

Artefacts

THE FRIENDS OF BIRMINGHAM MUSEUMS TRUST MAGAZINE

Summer 2012



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'Three peaches on a stone ledge with a Polined Lady butterfly' by Adriaen Coorte, sold for £2.1 million at Bonhams' Old Master Pictures sale, December 2011.

Our Chairman Deborah de Haes



Can it be a whole year since we celebrated our 80th birthday at Blakesley Hall? I suppose it must be, as we have just enjoyed another wonderful Friends' garden party there, accompanied by a delightful and engaging choir. This time we took the opportunity to celebrate the life of gardener Barbara Taylor, the inspiration behind the Friends' border, planting a white rose in her memory. We also took the opportunity to present Rita McLean with a gift of Honorary Life Membership of the Friends, a token of our gratitude for all her friendship and support over the years.

So the life of the Friends moves on into another year. We are delighted to be working closely with Professor Ann Sumner as she settles into her new Director role. Some wonderful exhibitions are coming up over the next few months with high profile individuals to open them. These exhibitions have benefitted from Birmingham Museums' strong relationships with others, including the British Museum, who have loaned several items for the 'Pharaoh, King of Egypt' Gas Hall exhibition and the Arts Council, who have loaned several contemporary artworks to complement the 17th century atmosphere of Aston Hall this summer. Many partners have helped in different ways to establish the new 'hands-on' permanent Science Garden at Think Tank. Birmingham museums are big news around the UK; do go and see why!

We have asked Ann Sumner to give our Annual Lecture in September this year. Originally we had hoped she would be able to outline the strategy of the new Trust and how she saw the Friends supporting this. However, it has turned out to be a little early in the process for this.

So instead Ann has kindly offered to talk to Friends informally at the beginning of the evening, and then to have a more formal interview when she will tell us more about her background, what brings her to the Trust and her ambitions for the future here. We have then asked her, as the world expert on the artist Thomas Jones, to give us a lecture to introduce us to this painter. We are hoping that one of his works from the Birmingham collection will be on display that evening. The Annual Lecture will be a great opportunity to meet and get to know Ann and I recommend the evening to you. Also Ann has kindly agreed to lead a Friends' trip to Cardiff on Friday 16 November, see page 8 for details.

As Birmingham Museums Trust begins to find its feet, we wonder if we need to have a new name to reflect our continuing relationship with the new organisation. The Trust is planning a wide-ranging consultation on strategy and branding later in the year (which the Friends will be part of), but in the meantime, the provisional branding is 'Birmingham Museums'. The move away from using 'Birmingham

Museums and Art Gallery (BMAG)' is partly to emphasise the inclusion of Think Tank as well as the new nature of the organisation. As a Committee, we have agreed to support this move, at least until the new branding is finalised. So on the front cover of this edition of Artefacts, you will notice our new (temporary) logo – Friends of Birmingham Museums. Do let us know what you think.

Artefacts itself seems to be settling well into its new format and content. Articles by curators and others have been well received and we believe add to the overall appeal and interest of the magazine. We are still working on the format – in this edition we have tried to make it clearer which events are being organised by Birmingham Museums directly and which are Friends' events. Overall, we have had very positive comments about the new look Artefacts: what do you think? Please do tell us.

There is a strong programme of Friends' events for you to enjoy this autumn, including our annual weekend away – this year to Dorset, an interesting and unusual trip. We are extending the number and range of our early evening events which we hope will be of interest. If we continue to have a rainy summer, then at least be assured that there is plenty for you to do and see, both with Friends' events and in the Birmingham museums.

I wish you a happy and enjoyable summer!

Deborah de Haes

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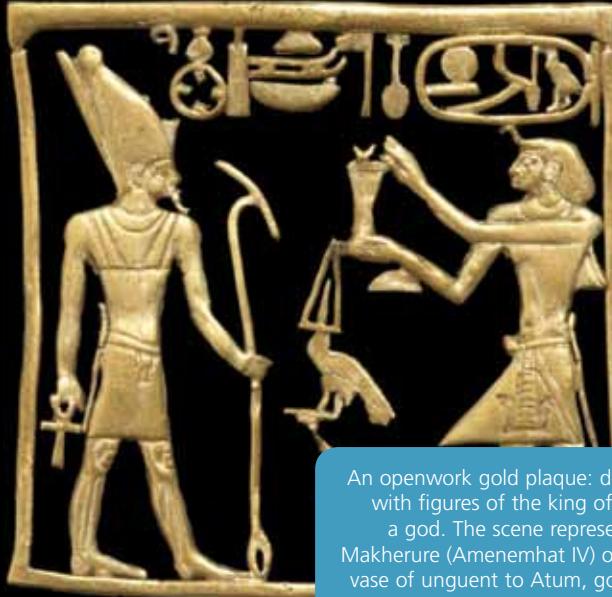
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An openwork gold plaque: decorated with figures of the king offering to a god. The scene represents King Makherure (Amenemhat IV) offering a vase of unguent to Atum, god of the setting sun. British Museum

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Summer is here - with fish & chips, sandy toes and ice cream too!

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Broadfield House Glass Museum
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Dudley
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Forthcoming Friends' Events

Event Applications

For Friends' Members the event applications will be included as a supplement in the centre of this magazine.

Note: Where applicable, if you are not a member and would like to apply for one of our events, send a letter to the address on page 4 stating the Event Name(s), your name, address, telephone number, how many places, the cost, the pickup point if a coach trip and any other relevant information. Include a cheque for the total amount made out to FBMAG unless otherwise stated. Please also include a S.A.E. for the return of your tickets.

Malta - Its History and Heritage

Friday 19 – Thursday 25 April 2013. Malta is situated in the middle of the Mediterranean Sea, halfway between Gibraltar and Alexandria, and Sicily and North Africa. Thus it has always been at the cross-roads of the trading and warring routes of this land-locked sea.

We meet at Birmingham airport for our direct scheduled Ryanair flight (ETD 16:35). On arrival in Malta we are met by our guide and transfer to the 4* San Antonio Hotel at Qawra, it is located 100 metres from the beach and 15 kilometres for Valletta. All rooms are en suite and the hotel has an indoor swimming pool, sauna, steam room and a gymnasium. We stay for six nights on a half board basis (includes one meal out)

Visits will include: A day in Valletta, the capital city of Malta, with its fine array of baroque buildings, palaces and churches.

Mdina, the ancient capital city of Malta, locally known as the '*Silent City*'.

Rabat to see the famous Catacombs of St Paul.

Tarxien with Three Megalithic Temples, first discovered

in 1915 and dating back to 3000 BC. Ghar Dalam, 'the Cave of Darkness' and its fossilised remains of prehistoric animals from the glacial period, Hagar Qim, a prehistoric temple.

A full day to the island of Gozo with visits to: Victoria, the capital. The Ggantija Temples, one of them is the oldest stone structure in the world. Calypso's Cave. The world heritage site of Dwejra.

Siema to enjoy an included Grand Harbour cruise, taking in the two natural harbours on either side of Valletta.

There will be some built in leisure time for you to do your own thing - stay close to the hotel maybe or take one of the frequent buses to somewhere not on our itinerary.

On Wednesday evening we will have dinner out at 'Razzett L Antik' sampling traditional Maltese food with wine included.

Our return Ryanair flight will be to Luton (ETA 13:35), with a coach transfer back to Birmingham.

Cost: £895 in Double Room and £994 in a Single (£99 supplement).

Deposit: £100 per person, Insurance is available for £36 per person.

If you would like to see the full itinerary before sending your deposit please contact John Pownall. E: friends.of.bmag@googlemail.com or T: 0121 303 3129. Otherwise one will be sent automatically with your acceptance letter.

An application form is included in the posted version of this magazine, please note that all cheques for this event should be made out to Tailored Travel and should not include monies for any other Friends' events. Applicants will be sent a form to complete with their Passport and Insurance details also dietary requirements etc.

Annual Lecture by Professor Ann Sumner

Thursday 20 September 2012. The Lecture this year will be given by Professor Ann Sumner, the Director of the Birmingham Museums Trust. The evening will follow a slightly different format to previous years.

There will be an opportunity for Friends to meet Ann informally from 6pm in the Round Room where tea/coffee and biscuits will be available. We will move through to the Council Chamber at 7pm where we will listen to an interview with Ann Sumner, presented by Terry Grimley.

The Annual Lecture will follow, the theme is the Welsh landscape artist Thomas Jones (1742-1803).

Today Thomas Jones is renowned for his luminous small oil sketches of crumbling walls in Naples with lines of washing hanging out to dry. However during his lifetime his exhibited works were large historical subjects or landscapes, such as '*Dido and Aeneas*' owned by Catherine the Great of Russia. This lecture considers the public reputation of Jones and contrasts this with the work he executed privately - the oil sketches of Wales and Italy. It reflects upon his life.

