



School students' strike against Youth Training Scheme conscription, 1985. Photo: Dave Sinclair

9 JULY – 16 OCTOBER 2016

## LIVERPOOL BIENNIAL 2016

**KOKI TANAKA / FABIEN GIRAUD & RAPHAËL SIBONI /  
RAMIN HAERIZADEH, ROKNI HAERIZADEH & HESAM RAHMANIAN**

**Press View:** Thursday 7 & Friday 8 July 2016, 10am–6pm

**Private View:** Friday 8 July 2016, 6pm–8pm

**Liverpool Biennial 2016** unfolds throughout the landscape of the city. It is organised as a story narrated in several episodes: Ancient Greece, Chinatown, Children, Monuments from the Future, Software and Flashback. **Open Eye Gallery's** exhibition as part of Liverpool Biennial 2016 has a particular focus on the Flashback and Children's episodes and features international artists **Koki Tanaka** (b. 1975, Tochigi, Japan), **Fabien Giraud** (b. 1980, Paris, France) and **Raphaël Siboni** (b. 1981, Paris, France), **Ramin Haerizadeh** (b. 1975, Tehran, Iran), **Rokni Haerizadeh** (b. 1978, Tehran, Iran) and **Hesam Rahmanian** (b. 1980, Knoxville, USA)

The **Flashback** episode presents a way of experiencing history as it punctures the present, unexpectedly. The **Children's** episode invites artists to consider children as the primary audience, making work with and for them.

**Koki Tanaka's** diverse art practice spans video, photography, site-specific installation, and interventional projects. For Open Eye Gallery, Koki Tanaka revisits the scene of a huge protest in Liverpool (1985) that involved around 10,000 children, all of whom were angered by the Conservative government's Youth Training Scheme (YTS). The scheme was intended to reduce unemployment amongst young people, which was 80% at the time, but instead it was used as a way to provide cheap labour. In May 2016, Tanaka will bring together the original participants and their children for a walk through the city, from the Town Hall to the Pier Head (where Open Eye Gallery is located) re-tracing the original route, whilst the group talk about the past and the future. Children will interview adults, and vice versa. The resulting film will be shown at Open Eye Gallery throughout the Biennial.

**Fabien Giraud and Raphaël Siboni's** collaborative work reflects on cinema history, philosophy and technological evolution. *La Vallée Von Uexküll* is a series of films that respond to a strict protocol. In this series the sunset is filmed with a video camera but without any lens. Every time progress is made in image resolution and a new camera brought to the market, the film is shot once again. The artists will finish this film series once the resolution of the image surpasses the capacity of human perception – when the 'eye' of the camera can detect more than the human 'eye'.

Three submersibles, Anti-Catty, Princess Rambo and Space-Sheep, have smuggled artwork from Dubai to Liverpool. By circumnavigating the normal procedures used to transport artworks from one place to another, they deliberately degrade the usual values assigned to art objects. In the gallery, and across other venues, are videos by **Ramin Haerizadeh, Rokni Haerizadeh and Hesam Rahmanian** that document the daily lives of the submersibles, the smuggling and objects that have emerged from this process.

Liverpool Biennial 2016, a free festival of newly commissioned contemporary art from around the world, takes place across the city's galleries, unused buildings, public spaces and online from 9 July until 16 October. Further works from the Software and Flashback episodes, thematically linked to the exhibition at Open Eye Gallery, can be seen in venues including FACT, Bluecoat and The Oratory.

## **LIVERPOOL BIENNIAL FRINGE, WALL WORK COMMISSION: SPECTRA**

**Open Eye Gallery and Gazelli Art House**

[gazelliarthouse.com](http://gazelliarthouse.com) / [walterandzoniel.com](http://walterandzoniel.com)

As part of the Liverpool Biennial Fringe programme, London based artists **Walter & Zoniel** will create a new Wall Work commission, *Spectra*. The Wall Work series aims to create a new visual dialogue between the gallery and its context, and collaborate with artists who work outside the field of photography and lens-based practices. The public participation piece uses the elements key to Walter & Zoniel's work, of fun and surrealism and working on reassigning meaning to buildings that are familiar to us. Open Eye Gallery's facade will be covered in paint by the artists and the public launching colours directly onto it. The piece works on evoking a sense of mischief and its relationship to inspiration and creativity. By crossing the lines of what is normally sanctioned and allowed, those interacting with the work are momentarily set free of some of the constraints of the everyday.

