



Saturday 14 and Sunday 15 February 2015 Programme

Admission Free

We are delighted to welcome you to the new Whitworth. For our reopening weekend we would like to introduce you to our new spaces and exhibitions, offer you the chance to meet the people who have made it all happen and celebrate our launch with some extraordinary happenings.

Saturday

Introducing our exhibitions

Join our curators on the hour in the gallery spaces to learn more about our opening exhibitions.

11am Cornelia Parker

Curator of Modern Art, Mary Griffiths introduces Cornelia Parker's largest solo exhibition to date. BSL interpreted

12pm Outdoor Art Walk

Join Exhibitions Curator, Bryony Bond and Cultural Park-keeper, Francine Hayfron for a walk in Whitworth Park and explore the new and old outdoor works. Meet at the parkside welcome desk. BSL interpreted

12pm Johnnie Shand Kydd

Curator Helen Stalker will introduce Shand Kydd's *Hydra*, which documents the extraordinary annual event on the island.

1pm Textiles

Deputy Director and Textiles Curator, Jennifer Harris will address the many meanings of green, referencing the gallery's own collection and the commissioned work from contemporary designers.

2pm Cai Guo-Qiang

Bryony Bond will introduce *Unmanned Nature*, the spectacular installation in our new landscape gallery.

3pm Sarah Lucas

Wallpapers Curator, Amy George will introduce Sarah Lucas' work and the Whitworth's renowned wallpaper collection.

4pm Thomas Schütte

Head of Collections, David Morris will introduce *Low Tide Wandering*, one of the most remarkable print installations of recent years.

Study Centre conversations

Join us for a series of conversations where Whitworth curators and leading academics from the University of Manchester and elsewhere reflect on themes triggered by works in the Whitworth's collection.

11am War David Morris and Dr Ana Carden-Coyne

12pm Blue Frances Pritchard and Prof Carol Mavor

1pm Austerity Amy George and Prof Mark Crinson

2pm Victorians Helen Stalker and Dr Colin Trodd

3pm Collections Jennifer Harris and Prof Helen Rees Leahy

In the Grand Hall

- 10am-12pm** **Brass Baby**
Northern Brass celebrates the arrival of the new building with an interactive musical experience tailored to our youngest visitors. Everyone welcome.
- 1.30pm-2.30pm** **Cornelia Parker**
Cornelia Parker discusses her exhibition in conversation with the Whitworth's director Dr Maria Balshaw and curator Mary Griffiths. Followed by Q&A. BSL interpreted
- 2.30pm-3.30pm** **Looking at Art**
Jeanette Winterson and John McAuliffe discuss the Whitworth as a place where new thinking can happen. BSL interpreted
- 3.30pm-4.45pm** **Carcenet Press**
In partnership with Carcanet Press, emerging and established poets share their works in response to the Whitworth's reopening.
- 6.30pm-7.30pm** **Whitworth Young Contemporaries**
Whitworth Young Contemporaries (WYC), our programme for young people, stage a performance and workshop in the Grand Hall in collaboration with Manchester Hip Hop band The Mouse Outfit.
- 7.30pm-8.30pm** **Video Jam**
A five-act programme of musicians and film that responds to the collection and the building.

Early evening in the Art Garden

- 8.45pm** **Whitworth on Fire**
Fire performance in the art garden from a team of young people who have come together to learn circus skills through Whitworth Young Contemporaries.
- 9pm** **Hallé Youth Choir**
The Hallé Youth Choir performs songs inspired by William Blake's poems, in the art garden, in collaboration with Two Tigers Fireworks. Please note that the parkside entrance will close at 8.45pm
- 9.30pm-1am** **The Whitworth After Party**
Celebrate the Whitworth's reopening with late night performance art - and dancing. At 9.45pm, the Italian artist Nico Vascellari revives his collaborative performance with French musician, Ghédalia Tazartès. Drawing on their close working relationship, the pair will create an exceptional, improvised performance that promises to resonate through the newly unveiled Grand Hall (limited capacity). From 10.30pm (until 1am), the gallery is turned over to legendary Manchester DJ, Dave Haslam - bring your dancing shoes. Free, but ticket essential.



Sunday

Introducing our exhibitions

Join our curators on the hour in the gallery spaces to learn more about our opening exhibitions.

11am **A 21st Century Gallery**

Find out about the new building, its environmental credentials and how we will care for our collections with Nicola Walker, Head of Collections Care and Access. Meet at the parkside welcome desk. BSL interpreted

11am **Watercolours**

The Whitworth's earliest and greatest benefactor was John Edward Taylor, the owner of the Manchester Guardian (now The Guardian). Head of Collections, David Morris will introduce his legacy - the Whitworth's renowned collection of watercolours - including works by William Blake, JMW Turner and John Robert Cozens.

12pm **The Learning Gallery**

Head of Learning and Engagement, Esme Ward explores how the Whitworth and its new spaces seek to encourage learning, engagement and wellbeing in all its visitors.

1pm **Outdoor Art Walk**

Join Head of Development, Jo Beggs and Cultural Park-keeper, Francine Hayfron for a walk in Whitworth Park and explore the new and old outdoor works. Meet at the parkside welcome desk.

1pm **Portraits**

Exhibitions Curator, Bryony Bond will bring to light stories of some of the key individuals and artists in our collection through this exhibition of biography and portraiture.

2pm **New Acquisitions**

Curator of Modern Art, Mary Griffiths discusses the recent major gift of 90 contemporary works of art to the Whitworth from the Karpidas Foundation. BSL interpreted

3pm **1960s**

Curator of Fine Art, Helen Stalker introduces this exhibition of British artists' take on 1960s contemporary life. BSL interpreted

Study Centre conversations

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11am Nature Bryony Bond and Dr Marion Endt-Jones

12pm Wallpaper Amy George and Prof David Lomas

1pm Empire Frances Pritchard and Dr Philip Sykas

2pm Outsiders Bryony Bond and guest

3pm Hogarth David Morris and Jennifer Harris

In the Grand Hall

9am-11am:

Art Picnic

The Art Picnic will see the outdoors come in to the Grand Hall, with drop-in activities for families using our new picnic basket resources.

12.30pm-1.30pm: MUMA and the Whitworth

Stuart McKnight, of McInnes, Usher, McKnight Architects, will tell the story of the design of the new Whitworth. BSL interpreted

5pm-6pm:

Whitworth Letters

The reopening celebrations will close with the premiere of *Whitworth Letters*, an immersive work by Manchester Camerata's Composer-in-Residence of 2013-14, Laura Bowler, which will explore the lives of people who have contributed in various ways to the Whitworth. The programme features founder of the New Music Manchester group Peter Maxwell Davies whilst taking inspiration from artists associated with the Whitworth.

Programme to include:

Peter Maxwell Davies

Fanfare for Lowry

Ralph Vaughan Williams

String Quartet No.2 in A Minor

Laura Bowler

Whitworth Letters

Saturday and Sunday around the gallery

Introduction to the Learning Programme

Clore Learning Studio

10am-4pm

Meet the Learning and Engagement Team in the Whitworth's customised studio, to find out about our learning programmes and resources.

Introduction to People's Choice

Collections Centre

10am-4pm

We have canvassed public opinion since January to create our People's Choice displays. See which objects have been chosen.

Meet the Conservators

Conservation Room

On the hour, 11am-2pm

Join conservators Ann French and Dan Hogger for a glimpse into how the conservation team makes the collection accessible for people to enjoy.



Proud to be part of



The University of Manchester
The Whitworth