returns to the Bluecoat to shine a light on the city's cultural underground, showcasing live music, DJs, artists, makers and audio-visual extravaganzas. Plus displays including a retrospective look at Mellowtone's flyers and posters from the Bluecoat archive. www.abovethebeatentrack.co.uk. As part of *Liverpool International Music Festival*. Free, booking required

17 July – 2 Aug
FLUX Liverpool

A pioneering arts festival engineered by young people, created for everyone. Taking place in venues across the city including the Bluecoat:

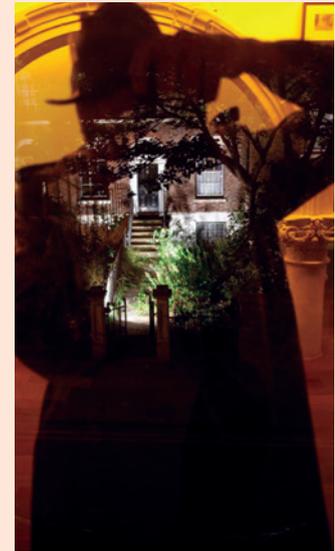


**Wed 16 & Thu 17 July
7.30pm**
**20 Stories High
Youth Theatre
presents STANDARD**

Deep in the forest, 30 young pioneers courageously set out to live by their ideals. They have 7 days to create a new society and must choose 10 moral codes to live by. But what begins merely as a college exercise ultimately changes their lives... forever. Devised and directed by **Rachel Brogan** (Director of the Television Workshop Salford 'Working Girls Theatre Co') and emerging young director and actor **Bradley Thompson** (of 20 Stories High). Ages 13+. Contains scenes of suggested sexual violence. Tickets: £3/2

Fri 1 Aug 7.30pm
**Collective Encounters' Youth Theatre
present Dog Eat Dog**

This new play by Liverpool writer **Kellie Smith**, directed by **Matthew Elliott**, exposes the challenges faced by young people growing up in poverty and surrounded by inequality, through one young woman's political awakening. *Dog Eat Dog* will be visiting other venues throughout the North West in August, and this 1-hour performance will be followed by a Q & A. Funded by BBC Performing Arts Fund and Children in Need. Free, booking essential



Sat 19 July 5 - 8pm
**Hope Street Ltd
presents Sense &
Sustainability**

This total theatre experience includes live art, music, sound, film, design and digital technologies. Over 50 artists from Hope Street Ltd show the Bluecoat's much loved spaces in ways not seen before. Performance artists **Trevor Stuart** and **Helen Statman** of Cocoloco collaborate with **Draw and Code** and **Lois Maskell** to create an immersive experience that explores ideas of environmental sustainability in a fun and bizarre way that complements the International Festival of Business theme of low carbon emissions. Free

join in

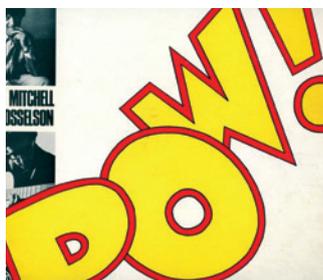
Tuesdays 10 & 24 June / 8 & 22 July 1 - 2.30pm
Philosophy in Pubs

Our resident philosophers debate the important questions. All welcome to join in some deep thinking.
 Free, drop in



Wednesdays 11 June / 9 July 7.30 - 9.30pm
The Gathering

A monthly space for musicians to meet and improvise together.
 Free, drop in



Thursdays 12 June / 10 July 6 - 8pm
Talking Poetry

Monthly series exploring spoken poetry through recordings on vinyl, audiotape and CD. Listen to and discuss great poetic voices, from Seamus Heaney to Marilyn Hacker, Gertrude Stein to Hugo Williams, and bring along your own favourites.
 Free, ticket required

Thursdays 19 June / 17 July 1 - 2.30pm
Scripts

Informal meetings for those interested in creative writing, from poetry to short story writing.
 Free, drop in

Sunday 29 June
 Class: 11am - 1pm
 Jam: 2 - 4pm
LIC presents
CI Sunday

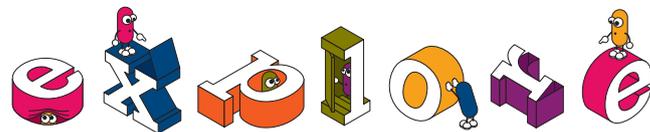
Interested in movement and improvisation, either as a beginner or with more experience? Contact Mary: m.prestidge@blueyonder.co.uk
www.licstudio.co.uk
 Tickets on door: Class £6/£4, Jam £4/£2, Combined £8/£5



Fri 8 6 - 9pm
Sat 9 10am - 8pm
Sun 10 Aug 11am - 4pm
Strategies for Performance

Liverpool Improvisation Collective's weekend of dance workshops and performances. For people wishing to extend their professional practice and those with less experience interested in movement and/or performance. Contact m.prestidge@blueyonder.co.uk
 Fri £6 / Sat £20 / Sun £10 / Weekend ticket: £30

families



Saturdays 1 - 4pm
Explore

A host of creative activities related to the Whistler exhibition for families to do together. Drop in for a short time or spend all afternoon making your own masterpiece.
 Free, drop in