### **Address:**

Open Eye Gallery, 19 Mann Island, Liverpool Waterfront, L3 1BP

### **Press View:**

Friday 8 July 2016, 5pm-8pm (Drinks and paint bombs will be served)

### **Public Participation:**

Friday 8 July 2016, 6pm-8pm

Saturday 9 July 2016, 11:30am-4:30pm

Sunday 10 July 2016, 11:30am-4:30pm

### **Installation Dates:**

9 July – 16 October 2016

## **LIVERPOOL BIENNIAL FRINGE: TROMARAMA**

Open Eye Gallery & Edouard Malingue Gallery. Curated by Ying Tan.

[edouardmalingue.com](http://edouardmalingue.com)

Exhibiting for the very first time in the UK, *Tromarama* is an Indonesian collective consisting of Febie Babyrose (aka Baby), Ruddy Hatumena and Herbert Hans (aka Ebet). Established in 2006 and based in Bandung, Indonesia, they have been developing inventive responses to contemporary urban culture spanning multiple media. Exhibited in the unusual setting of a private residential apartment, the works shown address as well as observe contemporary fluxes surrounding the relationship between reality outside of a screen and the virtual reality inside of it.

This exhibition is presented in collaboration with Open Eye Gallery with support by Edouard Malingue Gallery.

### **Address:**

Apartment 603, One Park West, 31 Strand Street, Liverpool, L1 8LN  
(Please ring the doorbell and you will be shown up to the apartment)

### **Press View:**

Thursday 7 – Friday 8 July 2016, 10am–6pm

### **Preview Night:**

Friday 8 July 2016, 6pm–8pm

### **Exhibition Dates:**

9–31 July 2016, Tuesday–Sunday, 10am–6pm

## **LIVERPOOL BIENNIAL FRINGE: TELLING TALES**

Open Eye Gallery & the Royal College of Art. Curated by Thomas Dukes.

*Telling Tales* features seven artists from the Royal College of Art who make use of photography, text, moving image, sculpture and sound to delve into the recreation of experience.

The work takes as its subject ideas around, and expressions of, emotion and experience – two areas that are considered personal. But these experiences are subject to an increasingly connected world, one in which we are encouraged to share as much of our lives with groups from close family to complete strangers. The projects on display reconsider how we express these aspects of experience in society. The personal becomes stages (and in some cases re-staged) in moments of reflection, online and through art.

Artists: Iris Brember, Theo Ellison, Sarah Howe, Ben McDonnell, Joshua Phillips, Mark Sedge and Dominic Till.

### **Address:**

45–61 Duke Street, Liverpool, L1 5AP

### **Press View:**

Wednesday 6 – Thursday 7 July 2016, 12pm–7pm

### **Fringe Launch Event:**

Friday 8 July 2016, 6pm–9pm

### **Exhibition Dates:**

6–11 July 2016, 10am–6pm

## **LIVERPOOL BIENNIAL FRINGE: ROSE HOWEY COOPERATIVE GALLERY**

Open Eye Gallery & Rose Howey Cooperative Gallery

[rosehowey.wordpress.com](http://rosehowey.wordpress.com)

Rose Howey is a housing co-operative established in the L8 area of Liverpool to address issues around poverty, housing, parenting, and education. Open Eye Gallery is pleased to be partnering Rose Howey Cooperative Gallery in their programme activity unfolding throughout Liverpool Biennial 2016 as they embark on establishing a gallery and performance space. The collaboration emerges as an expression of the gallery's history, rooted in the origins and expression of art and activism.