The public and private roles he played as an artist who concealed his romance and children from his landowning family and eventually how he reconciled these roles.

Cost: £12 - Includes refreshments.

An Application form is included in this magazine. Please note that this event is open to non-members. Underground car parking will be available. Please indicate on the Application form if required.

Friends' Discussion Group

Saturday 15 September 2012. The first meeting,

led by Sharon Tavener, a Friend and Pre-Raphaelite enthusiast, was most successful – read Carol Miller's review on page 32.

In this meeting we will be looking at aspects of education depicted in art, seen in paintings such as '*Dr John Ash*' by Reynolds and '*The Music Lesson*' by Ochtervelt.

Cost: £5 (£6 non-members). We will meet in the Round Room at 2pm. Numbers are limited to 15 so please send in your applications quickly.

This event is open to non-members - see note on page 6.

Yorkshire Sculpture Park and Leeds Art Gallery

Tuesday 18 September 2012. Set in a 500 acre estate designed in the 18th century near Wakefield, the Yorkshire Sculpture Park (YSP) is an international centre for modern and contemporary art that brings together historic landscape, new architecture and changing open-air sculpture displays. There will be sculpture on display by Anish Kapoor and Miro.

Leeds Art Gallery contains a nationally important collection of 20th century British and contemporary art by such artists as Francis Bacon, Jacob Epstein, Anthony Gormley, Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore. Close by is the Leeds City Museum which is a new state-of-the-art attraction dedicated to Life on Earth and ancient worlds.

Cost: £25 – Includes coach, driver's tip, coffee on arrival at YSP and donation to Leeds Art Gallery.

Pickup Points: Yateley Road @ 7:45am or Chest Clinic, Gt. Charles St. @ 8:00am.

This event is open to non-members - see note on page 6.

Bletchley Park

Friday 26 October 2012. Bletchley Park is the home of the codebreakers. The Park is a heritage site and museum. There are a wide range of exhibitions and we can learn how its code breaking successes helped to save countless lives by shortening World War Two by around two years. The mission of codebreakers like Alan Turing, was to crack Germany's coded communications, such as those sent via the German Enigma machine. Discover how it was done, be amazed by the total secrecy in which 8,500 people worked; and marvel at the technology designed to crack codes, including the rebuilt Colossus computer.

Cost: £32 – Includes coach, driver's tip, coffee on arrival and tour of Bletchley Park.

Pickup Points: Yateley Road @ 9:15am or Chest Clinic, Gt. Charles St. @ 9:30am.

This event is open to non-members -see note on page 6.

Cardiff - National Museum Wales

Friday 16 November 2012. Professor Ann Sumner was Head of Fine Art at the National Museum Wales from 2000-2007 - she is a renowned authority on the Welsh artist Thomas Jones (1742-1803). Ann will lead the group and show us the Thomas Jones works on display and the major new galleries of Fine and Decorative Arts following their recent redevelopment. There will be free time to see more of the Museum and the City before we leave for the journey home.

Cost: £26 – Includes coach, driver's tip and a donation to the Museum.

Pickup Points: Margaret Street @ 8:00am or Yateley Road @ 8:15am.

This event is open to non-members -see note on page 6.

Evening Talks at Edmunds

'SCHWARZ FLANEUR' BY POGUS CAESAR

Tuesday 28 August 2012, 6:30pm – 8:30pm. 'Schwarz Flaneur' is named after the unguarded moments that Pogus Caesar so strives to capture. These images are signature to much of Caesar's work and his dedication to film. Charles Baudelaire developed a derived meaning of 'flâneur' – that of "*a person who walks the city in order to experience it*". Schwarz, meaning the colour black in German.

Throughout his career, Caesar has photographed subjects in South and North Africa, USA, India, Albania and the Caribbean, as well as closer to home in Birmingham. He has maintained a dedication to 35mm black and white film and a loyalty to his trusted old Canon camera. He states: '*Simplicity is what I prefer, that random moment between the past and the future.*' Caesar will discuss his career and his work to date, giving us a glimpse into his OOM Gallery Archives and the striking images he has captured whilst on his travels.

His works are in private and public collections such as the Victoria & Albert Museum, London; City Gallery, Leicester; Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield; Wolverhampton Art Gallery and Birmingham Museums.

Cost: £8.00 (£11 non-members). We will meet at Edmunds, on the corner of Newhall St. and Edmund St. for the talk, refreshments and discussion. This event is open to non-members - see note on page 6.

'BEHIND CLOSED DOORS'

BY PROFESSOR MICHAEL CULLEN

Tuesday 16 October 2012, 6:30pm – 8:30pm. Michael Cullen had the idea for an exhibition of paintings from private collections in Birmingham back in 2005. Following 3 years of research with Paul Spencer-Longhurst and the late Tessa Sidey, the exhibition '*Behind Closed Doors*' was shown in the main galleries at The Barber Institute in 2008. In his talk he will tell

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Sunday 21 October is
£3.50 per adult (Children free)

Left: Kay Leverton,
Caught in Flight, scraperboard

the inside story of this exhibition and discuss some of the works which were selected – covering 500 years of western art from Dürer to Cornelia Parker.

Cost: £8.00 (£11 non-members). We will meet in Edmunds, on the corner of Newhall St. and Edmund St. for the talk, refreshments and discussion. This event is open to non-members - see note on page 6.

Evening Events

"BIRMINGHAM - ITS PEOPLE, ITS HISTORY" BY HENRIETTA LOCKHART (CURATOR, HISTORY)

Tuesday 2 October 2012, 5:30 - 8pm. This Pre-Opening Private View will give us a chance to see this exciting new set of galleries that tell the story of Birmingham from its medieval beginnings to the present day.

Cost: £8.00 (£11 non-members). We will meet outside the Edmund St. lift on the 2nd floor for the tour; this will be followed by refreshments and discussion at Edmunds. This event is open to non-members - see note on page 6.

"PHARAOH: KING OF EGYPT" BY ADAM JAFFAR (CURATOR, WORLD CULTURES)

Tuesday 9 October 2012, 5:30 - 8pm. This is a national touring exhibition from the British Museum which explores the lives of the ancient kings of Egypt. Displayed alongside a selection of Birmingham Museums own Egyptian collection, this exhibition is incredibly diverse, spanning over 3,000 years of history.

Cost: £8.00 (£11 non-members). We will meet in Gas Hall Reception for the tour; this will be followed by refreshments and discussion at Edmunds. This event is open to non-members - see note on page 6.

Friends Guided Tours

These tours are exclusive to Friends and cost £7.00. Please note that Lunch is not included in these events (see Luncheon Clubs).

GUIDED TOUR (111) - "BIRMINGHAM - ITS PEOPLE, ITS HISTORY" BY HENRIETTA LOCKHART

Saturday 22 September 2012. This exciting new set of galleries tells the story of Birmingham from its medieval beginnings to the present day. The galleries are due to open to the public in October, so this is an opportunity for the Friends to get a preview. Over 1000 objects will be on display, many of which have never come out of storage before. The gallery spaces have been completely restored and the original architectural features revealed. This tour will give us an overview of each section of the galleries, and an introduction to some of the projects and design processes that have contributed to the finished product.

GUIDED TOUR (112) - "THE ART OF LOOKING" BY JANE HOWELL

Friday 28 September 2012. So, how do we look at works of art? Is there a 'best way'? In this tour we shall explore this question and also decide if knowledge, both particular about a given work and general, about life, the universe and everything. We shall look at both familiar and unfamiliar works.

We will meet in the Round Room at 11am.

Application forms for these Guided Tour are included in the members' version of this magazine. See note on page 6.

Luncheon Clubs

The following luncheon clubs have been arranged for this next quarter. The talks take about an hour and then we go to the Edwardian Tea Room for lunch. (You will need to bring your ticket for the lunch.) Luncheon Clubs are exclusive to Friends and cost: £14.00. You may attend the talk without having the lunch at a cost of £9.

"BIRMINGHAM - ITS PEOPLE, ITS HISTORY" BY HENRIETTA LOCKHART (CURATOR, HISTORY)

Friday 21 & Tuesday 25 September 2012. This exciting new set of galleries tells the story of Birmingham from its medieval beginnings to the present day. See Guided Tour (111) above for more information.

Friends will meet in the Round Room at 11:00am.

Application forms are included in the members' version of this magazine.

"PHARAOH: KING OF EGYPT"

BY ADAM JAFFAR (CURATOR, WORLD CULTURES)

Tuesday 11 September & Friday 12 October 2012.

This is a national touring exhibition from the British Museum which explores the lives of the ancient kings of Egypt. Displayed alongside a selection of Birmingham Museums own Egyptian collection, this exhibition is incredibly diverse, spanning over 3,000 years of history.

