

CIRCUIT



WARP FESTIVAL



25-26 JUNE, FREE

the Whitworth



Paul Hamlyn
Foundation

TATE
PLUS



Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

Proud to be part of

MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manches
The Whitworth

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Festival dates: Saturday 25 June and Sunday 26 June 2016

Whitworth Young Contemporaries, Anya Gallaccio, Walk the Plank, Kaleidoscope Orchestra, Unity FM, hip hop outfit Cul De Sac, Big Fish Little Fish, Artizani and Avanti Display and others lead the Circuit WARP Festival, a two-day festival at the Whitworth.

This June, the Whitworth, Manchester's gallery in the park, hosts a warped weekend art, music and the unexpected beneath the trees. Programmed by 15-25 year olds from across Greater Manchester, the festival celebrates the installation of a major new sculpture in Whitworth Park by the Turner Prize-nominated artist, **Anya Gallaccio**.

Whitworth Young Contemporaries, a youth arts collective, have masterminded this free festival of music, performance and workshops. They invite their peers to experience the gallery and the park in a completely different way with a series of events connecting to Anya's work through the themes of folklore, trees and memory.

The Festival is headlined on Saturday with a collaboration between Manchester-based performers **Kaleidoscope Orchestra**, intent on mixing up musical genres, and **Cul De Sac**, "four up and coming Manchester based community hip hop artists with a lot to say and a fine way of saying it". ([facebook.com/culdesacmusic](https://www.facebook.com/culdesacmusic))

For younger audiences on Sunday, **Big Fish Little Fish** entertain with a mini-festival of music and events where the adults enjoy themselves as much as the children - and vice versa with grandparents, uncles, aunts and carers all in the mix. Alongside this family rave, the WYC have included **Chutney**, a musician who combines traditional Indian rhythms with western instruments and multi-track recording techniques for musical family fun. Street Art performers **Artizani and Avanti Display** will present a new installation, **The Bees**, a stunning, thought-provoking and humorous installation using all the tricks of the trade and some new ones!

In collaboration with **Walk the Plank** the WYC group have commissioned a series of eight **WARP Artsheds**. The young team has commissioned a group of emerging artists to decorate and curate these "sheds" to create unique spaces that provide focal points for more free performances and workshops during the festival. WARP Artsheds will transport audiences into different worlds and experiences throughout the weekend. Artsheds is a project supported by Manchester City Council through the **European Youth Capital** (EYC) youth group.

Elsewhere, decorated **Bikes & Stereos** will circuit along the paths of Whitworth Park ridden by the members of WYC, entertaining visitors with music from many genres and with announcements about the festival on **Unity FM** (www.unityradio.fm). Bikes will be choreographed to meet at certain points in the park for sound clash activities. Bikes and Stereos is a partnership with the WYC and **Revolve MCR** (www.revolveMCR.com)

Whitworth Young Contemporaries (WYC) is part of **Circuit**, a four-year national programme connecting 15–25 year olds to the arts in galleries and museums. Led by Tate and funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Circuit gives young people, particularly those with the least access to the arts, an opportunity to work on peer-led events and activities. As part of the WARP festival WYC are also working in partnership with the mental health and wellbeing organisation **42nd Street** to develop a series of 10-20 minute interventions on the themes of usefulness and beauty. Our partners at **Dance Manchester** will open the festival premiering a new dance commission 'GROW' from **Kapow Collective**. Saturday's finale presents **Whitworth on Fire** starring the WYC's own group of fire and circus performers.



The University of Manchester
The Whitworth

Quotes:

"Being part of planning such a huge festival is really exciting, particularly designing the bikes and stereos with Revolve MCR. I can't wait to start building the Sheds with the rest of the group. Having the opportunity to work with Anya Gallaccio has meant we can all learn from an established artist and take inspiration from her work."

Helen Newman, Artist in residence

"I am involved in lots of different youth groups across Manchester, but WYC is one of the most interesting. It is responsibility and exciting challenges like this that I come back for week after week."

Jack, member of WYC

Circuit WARP Festival dates and times:

Saturday 25 June

Circuit WARP Festival, 12noon to 9pm (15-25yrs), ADMISSION FREE

Circuit WARP After Dark Party, 9pm to 12midnight (ADMISSION FREE but tickets essential. The Whitworth will release a limited number of tickets in the weeks leading to the Circuit WARP Festival.)