### **Address:**

By invitation only, please email [rosehoweycooperative@gmail.com](mailto:rosehoweycooperative@gmail.com)

### **July 1,2,3**

1-3 July 2016, Friday 12pm-9pm, Saturday & Sunday 12pm-8pm

**MaMa Choir Performance** (This event takes place at Open Eye Gallery and is a free, drop in event)

Saturday 16 July 2016, 1pm-1:30pm

### **30 Years On: Chernobyl Exposed**

29-31 July 2016, Friday 12pm-9pm, Saturday & Sunday 12pm-8pm

### **The Event Room**

5-7 August 2016, Friday 12pm-9pm, Saturday & Sunday 12pm-8pm

### **Transmutable Voices: New Aesthetics Of Citizenship**

2-4 September 2016, Friday 12pm-9pm, Saturday & Sunday 12pm-8pm

### **Transatlantic Rumors: Alternatives To Urban Capitalism**

7-9 October 2016, Friday 12pm-9pm, Saturday & Sunday 12pm-8pm

## **ABOUT OPEN EYE GALLERY:**

We believe photography is for everyone and can be meaningful, informing our present and inspiring positive futures. Open Eye Gallery works with people to explore photography's unique ability to connect, to tell stories, to inquire, to reflect on humanity's past and present, and to celebrate its diversity and creativity.

Founded in 1977 Open Eye Gallery is an independent not-for-profit photography gallery based in Liverpool. One of the UK's leading photography spaces, Open Eye Gallery is the only gallery dedicated to photography and related media in the North West of England. Open Eye Gallery has consistently championed photography as an art form that is relevant to everyone. It promotes the practice, enjoyment and understanding of photography by creating challenging and entertaining opportunities to experience and appreciate distinctive, innovative photographs.

In November 2011 Open Eye Gallery re-launched in a brand new purpose-built home in one of the city's most prestigious and prominent new developments on the Liverpool Waterfront. The gallery's position at the heart of the regenerated Waterfront – next to the Museum of Liverpool and a stone's throw from Tate Liverpool and Albert Dock – cements its commitment to the city and its vibrant cultural life.

As well as presenting a programme of international, high-quality exhibitions Open Eye Gallery houses a permanent Archive containing photographs dating from the 1930s to the present day. The gallery also commissions Wall Works – large-scale graphic art installations for the external facade of the gallery.

## ABOUT LIVERPOOL BIENNIAL:

Liverpool Biennial presents the largest festival of contemporary visual art in the UK. It takes place every two years across the city in public spaces, unused buildings, galleries and online. Liverpool Biennial 2016 runs from 9 July until 16 October and is organised as a story narrated in several episodes: fictional worlds that draw from Liverpool's past, present and future. Also showing during the Biennial are the John Moores Painting Prize, Bloomberg New Contemporaries, and the Biennial Fringe. Liverpool Biennial is underpinned by a programme of research, education, residencies and commissions. Founded in 1998, Liverpool Biennial has commissioned over 268 new artworks and presented work by over 400 artists from around the world.

Liverpool Biennial 2016

9 July – 16 October

[www.biennial.com](http://www.biennial.com)

#Biennial2016

## EDITOR'S NOTES:

If you need to contact us to ask a question, arrange interviews or to request high-resolutions image files, please email Charlotte Anne Down, Marketing & Communications Officer

[charlotte@openeye.org.uk](mailto:charlotte@openeye.org.uk) / +44 (0) 151 242 1131

Gallery opening hours:

10am–6pm, Monday–Sunday

\*Our opening hours have been temporarily extended for the duration of Liverpool Biennial 2016.

Website: [www.openeye.org.uk](http://www.openeye.org.uk)

Twitter: [@OpenEyeGallery](https://twitter.com/OpenEyeGallery)

Facebook: [/OpenEyeGallery](https://www.facebook.com/OpenEyeGallery)

Instagram: [@openeyegallery](https://www.instagram.com/openeyegallery)

Ends –



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