Friends will meet in the Gas Hall Reception at 11:00am.

Application forms are included in the members' version of this magazine.

Evening Workshops

We have teamed up with the artists and art historians from the Outline Visual Arts Department at Birmingham Metropolitan College to offer you two exciting, hands on workshops.

BEHIND-THE-SCENES – THINK LIKE AN ARTIST

Tuesday 4 and Tuesday 11 September 2012, 5:30-8pm.

This workshop explores the paintings in Galleries 25 and 26, especially chosen for their excellent examples of the use of chiaroscuro. You will work with an artist to make a compositional analysis of the paintings. No experience in drawing is required – but to make the most of this fascinating workshop be prepared to have a go! All materials required will be provided.

Meet in the Round Room. The workshops in the gallery will last 1 hour followed by a group critique, discussions and refreshments at Edmunds Lounge Bar and Eatery, Newhall Street.

Cost: £8 members. £11 non-members.

HANDS AND FACES – ACCURACY AND PROPORTION

Tuesday 18 and Monday 24 September 2012, 5:30-8pm.

The second workshop will take place in Gallery 23. The works chosen are outstanding examples of proportional accuracy of hands and faces – and will be examined during this session. You will work with an artist to gain an insight into how the Masters achieved such anatomical excellence. Again no drawing experience is required and all materials will be provided.

Meet in the Round Room. The workshops in the gallery will last 1 hour followed by a tutor-led summary, a group critique and refreshments at Edmunds Lounge Bar and Eatery, Newhall Street.

Cost: £8 members. £11 non-members.

Each workshop stands alone. However, for your enjoyment we recommended that you book both workshops.

Application forms are included in the members' version of this magazine.

Dates For Your Diary

THE DE MORGAN CENTRE &

DULWICH PICTURE GALLERY

20 November 2012. We will visit the permanent exhibition of the extensive collection of William and Evelyn De Morgan's works sited adjacent to the Wandsworth Museum. William De Morgan was an important Arts and Crafts ceramicist who rediscovered the lost art of lustre decoration and brilliant colours. He also had a long association with William Morris designing tiles and stained glass windows.

After lunch we will visit Dulwich Picture Gallery. The Picture Gallery houses one of the world's most important collections of European old master paintings of the 1600s and 1700s. The collection is also one of the oldest in Great Britain, substantially put together in the years 1790 to 1795. The paintings are housed in the first purpose built art gallery in England, designed by Sir John Soane in 1811.



Prof. Ann Sumner

Summer Report

It is a little less than three months since I took up the post as the first Director of Birmingham Museums Trust (BMT) and I wanted to thank the Friends for their welcome in the previous Artefacts and their invitation to present the Friends Annual lecture.

I have been busy meeting the staff, visiting sites and generally getting to know the organisation and am impressed at the commitment and professionalism of all the staff. I am pleased with the progress we have made in such a short space of time including developing interim branding for the new Trust and you will no doubt have noticed the new posters and banners at the entrances to BMAG. There is further work to be done before we finalise the new look for Birmingham Museums Trust and its varied and various sites but it is symbolic that we have been able to signify our transfer to trust status by making these visible changes.

I am delighted that the Friends have been so positive and supportive of our move to Trust including changing to Friends of Birmingham Museums Trust and I am looking forward to addressing the Friends AGM on the theme of A New Family of Museums where I will have the opportunity to update on our developing vision and reflect

on my experience working for eight years at the National Museum of Wales, as part of another family of inter-disciplinary museums that very much inspires me to realise our full potential together. I came to my role from a curatorial and exhibitions delivery background and am eager to see us emphasise our world class collections as we consider our new vision and strategic aims. We will be carrying out a full visioning process this autumn that will involve consultation with trustees and staff and I am keen to involve the Friends as key stakeholders.

Hon Alderman Len Clark is Interim Chairman of our Trustees. The new board was formally announced on Monday 16 July with a Press Release which included messages of support from Sir Nicholas Goodison and Sir Albert Bore. I am delighted that Debbie de Haes has joined the Board as an independent Trustee and wanted to take this opportunity to thank her for her hard work on the shadow and

interim boards, her experience and knowledge have proven invaluable in effecting the successful transfer to Birmingham Museums Trust and will continue to be so as we take our first steps as an independent trust. The new Board will now take on the search for our first Chairman.

An exciting and varied number of exhibitions have opened this summer as well as the Gala Science Garden opening. These have been branded as a launch festival for the new Trust and we were delighted with the turn-out on 9 July for the opening of Curious Visitors, an innovative loan of works from the Arts Council (the first of a 4-year project supported by Christie's) and the opening of the Birmingham Museum Pharaoh show by Neil MacGregor on 13 July was attended by over 240 guests. These exhibitions should drive our visitor figures upwards and improve shop sales over the summer period and we may indeed be helped by the continuation of the unseasonal weather we have been enduring over the first half of the summer. The Science Garden at Thinktank was officially opened by Alice Roberts, Professor of Public Engagement in Science at the University of Birmingham on the 19 July and is already proving popular and on track to attract an additional 20,000 visitors. This autumn we have Penelope Curtis, Director Tate Britain, opening Love and Death at BMAG on 6

September in galleries 12 and 13 that will see the rarely lent '*Lady of Shallot*' in Birmingham for the first time that should prove an irresistible draw for visitors. Mervyn King is opening Soho House in September which has seen the £230,000 remodelling of the visitor centre and perhaps most excitingly the return after an absence of some 200 years of the famous '*Soho Sphinxes*' formerly displayed in the Industrial Gallery which were commissioned by Boulton in 1795. We then finish the year with the opening of the Government Art Collection in the Gas Hall on 16 November.

We have also been in negotiation with the National Portrait Gallery on an exciting exhibition of George Catlin works from the Smithsonian, Washington of North American Indian portraits, supported by a Terra Foundation grant. Catlin came to Birmingham in 1845 and mounted shows in the Town Hall and Shakespeare Rooms. This will be running at the same time as a popular family show over the summer of 2013 (details coming soon), when we will be collaborating on portraiture and hopefully our acquisition of Dr Ash of which see more below. We are ahead of our visitor figure target for the first quarter but we must maintain that performance so your support in encouraging friends, family and others to visit our excellent shows and sites is much appreciated.

Fundraising for Dr Ash

Following our successful bid to HLF for £675,000 towards the purchase of Dr Ash we are left with the challenge of raising the remaining £50,000 to meet the full acquisition cost. Applications have been made to a number of Trusts and a donations box has been placed next to the portrait in Gallery 23 with gift aid envelope and accompanying post cards to raise the profile of the appeal. We are reasonably confident that we will raise the £50,000 by September and have already managed to reduce the gap to £39,000 due to a number of donations including £10,000 from the W A Cadbury Trust and thank you again to the Friends for supporting another significant acquisition. A form for donating and adding Gift Aid is included with the member's applications.

The Birmingham History Galleries capital development project is progressing well with the exhibition fit out due now completed with the installation of all exhibition structures, cases, interactives and graphics. The c.1500 objects will now start to be installed and the project remains on schedule to open to the public in October. A key feature of the gallery will of course be the stunning new art commission by Keiko Mukadi and Ronnie Watt that will hang from the Oculus, enticing visitors up the stairs to the gallery. The Friends financial support of this commission

has been critical and I look forward to formally thanking you for your support when the work is installed. In late June recently I visited the Mitsubishi Ichigokan Museum in Tokyo to attend the opening of the '*Edward Burne-Jones*' exhibition, not only to represent Birmingham Museums as the lead contributor to the exhibition, but to help raise our international profile and establish potential partners for future international touring exhibitions. This is the first exhibition entirely devoted to Burne-Jones in Japan and builds on the increasing popularity of the Pre-Raphaelites in that country. Since Burne-Jones was born in Birmingham, the only Pre Raphaelite to come from the city, Birmingham Museums has one of the largest collections of his work. As such we were the main lender, contributing 53 out of 64 works in the exhibition including iconic pieces such as '*The Merciful Knight*', and the Pygmalion series of paintings. I will be working with colleagues in the coming months to develop our international strategy as audiences outside of the UK clearly and appetite for works from our collections.

I have enjoyed my first few months as Director look forward to the challenges ahead and to working with the Friends of Birmingham Museums Trust. Thank you for making me so welcome.

Professor Ann Sumner
Director of Birmingham Museums Trust

What's On Museum Events

MAIN MUSEUM & ART GALLERY OPENING TIMES AND TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Times: Mon - Thurs and Sat 10am - 5pm, Fri 10:30 am - 5:00 pm, Sun 12:30 pm - 5:00 pm.