Sunday 26 June

Circuit WARP Festival - 11am-5pm (Families and 15-25yrs), ADMISSION FREE

The Whitworth, The University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester, M15 6ER

Tel: 0161 275 7450 Email: whitworth@manchester.ac.uk



The University of Manchester
The Whitworth

For all media enquiries please contact:

The Whitworth - Circuit WARP Festival -

Joanne Hitchen, Marketing Officer, the Whitworth

joanne.hitchen@manchester.ac.uk

0161 275 7472

and

Sally Thelwell, Circuit Youth Engagement Assistant, the Whitworth

sally.thelwell@manchester.ac.uk

0161 275 7453

For more information about Anya Gallaccio's commission or about the Whitworth please contact -

Alice Barnett, Sutton PR

alice@suttonpr.com

020 7183 3577

The Circuit Programme -

Myvanwy Evans, Communications Consultant

myvanwy@ltwltd.com

07872 050 161

- ENDS -



The University of Manchester
The Whitworth

Notes to editors

About - the Whitworth

The Whitworth is part of The University of Manchester. It is home to internationally renowned collections of modern art, textiles, watercolours, prints, drawings and sculpture. Created in 1889 as the first English gallery in a park, the Whitworth has developed a new vision for the role of a university gallery. A creative laboratory within an ambitious university, the Whitworth is a place where good, unusual things happen. The Whitworth re-opened to the public on 14 February 2015 after a major £15 million redevelopment by architects MUMA. The Whitworth has welcomed over 500,000 since re-opening, and more than doubled its previous annual records. The redevelopment has doubled public space and created state-of-the-art new facilities including expanded gallery spaces, a study centre, learning studio, and a collections centre.

The Whitworth redevelopment is just one part of an ambitious Campus Masterplan that will see The University of Manchester invest £1 billion over the next ten years to create a world-class campus for staff, students and visitors. The gallery was crowned Art Fund Museum of Year 2015, nominated for the prestigious Stirling Prize, named Best Emerging Cultural Destination in Europe, and Large Visitor Attraction of the Year by Visit England, continuing to establish itself as a leading cultural destination and housing an internationally significant collection of art.

www.manchester.ac.uk/whitworth

About - Whitworth Young Contemporaries

Whitworth Young Contemporaries is the Whitworth's programme led by and for young people aged 15-25. It is part of Circuit, led by Tate and funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation and it includes WYC Presents (live music, visual art and spoken word events), WYC Makes (creative workshops led by emerging artists), WYC Speaks (debate and discussions) and **Whitworth on Fire** (the gallery's group of fire and circus performers).



About - Circuit

Circuit is a four-year national programme connecting 15–25 year olds to the arts in galleries and museums working in partnership with the youth and cultural sector. Led by Tate and funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, it provides opportunities for young people to steer their own learning and create cultural activity across art disciplines. Circuit involves Tate Modern and Tate Britain; Tate Liverpool; Tate St Ives and partners from the Plus Tate network: Firstsite, Colchester; MOSTYN, Llandudno; Nottingham Contemporary; Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester; and Wysing Arts Centre and Kettle's Yard, Cambridgeshire.

circuit.tate.org.uk

About - Plus Tate

Plus Tate, established in 2010, is a partnership, which brings Tate together with eighteen organisations across the UK. The Plus Tate partners are: Arnolfini, Bristol; BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead; Cornerhouse, Manchester; Firstsite, Colchester; Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea; Grizedale Arts, Coniston, Cumbria; The Hepworth Wakefield; Ikon, Birmingham; Kettle's Yard, Cambridge; Mima, Middlesbrough; MOSTYN, Llandudno; Newlyn Art Gallery and The Exchange, Penzance; Nottingham Contemporary; The Pier Arts Centre, Stromness, Orkney; Towner, Eastbourne; Turner Contemporary, Margate; the Whitworth Manchester; and Wysing Arts Centre, Bourn, Cambridgeshire. Plus Tate partners share information; for example on developing philanthropy, integrated programming, social and cultural value, leadership development and best practice in digital audience analysis. Important benefits generated so far by the partnership have been the positive regenerative effects produced through exhibition, learning and wellbeing programmes and support for the cultural and the creative sectors through commissioned works of art and artist development.

www.tate.org.uk/about/our-work/national-partnerships/plus-tate



About - Paul Hamlyn Foundation

Paul Hamlyn Foundation, was established in 1987 by the publisher and philanthropist Paul Hamlyn (1926-2001). Today it is one of the larger independent grant-making foundations in the UK. The Foundation aims to maximise opportunities for individuals to experience a full quality of life, both now and in the future. In particular we are concerned with children and young people, and others who are disadvantaged. We prefer to support work, which others may find hard to fund, perhaps because it breaks new ground, is too risky or is unpopular.

www.phf.org.uk

About - Kaleidoscope Orchestra

Kaleidoscope Orchestra is a musical collective intent on mixing up musical genres. Kaleidoscope use classical instruments while playing music you wouldn't necessarily expect to hear from an orchestra. Drum-n-bass, dance, grime and dubstep artists as you've never heard them before. Kaleidoscope, set up in 2011, was the brainchild of two Manchester University graduates, Steve Pycroft and David Tagg Oram. The orchestra comprises of a mix of young musical professionals based in both Manchester and London.

www.facebook.com/kaleidoscopeorchestra

About - Cul De Sac

Truce, Layfullstop, Kid Katharsis & Berry Blacc. Four up and coming Manchester based artists with a lot to say and a fine way of saying it. Rising from the creativity-led, nurturing community hip hop scene which Manchester is lucky enough to have, Cul De Sac have sound that is warm, soulful, proper hip hop with loads of potential.

www.facebook.com/culdesacmusic

About - Big Fish Little Fish

Big Fish Little Fish are a music and events crew that put on family raves with all the freedom and excitement of a mini-festival, right in the heart of cities and towns.