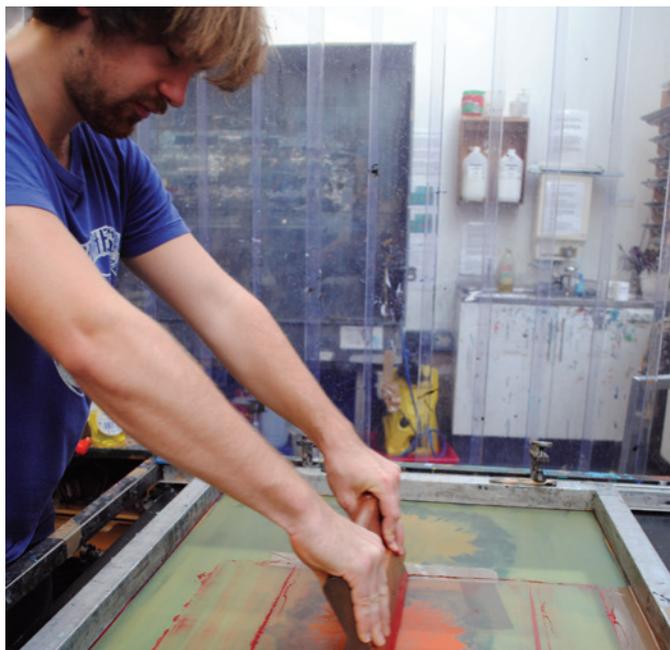
Mondays to Saturdays 23 July - 30 Aug 10am - 4pm

Summer Holiday Explore

Why did Whistler make his gallery security guards wear yellow socks? Find out the answer to this question and others with our engagement team through gallery activities for families.
 Free, drop in



print



Print Studio

print@thebluecoat.org.uk
0151 702 5324

Sat 21 & Sun 22 June

10am - 4pm

Introduction to Screenprinting with Dave Evans

Tickets: £130/£120

Sat 12 & Sun 13 July

10am - 4pm

Introduction to Intaglio with Emma Gregory

Tickets: £130/£120

Wednesdays 6 - 27 Aug

6 - 9pm

Introduction to Screenprinting with Alex Smith

Tickets: £130/£120

Juniper Press

info@thebluecoat.org.uk
0151 702 5324

Sat 31 May & Sun 1 June

10am - 4pm

Creative Letterpress

£145/£130

Sat 9 & Sun 10 Aug

10am - 4pm

The Folded Book with Elizabeth Willow

Tickets: £130/£120

Sat 16 & Sun 17 Aug

10am - 4pm

Drawn into Print with Jon Barraclough & Frances Disley

Tickets: £130/£120

Sat 30 Aug 10am - 4pm

Acrylic Aquatint with Emma Gregory

Tickets: £60/£50

Sat 5 July

10am - 4pm

Introducing Letterpress

£75/£65

fairs shops



Fri 20 & Sat 21 June

Fri 18 & Sat 19 July

Fri 15 & Sat 16 Aug

10.30am - 5pm

Book Fairs

Collectible books and lots of bargains.

Free

Sat 28 June 10am - 6pm

The Summer Vintage & Fashion Fair

Tickets: £5

Sat 31 May / 12 July /

Fri 22, Sat 23 & Sun 24 Aug

10am - 6pm

Record Fairs

Find that elusive vinyl, plus CDs, DVDs, music books, posters.

Free



R&J Porter

Probe Records

Inodorem

Landbaby

Kernaghan Books

The Painted Chair

Stitches

Display Centre

Nook & Cranny

Lalligrass

www.thebluecoat.org.uk Tickets and Information 0151 702 5324

hire



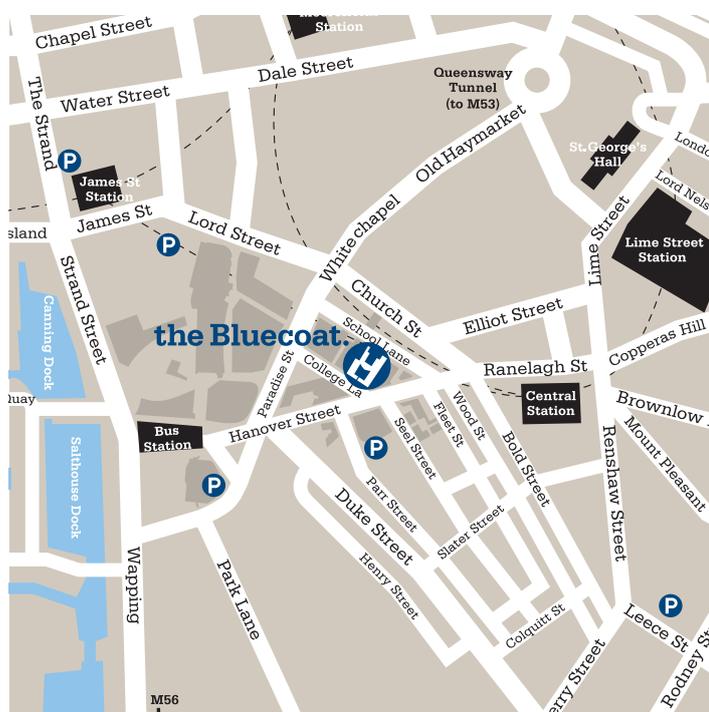
Hire our spaces

Be it a meeting, conference, party or wedding, we have an array of beautiful and well equipped spaces available to suit every occasion. Contact janine.c@thebluecoat.org.uk

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Season Funders



Events & Exhibitions Partners:



Opening Hours

Mon - Sat 8am - 6pm
Sun 10am - 6pm

Galleries:
 open daily 10am - 6pm
 Except during exhibition installation

Espresso café:
 open Mon - Sat 8am - 6pm
 Sun 10am - 6pm

Upstairs bistro:
 open daily 11.30am - 4pm

Tickets & Information

Telephone:
0151 702 5324

The Bluecoat, School Lane
 Liverpool L1 3BX

Find us online at:
www.thebluecoat.org.uk

f [fb.com/thebluecoat](https://www.facebook.com/thebluecoat)
t [Twitter: @thebluecoat](https://twitter.com/thebluecoat)