Telephone Numbers: Control Room 0121 303 4215,
Reception 0121 303 2834

Gas Hall

PHARAOH: KING OF EGYPT

Until Sunday 14 October 2012. This is a national touring exhibition from the British Museum which explores the lives of the ancient kings of Egypt. Over 130 British Museum objects, which have never been seen out of London before are featured – from monumental sculptures to intimate items of gold jewellery. Displayed alongside a selection of Birmingham Museums own Egyptian collection, this exhibition is incredibly diverse, spanning over 3,000 years of history.

'Pharaoh: King of Egypt' is a charging exhibition so bring your membership card for free entrance.

In the Main Galleries

GALLERIES 12 & 13 - LOVE AND DEATH: VICTORIAN PAINTINGS FROM TATE

8 September 2012 - 13 January 2013. This exclusive exhibition will display iconic paintings from Tate alongside related works from Birmingham's own collection. The centrepiece will be John William Waterhouse's 'The Lady of Shalott' (1888), one of Tate's most famous and popular works, which rarely travels outside London.

GALLERY 16 - THE STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD

This small selection of beautiful finds of July 2009 still attracts much attention.

GALLERY 20 - STYLE IN AFRICA

Until 2 September 2012. This exhibition explores the rich textile heritage of West Africa. In this collaborative exhibition, curators from the museum have joined

forces with young people to create new ways to present the significant West African textile collection from Birmingham Museums, the University of Birmingham and Craftspace.

This free project uses the changing traditions of woven, embroidered, printed and dyed clothing and textiles, and focuses on textiles produced from the early 20th century up to 2011.

COMMUNITY GALLERY - JAMAICA 50

Until 30 September 2012. A celebration of Jamaica to mark fifty years of Independence at Birmingham Museum. 'Jamaica at 50' celebrates fifty years of Jamaican Independence through the country's history, its national heroes and symbols. The exhibition tells the story of Jamaican Independence Day and the journeys which Jamaican people made to settle in Birmingham in the 1950s and 60s through their own words, pictures and memories.

Public Gallery Events Arranged by Birmingham Museums

A series of talks on Ancient Egypt in association with the 'Pharaoh: King of Egypt' in Gas Hall. All on Saturdays, start at 2pm and cost £5. Advance booking required.

Working for the Dead - 4 August 2012. This talk by Phil Watson, will explore the fascinating funerary beliefs and practices of the Ancient Egyptians.

Cosmetics in Ancient Egypt - 11 August 2012. A talk and demonstration on Ancient Egyptian cosmetics with Julia Hyland.

Preparing for the Afterlife - 18 August 2012. Adam Jaffer, Curator of World Cultures, will explore the practices and beliefs surrounding the afterlife in ancient Egypt.

The Private Lives of the Pharaohs - 25 August 2012. Chris Kirby, Head of Collections and Programmes

at The Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry, will be discussing the real lives behind the sumptuous treasures and temples of the Pharaohs.

ADULT WORKSHOP: LIFE DRAWING (INDEPENDENT WORKING)

Saturday 18 August 2012. A popular life drawing workshop with professional artist and tutor, Anne Brierley. 11am - 4pm Tickets £20.00 per person - advance booking essential (includes basic materials).

THE HOARD AS A WINDOW ONTO ENGLAND IN THE AGE OF THE CONVERSION TO CHRISTIANITY

Sunday 19 August 2012. A talk by Professor Nicholas P Brooks FBA on the religious background to the Staffordshire Hoard. Tickets are £6 from 0121 303 1966. Sunday August 19th at 2pm in the Waterhall.

CONSERVATION TOURS OF THE STAFFORDSHIRE HOARD

Wednesdays 5 September, 3 October & 7 November 2012. Come and find out more about the Staffs Hoard with the gallery and conservation studio tour led by experts. The tour is from 12:30 - 1:45 and tickets are £20 each - advance booking is essential.

CHRIS UPTON'S MAGICAL MYSTERY TOUR

22 September 2012 - Birmingham Historian Chris Upton leads a mystery tour around Birmingham revealing hidden facts and tales about our city. 11am start from Great Charles Street. Tickets £15 includes afternoon cake and coffee. Pre-booking essential.

All of the above events are for advance booking - box office (0121 303 1966 / Gas Hall reception desk) or can be booked on-line at www.bmag.org.uk

The Museum Collections Centre

The MCC is at 25 Dollman Street, Nechells, Birmingham, B7 4RQ; it is one of the biggest museum stores in the country, a warehouse crammed with

every type of object you can imagine, held in storage for Birmingham Museums. Free visits to the MCC take place on the last Friday of every month between 1:30pm and 3:30pm. There is no charge but booking is essential on 0121 303 2836 / 675 2579.

BIG SUMMER OPEN DAY AT THE MCC

Sunday 19 August 2012, 11am-5pm, last entry at 4pm. Visitors will be able to see all their usual favourites, but in addition we will have a wildlife theme with falconry displays by Midlands Falconry Centre and a chance to get up close to some unusual animals and insects thanks to Animal Mania (A mobile zoo based in Worcester - specialists in animal parties and events) and Hatton Bug Zoo. Exceptionally - never opened before on an open day, will be part of the first floor of the extension so that visitors can see more of the natural history collections, especially the birds and mammals. This event is FREE to attend.

CLEO'S COSMETICS!

Friday 24 August 2012. Find out more about beauty regimes in Ancient Egypt in this fascinating hands on session! £20 per person, refreshments included. 10:00-12:30

ANCIENT CIVILISATIONS STUDY DAY

Thursday 1 November 2012. An informal study day aimed at the enthusiastic amateur. Tickets are £35 each and include lunch and refreshments. 9:15-3:30

WOODEN DELIGHTS - AN INTRODUCTION TO THE TREEN COLLECTIONS

Wednesday 28 November 2012. A Study Day looking at some of the Museum's intriguing wooden objects. £35 per head includes lunch and all refreshments. Advance booking only.

AFRICAN TEXTILES STUDY DAY

Friday 30 November 2012. This informal study day for interested amateurs will focus on African textiles from Birmingham Museums collection. Tickets cost £35 and include lunch and all refreshments.

Community Museums

The Museum of the Jewellery Quarter is open all year, Tues - Sat & Bank Holiday Mondays 10:30am - 4:00pm. Aston Hall, Blakesley Hall, Soho House and Sarehole Mill opened at Easter for the summer season (Tues-Sun and Bank Holiday Mondays: 12-4pm. Note: Aston Hall does not open when Aston Villa are playing at home).

Museum of the Jewellery Quarter

75–79 Vyse Street, Hockley, Birmingham B18 6HA.
Tel: 0121 554 3598. The Museum of the Jewellery Quarter (open throughout the year), houses a perfectly preserved jewellery workshop offering a unique glimpse of working life in Birmingham's famous Jewellery Quarter.

'ENTWINED: AWN PUGIN & JOHN HARDMAN'

Until 26 January 2013. The Museum of The Jewellery Quarter celebrates its 20th Birthday in 2012 with this exhibition that marks the Bicentenary of Pugin's birth. The exhibition, opened to the public on 17 March, explores the great Gothic Revival designer AWN Pugin's (1812-1852) partnership with local firm Hardman's & Co. Hardman's made stained glass and metalwork for the Houses of Parliament, churches and cathedrals around the world.

"It is arguable that the Pugin style as applied by Hardman & Co to a wide range of metalwork, glass and textiles was the most influential force in mid and later 19th century interior design and furnishing."

Rev Michael Fisher

In 1838, the architect AWN Pugin (1812-1852) persuaded his friend, John Hardman (1811-1867) to turn his Birmingham button-making business to making metalwork and later stained glass for his new Gothic-revival churches. Working from their Newhall Hill premises in the Jewellery Quarter, John Hardman & Co quickly rose to fame as makers of fine medieval-style works inspired by Pugin's

research, drawings and publications. Their stained glass and metalwork found its way into churches and cathedrals throughout the United Kingdom and the world.

On display are some fine examples of Hardman's output, they are on loan from Neil Phillips, Managing Director of Pugin, Hardman and Powell. Visitors can find out more about the Pugin and Hardman families – inter-related through marriage, and bound by a shared vision and Catholic faith. The exhibition includes:

- Design drawings for metalwork for the House of Lords
- Exquisite ecclesiastical metalwork in the high Gothic-revival style
- Domestic designs including a casket and candelabrum
- An important silver Claret Jug, part funded by the Friends

HERITAGE OPEN WEEKEND!

6 – 8 September 2012, 10:30am - 4:00pm. Free costumed guided tours. Tours allocated on a first come first served basis.

DESIGNER DISHES - ADULT WORKSHOP

Saturday 8 September 2012, 1:00pm - 3:00pm. Join designer maker Anna Lorenz to design and make your own contemporary dish or bowl using metals, recycled materials and traditional craft techniques. Adults only; cost includes your own dish. Booking essential. £15

GOTHIC GHOST WALK WITH CHRIS UPTON

Friday 26 October 2012, 2:00pm. A spooky walk of the Jewellery Quarter's Gothic buildings and graveyards to celebrate Halloween and the Pugin Bicentenary, with local historian Chris Upton. Booking essential. £5.