"London's latest clubbing craze" – The Guardian.

Drawing on our experience as seasoned clubbers and parents we create anarchic, social, daft fun for all ages. Big Fish Little Fish is something we want to take our own families to - somewhere relaxed, entertaining, and where the adults enjoy themselves as much as the children and vice versa with grandparents, uncles, aunts and carers all in the mix.

www.bigfishlittlefishevents.co.uk



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



The University of Manchester
The Whitworth

About - Chutney

Chutney combines traditional Indian rhythms, with western instruments and multi-track recording techniques, he has transformed Punjabi music into a new dance floor sound.

www.chutneyinthestreet.co.uk

About - Walk the Plank

Walk the Plank are outdoor arts experts, based in Salford, who create powerful events with mass appeal. From international stage to village square, Walk the Plank's team of experts develop remarkable moments that enrich the lives of our audience through shared experience - encouraging a sense of place, a feeling of pride, and well-being. Walk the Plank empower artists and communities through creative development, transforming people and the places in which they live through opportunities to engage with accessible, artistic excellence.

"We are proud that Walk the Plank is based in the North West, and that the company has supported so many artists and companies, in turn, supporting outdoor arts as a focus for the region." **Angela Chapell, Arts Council England**

www.walktheplank.co.uk

About - Artizani and Avanti Display

Artizani and Avanti have combined experience in excess of fifty years in making and performing Street Arts all over the world. With the Bee Colony they have come together to present a stunning, thought-provoking and humorous installation using all the tricks of the trade and some new ones!

About - The Bees

Audiences will wander amongst the honey-perfumed Bee Colony, occasionally cloaked in smoke, finding a variety ways of viewing and interacting with the contents of 6 impossible Bee Hives. In each there is a surprising conceptual twist, which challenges, charms and confounds expectations. You may find yourself looking into the vastness of space, or teased by a telescopic hive soaring into the air. The installation is tended by ethereal beekeepers.

www.artizani.net/bees



The University of Manchester
The Whitworth

About - 42nd Street

Since 1980 42nd Street has been supporting young people experiencing difficulties with their mental health and wellbeing. 42nd Street works with young people 11-25 living in Greater Manchester. Their diverse services include individual therapeutic support, advocacy, projects and activities, and a creative programme via The Horsfall, a new arts space. Their leadership, peer research and volunteering opportunities enable young people to share experience, participate in decision-making and create change. 42nd Street's Ambassadors campaign to improve young people's experiences of mental health services and work with peers, youth councils, local authorities and CCGs to influence change. 42nd Street deliver services at its Manchester city centre base, in community venues, in arts and cultural centres, and in schools and colleges to make sure these services are accessible.

<http://42ndstreet.org.uk>

About - Dance Manchester

Dance Manchester is Greater Manchester's central dance organisation, providing a whole range of opportunities for dance. They are a charity working to increase access to high quality dance activity to under-represented communities, working throughout the ten boroughs of Greater Manchester; in partnership with local authorities, communities, educators & artists. Dance Manchester run creative projects throughout the region & offer advice & information.

The Whitworth have partnered with Dance Manchester to premier a new dance commission with Kapow Collective (Eithne Kane and Beth Powlesland) working with dancers from Manchester College, Edge Hill University and independent dancers from the Manchester area. To create GROW a lively, energetic look at the ideas of nurture, environment and the power of nature to rejuvenate, take over spaces and grow through the cracks.

<http://www.digm.org/>



The University of Manchester
The Whitworth

About - Anya Gallaccio

From 24 June 2016

A new permanent commission in Whitworth Park by artist Anya Gallaccio explores themes of loss, memory and physical presence in both nature and architecture.

In February 2015 the Whitworth reopened. One of the trees on the south side of the new extension had unfortunately died and was earmarked to be felled. On Gallaccio's first visit to the site, the tree had already gone, leaving a noticeable gap in the avenue.

Fascinated by the absence of the tree, she studied the architects MUMA's digital scans with the hope of making a work in response to its loss. Gallaccio's new commission will reinstate the missing tree in stainless steel, appearing as a ghostly negative form.

<http://www.whitworth.manchester.ac.uk/whats-on/exhibitions/upcomingexhibitions/anya-gallaccio/>

- ENDS -



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



The University of Manchester
The Whitworth