



NATIONAL SHOWCASE FOR NORTH EAST ARTISTIC NEWCOMERS

The third NewcastleGateshead Art Fair will feature an initiative aimed at helping emerging young artists from the North East.

The fair which is on at The Sage Gateshead from October 2-4, will feature work from all over the world.

Supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and following the initial success of the 2008 emerging artists' section, this year will feature 15 unrepresented Northern artists who will have their own individual stands located next to the galleries who selected them.

North East galleries Locus+, Vane, Globe and Northern Print, who will be exhibiting their own artists at the fair, were asked to select emerging artists that they believe have the potential to develop their careers in the arts.

Andy Balman, co-director of the Art Fair said: "This will be a great opportunity to catch these up and coming artists at an early and affordable stage of their career. This year's section is bigger and better than the first one and we are trying to give emerging artists the coverage they deserve as often they just need the right level of exposure to move on to the next stage in their careers. The emerging artists' section provides a great opportunity for buyers to preview the work of artists before they become famous."

Locus+ selected Iris Priest, Karl Nattress, Oliver Beck and Anne Vibeke Mou to showcase their works. Vane chose Hannah Champion, Helen Schell, Adam Hogarth and Sebastian Trend. Globe opted for Joseph Steele, Nick Kennedy, Daniel Jagger and Daniel Wilde and Northern Print chose Mikhak Mirmahmoudi, Cindy Robinson-Begg and Deborah Snell.

Rashida Davison, director of Globe Gallery said: "Globe is proud to be able to support our four nominated emerging artists. We feel that all four offer very different modes of practice and have potential to develop further in the near future. We selected Jagger and Wilde as some of the most interesting from this year's graduate shows at Newcastle and Northumbria Universities respectively;

We wish all four artists every success at this year's fair and hope the audience finds their work as stimulating as we do."

Vane chose four artists who it has worked with in different capacities over the past year: Hannah Champion approached Vane to assist her with a group show titled 'Helicopter' that she curated at St Ann's Quay on the riverside in Newcastle earlier this year. Her work consists primarily of painting and drawing, but she has recently started to extend this into sculptural installation work.

Adam Hogarth and Sebastian Trend are both graduates of the Fine Art BA course at Northumbria University and have recently shown work at the gallery in the group show 'Score', which consisted of work by students, graduate fellows, graduate studio Northumbria artists and staff from the Fine Art department at Northumbria University.

Hogarth works mainly in print, photography and video. Trend works in painting, print, photography and object-making and Helen Schell's current work depicts rocketry and time machines in the form of large drawings and glass installations. She is working on a series of projects called 'Escape Velocity'. She moved to Sunderland in 2006 to do an MA in Glass at Sunderland University.

Andy Balman said: "The NewcastleGateshead Art Fair will give an audience an opportunity to see and invest in works from fifteen artists at the very start of their careers; artists who could well be making an important contribution to the art world in the not-so-distant future."

From Jagger's beautifully produced sculptures and drawings, Steele's cynical exposes of 'pop' art culture to Champion's fine art spray paintings and drawings, there is an interesting and varied mix of art to consider.

The NewcastleGateshead Art Fair will be a must for all visitors, art lovers and collectors along with those interested in browsing for their first investment.

The emerging artists will be located in the Northern Rock Foundation room in the Sage Gateshead.

For further information visit www.ngartfair.com

Enquiries – 0191 241 2423 Box Office – 0191 443 4661

Opening times:

Friday October 2: 11am to 6pm

Saturday October 3: 11am to 5pm

Sunday October 4: 11am to 5pm

Tickets £5 advance booking weekend ticket £6 on the door weekend ticket

Ends

MEDIA CONTACT: Please call Wayne Halton or Virginia Lingstadt on 0191 233 1300.

Note to editors:

Andy Balman started his career in events and moved into the arts when he jointly set up and ran the Biscuit Factory, Europe's biggest commercial art gallery based in Newcastle upon Tyne. In 2007 Andy decided to move from the Biscuit Factory to devote more time to developing the Art Fair into the successful internationally recognised event it is rapidly becoming.

Vincent Woods started his career within the arts industry before moving into the event management, setting up Benchmark Communications, the leading company of its kind in North East England. Benchmark Communications was established in 1994 and is now one of the UK's fastest growing conference and event management and marketing companies.