Aston Hall

Trinity Road, Aston, Birmingham, B6 6JD
Tel: 0121 675 4722

CURIOS VISITORS: THE ARTS COUNCIL COLLECTION

Until 9 September 2012. This summer, visitors to Aston

Hall will have the opportunity to discover a range of highly unexpected and inspiring works of art by some of the UK's most prominent contemporary artists presented against the beautiful backdrop of a Jacobean mansion.

This exhibition brings together important works of contemporary painting, photography, sculpture, video and sound installation. Curious Visitors is the first of a series of three projects in Birmingham running from 2012-2014, and represents a major collaboration between Birmingham Museums Trust and the Arts Council Collection. It is part of the ambitious Arts Council Collection Partnerships supported by Christie's, which will see four partner museums, Birmingham Museums Trust, Leeds Museums & Galleries, Manchester Art Gallery and the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool, create a dynamic programme of displays and exhibitions based on loans from the Arts Council Collection.

Key pieces in the exhibition will include Peter Doig's powerful painting, '*Red Deer*' in the Withdrawing Room. The room is richly furnished in late Stuart style, and the location of the painting refers to the ancient deer park once seen from the windows. Situated in the neo-classical Green Library will be Laura Ford's 3-metre '*Giraffe*' sculpture, cramped and uncomfortable, playing with sense of scale and celebrating the Hall's famous accommodation of the city's first natural history collections in the 1870s.

Portraiture and the historic display of portraits in a country house setting is explored through the location of works in the spectacular 17th century Long Gallery. Major photographic pieces by Maud Sulter and Bettina von Zwehl, video installation by Hilary Lloyd and sculpture by Toby Ziegler encourage an investigation of this tradition. Amongst other pieces sited throughout the house and stableblock, in Dick's Garret (servants' dormitory) a murmured sound installation by Janice Kerbel, '*Nick Silver Can't Sleep*' tells of love, insomnia and death in the most remote part of the house. Two further works by Ziegler, including his painting '*Je t'adore Baby*', which is displayed alongside Birmingham Museum's own '*Freedom or Death*', make a spectacular introduction to the project in the Saloon.

'Curious Visitors' will be supported by an interpretative guide, children's trail and children's activities.

WORLDS APART: PARALLEL LIVES

Saturday 8 September 2012. Celebrate Aston Hall and its links with the Taj Mahal in a day full of crafts, food, and more!

Blakesley Hall

Blakesley Road, Yardley, Birmingham, B25 8RN.
Tel: 0121 464 2193.

TEA TIME TOURS

Until 28 October 2012. A perfect afternoon treat for groups of over 8. An exclusive tour of the hall with a costumed guide followed by tea and cake in the tea room. £8. Pre-booking essential.

SUMMER HOLIDAY FUN

Totstime Tuesdays - Until 28 August 2012. Creative play for under 7s.

Crafty Thursdays - Until 30 August 2012. Make & take activities for families.

Knight School - Saturday 25 August 2012. Learn the art of combat and the code of chivalry.

Heritage Open Days - Saturday 8 September 2012 at 2pm, Costumed Guided Tours. Sunday 9 September 2012 at 2pm, Tour of St. Edburgha's Church, Yardley.

Wedding Fayre - Sunday 16 September 2012. See the Great Hall set up for a wedding ceremony.

Apple Day - Sunday 14 October 2012. Morris dancing, plant sales and juice tasting.

Plague and Pestilence Half Term Fun - See the plague ridden hall in disarray! Dress in your scariest costume. Creative make & take. Tuesday 23 October, Severed finger pencil and Thursday 25 October 2012, Make a mini diary.

Samuel Pepys, Fire and Plague - Sunday 28 October 2012, Samuel Pepys pays a visit to Blakesley Hall and reads from his diary.

Sarehole Mill

Cole Bank Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, B13 0BD.
Tel: 0121 777 6612.

We have just heard that £315,000 has been allocated for desilting the millpond, roof repairs, mechanical repairs and millstones to get the building working again.

MEET THE MILLER

5 August 2012. Meet our miller and find out how stone-ground flour is made, 12-4pm. Entry to the mill is free on this day.

SCARECROWS GALORE

15 August 2012. Make a scarecrow from a wooden spoon and plant in the vegetable patch at Sarehole Mill to protect the vegetables and wheat from hungry birds, alternatively take it home to protect your home garden or decorate your room. 1-3pm. £1 per child.

ORIGINS OF MIDDLE-EARTH, GUIDED WALKS

18 August, 8 September & 13 October 2012 - Follow in the footsteps of the young JRR Tolkien, author of the 'The Lord of the Rings' and 'The Hobbit' as we take you on a guided walk around the lost hamlet of Sarehole and the natural splendour of Moseley bog. Discover the childhood playground of Tolkien and learn about the places and people who influenced his later writing. Tours last about 1 hour. Start at the mill at 2:00pm. Tours cost £5 per person, places are limited so pre-booking is essential.

Soho House

Soho Avenue, Handsworth, Birmingham, B18 5LB. Tel: 0121 554 9122.

Soho House, Home of Matthew Boulton and meeting place of the Lunar Society, re-opened on 30 June 2012

after a major redevelopment project to improve the site and conserve one of the most significant buildings in Birmingham.

Several rooms have been restored in the elegant Georgian home of Matthew Boulton, Birmingham's famous industrialist and entrepreneur. During the refurbishment two previously hidden fireplaces have been revealed, and the Soho Sphinxes, originally part of Boulton's ambitious garden designs, have been returned to Soho for the first time in almost 200 years - it would be nice to remind the Friends that the Sphinxes were purchased with the kind support of the Friends of BMAG. In the Breakfast and sitting rooms, the badly peeling ceilings have been stabilised and redecorated to ensure the house looks its best.

Visitors this season can also indulge themselves, as the new development has doubled the size of the café in the site's Visitor Centre. With seating for up to 60 people, a wide range of snacks and refreshments, and stunning views of the house through new glass doors which open onto the beautiful lawns, coach parties and family groups are in for a real treat.

Oliver Buckley, the new Curator Manager of Soho House said: '*We are very excited about welcoming visitors to see the improvements at Soho this summer. There's never been a better time to come, whether you're coming on a pilgrimage to find out where the industrial revolution began, or just looking for a peaceful haven in a bustling city.*'

The visitor centre will house a new permanent exhibition entitled '*Matthew Boulton: Selling what all the world desires*', exploring the life and wide-ranging business interests of this local pioneer through stunning objects and engaging interactives.

Jane Austen Day - 18 August 2012. Celebrate all things Austen at Soho.

Summer at Soho - 31 August 2012. Get involved with



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78 Derngate
NORTHAMPTON

Sam Wadsworth

presents

Light Works

an exhibition of new oil paintings

in The Gallery Upstairs at
The Charles Rennie Mackintosh
House and Galleries



Saturday 7th July to Sunday 30th September

Free Entry

Showcasing Sam's portrait of Dylan Hartley

www.78derngate.org.uk

email: 78office@78derngate.org.uk

tel: 01604 603407

our object handling and costume activity.

Celebrate the Heritage Open Days - 8 September 2012 Boulton's Brum, - Walk and Talk, 9 September 2012 Rooftop Tours.

Spot and stop that rot! - 23 September 2012 - Find out about the conservation of Soho House in this fascinating talk.

Architecture at Soho House - 30 September 2012 - Come and celebrate World Architecture Day.

Washington Irving - inspiring Dickens - 6 October 2012. Born in 1783, Washington Irving was a key literary figure who spent time in Birmingham.

Trafalgar Day - 21 October 2012. Celebrate Trafalgar Day at Soho House



Selly Manor Museum



Two ancient timber-framed buildings, rescued by George Cadbury and moved into Bournville village.

The museum is home to the outstanding Laurence Cadbury Collection of Oak Furniture and surrounded by an authentic Tudor garden.

Open Tuesday to Friday 10am to 5pm and weekends 2-5pm

www.bvt.org.uk/sellymanor
 0121 472 0199

Weoley Castle

Arwold Road, Weoley Castle, Birmingham, B29 5RJ.
Tel: 0121 464 2193

Walk and Talk - 1 September 2012 - Discover more about this ruined medieval manor house 2pm £3.50

Heritage Open Days Guided Tour - 7 September 2012 - A specialist guided tour of Weoley Castle Ruins, discover the mason's marks and how the building was constructed. 1:30pm. Free.

Falconry Day - 30 September 2012 - See hawks, falcons and owls take to the skies over Weoley Castle, 1-4pm. Free.

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FINAL WEEKS

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National Portrait Gallery

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DATA PROTECTION ACT - For membership and accounting needs your details are held on a computerised Database for Friends' Office use ONLY



In The Area

News and Events



AN EXHIBITION OF NEW OIL PAINTINGS BY SAM WADSWORTH

Saturday 7 July - Sunday 30 September 2012
78 Derngate, Northampton

78 Derngate

78 Derngate, Northampton, The Charles Rennie Mackintosh House & Galleries
Website: www.78derngate.org.uk.

AN EXHIBITION OF NEW OIL PAINTINGS BY SAM WADSWORTH

Until Sunday 30 September 2012. An exhibition of new oil paintings by Northampton-based artist Sam Wadsworth will be on display at 78 Derngate, the unique Charles Rennie Mackintosh house in the centre of Northampton.

Sam was born in Cheltenham and moved to Northampton to study Fine Art at the University. He studied at the Princes Drawing School, London and continues to receive tuition from his close friend, the

painter Terry Raybould (tutor at Camberwell School of Art 1963-1975).

Sam has exhibited a number of times with the Royal Society of Portrait Painters. In 2009 he was made a Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Painter Stainers, London and subsequently was elected a member of their Fine Art Society.

Sam has been voted Young Entrepreneur of the Year and won many prizes for his paintings, which include portraits of the CEO of a top London advertising agency, a prominent UK actor, the MD of a New York based investment firm and the head of Northampton School for Boys where he taught from 2004 until 2007.

Although better known for his prize-winning portraiture, Wadsworth's new exhibition entitled '*Light Works*' is made up of landscapes and still lifes, with sunlight a particular theme.



H.ART

Painting by Beth Richardson

"I walk to my studio every day through Abington Park in Northampton" explained Sam Wadsworth "and the sunlight that comes through the trees at different times of the year is a big influence on my paintings. I am particularly interested in strong light conditions and the effect that it has on the landscape. This is also true of my still lifes and portraits."

Portraiture is never far away from Wadsworth's work and he will be unveiling a new portrait of Northampton and England rugby union star Dylan Hartley at the opening of the exhibition. The exhibition will also include a collection of prints from Wadsworth's iPad drawings.

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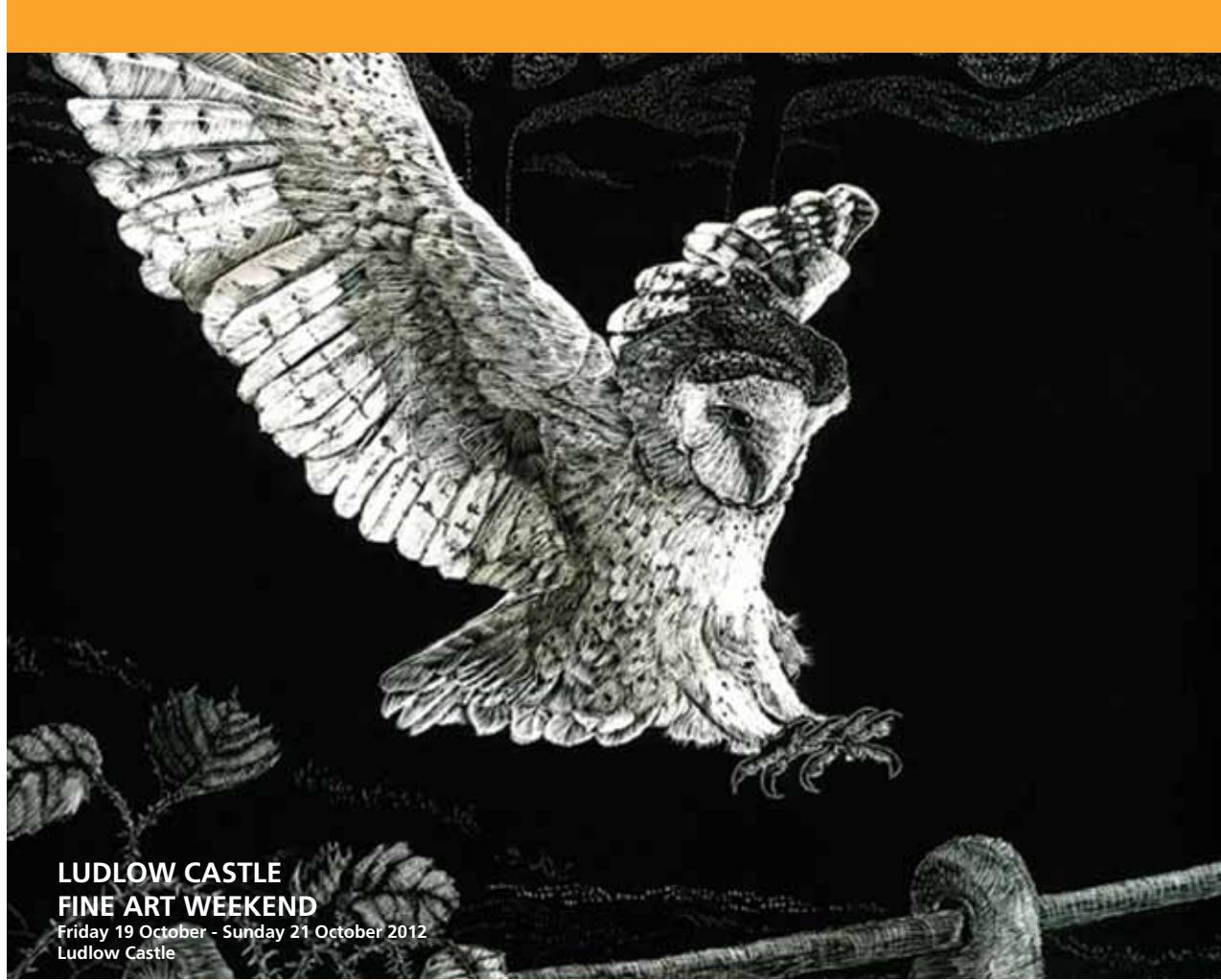
8 - 16 September 2012. Visit artists, designers and

makers in their studios and workshops, as well as exhibitions, galleries and events.

With exclusive access to artists' studios and workshops, Open Studio events give visitors the opportunity to meet makers in relaxed and informal surroundings, learn about their techniques, watch a demonstration and possibly buy or have a go at creating your own original artwork.

2012 is h.Art's 11th event and continues to attract local visitors and those from further afield to explore the wealth of talent in our inspiring county. 2012 has 110 venues to explore with over 200 artists taking part overall.

Among the many taking part are sculptor Caro Sweet ARBS who has recently been elected a member of the Royal British Society of Sculptors; Jan Knibbs, multi award winning garment, accessory and jewellery



LUDLOW CASTLE FINE ART WEEKEND

Friday 19 October - Sunday 21 October 2012
Ludlow Castle

designer; contemporary print maker Adrian Higgins; and painters; Geoffrey Vaughan, Kate Harvey, Ian Peill, Rob Ritchie and Veronique Avon. Four talented furniture designer makers collaborate in 'A Joint Effort' at Clifford and a sixteen strong exhibition of artists at Discoed, show a range of works including stonecarving, textiles and weaving, stained glass, basket work and paintings.

Each year h.Art offers a Young Artist Bursary, awarded to one or more professional artists aged under 30 who have chosen to live and work in the county. This year, the h.Art Steering Group have awarded 3 bursaries to; sculptor Ed Elliott, Hollie Goodwin for her work in combined textile wallhangings and lighting and conceptual artist Emily Price.

THE HEREFORDSHIRE OPEN EXHIBITION

8 September - 6 October. Hereford Museum & Art Gallery hosts The Herefordshire Open Exhibition; a

showcase of fine art created in the county over the last 12 months. Clare Woods and Andrea McLean, acclaimed artists living and working in Herefordshire lead the Selection Panel. Four cash prizes will be awarded at the Exhibition: The Herefordshire Open Award (£150), sponsored by Boffy-Arts-Events-People; The Newcomer Award (£100), sponsored by The Print Shed, Madley; The Student / 2012 Graduate Award (£250) sponsored by Parkfields Gallery, Ross-on-Wye and The People's Choice Award (£100), given to the artist whose work is voted most popular by visitors to the exhibition, sponsored by Old Chapel Gallery, Pembridge. The Prize Winners' Print Award entitles each of the four prize winners to £250 of print products each, sponsored by The Canvas Print Studio, Hereford.

Herefordshire Young Open will be held at The Courtyard Centre for the Arts from 8 September to 21 October. This selected exhibition acts as a platform for young

artists, minimum age 18, who are at the start of their career and who live, study or work in Herefordshire. It also aims to engage members of the public, particularly young people, to look at the creative industries as a rewarding career choice and gives local artists and students the opportunity to help develop their career. Full information on all h.Art venues, including a fold out map plus pictures and directions, can be found in the free 40 page h.Art Guide, available from libraries and tourist information centres from July. To request a copy, tel: 07891 404505, email: arts@herefordshire.gov.uk. Browse the website at www.h-art.org.uk for extra news, images and downloads.

Ludlow Castle

Ludlow Castle, Castle Square,
Ludlow, Shropshire, SY8 1AY
Tel: 01584 874465 Email: info@ludlowcastle.com

LUDLOW CASTLE FINE ART WEEKEND

Friday 19 - Sunday 21 October 2012, 10:00am - 5:00pm. A selling exhibition displaying the work of 50 professional artists.

On Friday 19 October between 6:30pm - 9:00pm, a fine art private preview in aid of the British Red Cross (plus a local charity to be confirmed)

Pre-booked tickets are £5 per head to include a drinks reception and access to the private gardens. Entry on the door is £7 per head. Please contact James on enquiries@beckfordfineart.co.uk or 07887 597302

Entry Saturday and Sunday £4 per adult, £2 per child 11 – 17 years, Free for children 10 years and under.

For further details please view www.beckfordfineart.co.uk and to request an ECATALOGUE please contact enquiries@beckfordfineart.co.uk

CBSO matinée concerts

Inspiring afternoons at Symphony Hall, Birmingham



Thursday 20 September, 2.15pm

THE BIRMINGHAM BEETHOVEN CYCLE*: SYMPHONIES 1 & 2

Andris Nelsons - conductor • Baiba Skride - violin

*Supported by Barclays and through the generosity of Miss Brant, a lifelong supporter of the CBSO who died recently.

Tuesday 2 October, 2.15pm

DVOŘÁK'S NEW WORLD SYMPHONY

Nicholas Collon - conductor • Francesco Piemontesi - piano

Visit www.cbso.co.uk for more details about our afternoon gems throughout the season.

TICKETS:

£10-£39.50

BOX OFFICE:

0121 345 0603

BOOK ONLINE:

www.cbso.co.uk

A £2.50 fee per transaction will be charged on all bookings by THSH Box Office, except purchases made in person.





PERSHORE HERITAGE & HISTORY SOCIETY - 'PERSHORE FLOWER SHOW'

Thursday 19 July - Wednesday 8 August

Number 8 Community Arts Centre

Number 8 Community Arts Centre

Number 8 Community Arts Centre

8 High Street, Pershore, Worcestershire, WR10 1BG

Tel: 01386 555488 Website: www.number8.org

THE ARTDEPOT - 'THE ARTDEPOT IN 2012'

Until Wednesday 1 August 2012. The artdepot is a not for profit selected artist group based in and around Tewkesbury. Each artist who exhibits with the group has been chosen by the committee for their skill, vision and professionalism. This exhibition features a selection of work from members in a variety of styles and ranging from acrylics to mixed media and will be followed by an exhibition of 3D work.

PERSHORE HERITAGE & HISTORY SOCIETY – 'PERSHORE FLOWER SHOW'

Until Wednesday 8 August 2012. This exhibition of memorabilia celebrates the traditional Pershore Flower Show which from 1876 traditionally took place in the town during August. The popular annual event showcased gardens, allotments, vegetables, flowers

and crafts and featured athletic sports, cycle and pony racing. With entertainment from military bands, fireworks and open air concerts, this was an event not to be missed. The Heritage Society invite us to step back in time with them with this charming exhibition.

GLORIA COPSON – 'ART HAS MANY FACES'

Thursday 2 August – Wednesday 22 August 2012. Gloria enjoys experimenting with styles and media, and relishes the interesting and often surprising results. She says of her work 'a traditional painting in one medium can often spark off an idea for a design or pattern in another medium. What might start off as a detailed flower painting in watercolour can end up as an abstract pattern in acrylic. Everyday objects can be seen in a new way with a different treatment'.

THE ARTDEPOT – 'THE ARTDEPOT IN 2012'

Thursday 9 August – Wednesday 19 September 2012. The artdepot group comprises of practitioners in textiles, glass, ceramics, metal, print, painting and sculpture. This exhibition showcases a variety of 3D pieces. Each work betrays the intense relationship the artist has with their materials and medium. For more information about the group and exhibiting artists see www.theartdepot.org.

h.Art

herefordshire art week



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8-16 september 2012

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www.h-art.org.uk



h.Art is managed by Herefordshire Council's Art Service and the h.Art Steering Group

painting ceramics sculpture textiles glass jewellery photography stonemasonry furniture baskets metalwork

Holt Farm Holiday Cottages



Holt Farm Cottages -
in Herefordshire and near Hay-on-Wye,
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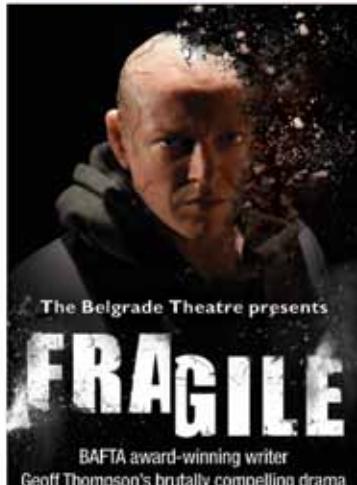
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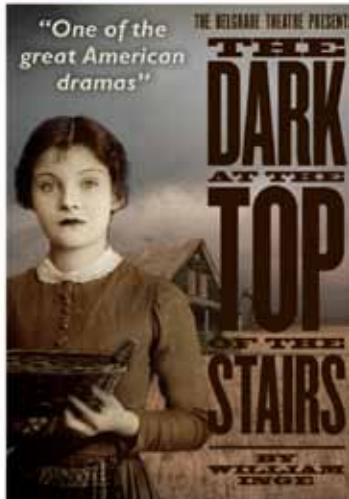


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City of 10

Birmingham is a city brimming with history and culture and now the Friends can become an even bigger part of that story by joining arts workshops aimed at bringing drawing into the community.

The workshops are being run by Birmingham Metropolitan College's Outline Department in conjunction with the city's new library and form the City of 1000 Stories programme, which gives groups within the community the chance to investigate what art, and drawing in particular, means to them. Artwork produced at the workshops will then go on display in the city in March 2013, before going on show at the city's new library when it opens in September 2013.

Programme Manager Ian Andrews, who is a graduate of the Royal College of Art, runs the Fine Art HND at BMC. He explained that the title of the workshops was a play on words of Birmingham's heritage as 'a city of 1000 trades'. He says: "Our aim at Outline is



to promote drawing across the community at all levels. When the Library approached Birmingham Metropolitan College to work with them, it seemed to chime nicely with our work."

Ian explained the importance of drawing as a cultural activity by referencing the fact that drawing

could be used as the basis for an educational curriculum rather than as an add-on to it. The example he cited was that art could, for example, be used as a fundamental tool to teach science and other subjects.

As such, schools make up some of the groups involved with bringing this project to life through the workshop series. Workshops on offer are varied in style and range from The Drawing Room project (pictured) where students drew onto paper-covered walls and ceilings, to sessions with inks, charcoal and life-size silhouettes. Workshops are taking place at various locations throughout Birmingham and also on-site at the college's Sutton Coldfield campus.

Two different workshops are being offered at BMAG, giving Friends the opportunity to tell their visual story and to become part of this exciting project. The Behind-The-Scenes/ Think like an Artist workshop takes place on the first Tuesday in September (4th) and is repeated on the following Tuesday (11th). It gives participants the chance to analyse famous paintings and

00 Stories

make their own drawing studies. Drawings will be made using either a careful study following the positive and negative spaces, distribution of light and directional impulses of a painting, or alternatively as an expressive study using correction fluid and felt pens, in the style of Frank Auerbach, who regularly visits the National Gallery to make art in this manner. The workshop starts with a presentation by an art historian and artist and finishes with a group critique. No previous drawing experience is required.



The second workshop, entitled Hands and Faces/Accuracy and Proportion, runs on the third Tuesday in September (18th) and is repeated the following Monday (24th). Here participants can learn techniques for drawing with

proportional accuracy by looking at paintings in the collection and making studies in pen and pencil. The workshop ends with a tutor-led summary and a group critique.

See the Evening Workshops on page 11 for more details, times, costs.

For more information, to see the visual story from your workshop or to see the project develop, visit www.cityof1000stories.blogspot.co.uk

by Jane Kubiesa





Curator's Choice

Argillite Bowl

Artist: Charles Edenshaw Date: Late 19th Century

Adam Jaffer, Curator of World Cultures, invites you to share his love of indigenous art with one of his favourite BMAG pieces.

The timeless beauty of Charles Edenshaw's argillite bowl in the form of a bear means its design is as fresh today as when it was produced approximately 100 years ago. Its beauty is only one reason this piece appeals to Adam Jaffer so much. Yes, he admits the bowl is beautifully carved, but it is the idea of the adaptation of indigenous art forms and the story behind this bowl's creation that truly makes this piece one of Adam's favourites.

He explains: *"The piece tells a wider story of Native North American contact with outsiders and a dynamic adaptation to social change. What is so appealing is this piece seems to be carved in such a way as to make it come to life, a feature of many Northwest Coast sculptures."*

Sculpted by Charles Edenshaw, a Haida artist from Haida Gwaii in Canada, this bowl is made from soft black argillite stone, which is easy to sculpt initially, but which becomes hard on contact with air after being quarried. Adam explained that the Haida were an indigenous people who began



carving this kind of stone in the late 18th century in response to the demand for art from souvenir hunters and European and American traders.

He continues: *"A great deal of Haida visual culture is spiritual, emphasising a connection to the natural world. Animals, in particular, are used to emphasise a human relationship to an ancestral totem (or 'family crest' such as a bear).*

"Artworks can feature animals to emphasise their position as spiritual guardians or ancestors. Northwest Coast mythology has numerous instances of zoomorphic transformation- highlighting the intertwined lives of humans and animals such as bears, ravens and whales."

Other carved items produced include panel pipes and miniature totem poles and BMAG has more than 15 pieces of argillite in its collection, some of which are on display in the Ways of Seeing gallery. This piece is special as it is the only bowl, but other carvings include animals and people.

In furtherance of the notion of the timeless quality this kind of art holds, Adam asserts: *"Also, I feel that Haida art is still relevant today. The work of another Haida artist, Bill Reid features on the current \$20 Canadian banknote."*

Whilst Charles Edenshaw is one of the most well-known Haida sculptors, contemporary Haida artists include Charles' descendants, many of whom followed in his footsteps and continue to prove the contemporary relevance of this kind of art. His great-grandsons Robert and Reg Davidson are also prominent artists. Robert (www.robertdavidson.ca) sculpts totem poles and masks and also works as a printmaker and jeweller, whilst his brother Reg (<http://iweb.tntech.edu/cventura/reg.htm>) produces cedar sculptures, weaving and painted drums.

by Jane Kubiesa

Artists' Palette Classifieds



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Reviews Recent Events

Friends' Discussion Group

The first Discussion Group on 26 May was a great success. Sharon Tavener led seven Friends round the paintings and prompted the discussion. To get us started, we looked at the portrait of '*Nicholas Frochet*' by Andrea Appinini. We could hardly drag ourselves away, there was so much to see in this beautiful painting - the colour of the costume, the sensitive face and the surroundings. What did they all signify? We weren't always sure but it certainly got us talking. After that we looked at '*Valentine Saving Sylvia from Proteus*' by Hunt, '*Sleeping Beauty*' by Southall, Burne-Jones's and '*Beata Beatrix*' by Rosetti. These pictures have such familiarity and yet, when we shared our observations, there was so much more to see and we frequently said 'oh, I hadn't thought of that'.

This was a great and fresh way to look at pictures.

Carol Miller



Photo by John Patterson:
www.imagebyte.net

JCB Factory and Sudbury Hall

Friday 22 June 2012. We arrived at the impressive VIP Visitors Centre at JCB on Friday morning. We were taken into the theatre to see a promotional video about the growth of the company from 1947 until the present day. We then toured the museum exhibiting the various models of digger/loader which are produced at the various factories in the UK. After the museum we walked down the production line of the backhoe loader and the agricultural telescopic handler (farm loadall).

In the afternoon we went on to see the National Trust property, Sudbury Hall and the Museum of Childhood. The Museum contained children's games, doll houses, model railways and mechanical toys.

Ann Crump

Blakesley Hall Garden Party

Sunday 24 June 2012. The weather was not so kind to us as last year's blazing sun, but even so we had an enjoyable afternoon. There were tea and cakes, tours of the herb garden and a plant sale. At 4 pm we went into the Hall for a presentation by our Chairman, Deborah de Haes to Rita McLean to say thank you for all her support over the years and



Photo by John Patterson:
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News From the Office

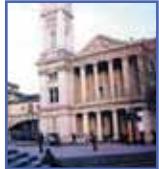


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present Rita with Life Membership of the Friends. To round off the afternoon we had a recital by the choir Divertimento from Leamington Spa of madrigals and early music.

At the end of the afternoon a rose was planted in memory of the gardener, Barbara Taylor, who died last year. It was planted by her sister.

Our thanks to Jane McArdle and her staff for making us so welcome and organising such an enjoyable event.

Ann Crump

GIFT AID DECLARATIONS

- We are still issuing new Gift Aid Declaration forms to some members. We would appreciate the return of completed forms as soon as possible so that our records are up-to-date when we submit our claim for Gift Aid from HMRC. Thank you to those who have already returned theirs so promptly.

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

- Several new members have taken advantage of our Gift Membership scheme. Don't forget this is available all year round and a subscription runs for 15 months.
- Forms are also available on our webpages www.bmag.org.uk/friends-of-bmag

BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP

- Free entry to special exhibitions in Gas Hall
- Free entry to all our Community Museums
- Artefacts magazine four times a year
- Opportunity to join the many Friends' social events
- Plus discounts at the following venues (terms and conditions apply):
 - BM&AG and Community Museum shops
 - 50% entrance discount to Thinktank at Millennium Point www.thinktank.ac
 - Shakespeare Birthplace Trust shops (excluding admission prices) www.shakespeare.org.uk
 - Ironbridge Gorge Trust shops providing a minimum of £5 is spent in one transaction. Offer excludes books, certain sales items, admission prices and café/restaurant purchases) www.ironbridge.org.uk
 - Potteries Museums & Art Gallery shops/cafés www.museums.stoke.gov.uk

NEW MEMBERS

- A warm welcome is extended to our new members: Mr TL & Mrs EM Keene, Mrs C Mock, Miss SE Lee, Dr U Szulakowska, Mr DR May, Mrs S Behan, Mrs P Alfrey, Dr R Sen, Mr P & Mrs M Norris, Mr W Partridge, Mr T Wilson & Miss R Josen, Mrs J Meredith & Mr P Cheesewright, Mr P & Mrs J Millington, Miss RL Waters, Ms PR Wright, Miss ME Charles, Mrs L Phillips, Mr C Bootes, Miss D Carter, Mrs P Woodward, Mr & Mrs Wickramasinghe, Mrs M Richards.



Friends' Diary Dates

August

- 7 # Thinktank – Science Garden and Planetarium
28 * Evening Event – Pogus Caesar – Schwarz Flaneur

September

- 4 * Evening Event – Birmingham Metropolitan College: Behind-the-Scenes (1)
11 * Luncheon Club – Adam Jaffar - "Pharaoh King of Egypt" exhibition (1)
11 * Evening Event – Birmingham Metropolitan College: Behind-the-Scenes (2)
15 * Discussion Group
18 * Yorkshire Sculpture Park and Leeds Art Gallery
18 * Evening Event – Birmingham Metropolitan College: Hands and Faces (1)
20 * Annual Lecture by Professor Ann Sumner - Welsh Artist Thomas Jones (1742 - 1803)
21 * Luncheon Club – Henrietta Lockhart – The new Birmingham history galleries (1)
22 * Guided Tour (111) – Henrietta Lockhart – The new Birmingham history galleries
24 * Evening Event – Birmingham Metropolitan College: Hands and Faces (2)
25 * Luncheon Club – Henrietta Lockhart – The new Birmingham history galleries (2)
28 * Guided Tour (112) – Jane Howell – "The Art of Looking"

October

- 2 * Evening Event – Henrietta Lockhart – The new Birmingham history Galleries
5 - 8 ** Weekend Away - Dorset
9 * Evening Event – Adam Jaffar - "Pharaoh King of Egypt" exhibition
12 * Luncheon Club – Adam Jaffar - "Pharaoh King of Egypt" exhibition (2)
16 * Evening Event – "Behind Closed Doors" - Prof. Michael Cullen
26 * Bletchley Park

November

- 16 * Cardiff - National Museum Wales with Prof. Ann Sumner
20 + The De Morgan Centre & Dulwich Picture Gallery

2013 - April

- 19-25 * Malta – Its History and Heritage

- * Details are enclosed with this mailing, and application forms are included in posted versions of this magazine (See note on page 6)
- ** Fully booked, sorry
- + Dates for your diary, no applications in this mailing
- # Included in a previous mailing, but still some places available
- \$ These events are not arranged by the Friends, applications are not included

The next Artefacts,
the Autumn 2012
edition will be published
in October

JOHN MYATT

PROVENANCE



*"Although I frequently make fakes, you paints and
crosses the hope is that the pushed painting will
ceive the eye into thinking that it is seeing a new
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