



OPEN
EYE
GALLERY

Press Release: 3 November 2016

“The best exchange is seeing the world through my eyes”

Sunday 27 November – Tuesday 29 November 2016

A Culture Shifts Programme: A collaboration between photographer Tadhg Devlin and the Dementia SURF GROUP, brought to you by Open Eye Gallery.

Open Eye Gallery is an associate of Tate Exchange



Gina at Liverpool One shopping complex © Tadhg Devlin and the SURF dementia group, 2016

Tate Exchange is an ambitious ‘open experiment’ which allows other organisations and members of the public to participate in Tate’s creative process, running events and projects on site and using art as a way of addressing wider issues in the world around us.

Open Eye Gallery is working in partnership with 8 Merseyside wide partners, local communities and 10 Photographers on a new socially engaged photographic programme *Culture Shifts*.

This Tate Exchange event showcases and reflects upon *Culture Shift’s* first collaborative project. Liverpool based photographer Tadhg Devlin is working in collaboration with the Dementia SURF (Service User Reference Forum) group, supported by Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust. The group has a strong track record as ambassadors for those living with early on set dementia. A number of the group have been working closely with Devlin to create Photo Stories which break the stigma associated with dementia, and reflect their lives as individuals, not as a condition.

At Tate Exchange Liverpool, based in the heart of the gallery’s collection displays, *Culture Shifts* will showcase a series of photographic works and a creative newspaper. The newspaper acts as an artwork in its own right and as well as an alternative piece of interpretation about living with dementia and the individual stories of the SURF group members.

Culture Shifts will host a series of events led by the SURF group as well as various guest speakers from the Arts, Health and Care sector. We aim to open up dialogue around Arts and Health and raise awareness around dementia in a creative and engaging way.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AT TATE EXCHANGE LIVERPOOL

*All Tate Exchange Liverpool events will be live on Tate's website from Thursday 10 November.

Sunday 27 November 2016

A walk in my shoes / 12pm-12.30pm & 2.30pm-3pm

Join the SURF group members as they lead you on an alternative tour of Tate Liverpool and surrounding area. Experience how they perceive the world around them.

Live musical performance by Paul Hitchmough / 3.15pm-3.45pm

Join one of our SURF members Paul for a live musical performance.

Monday 28 November 2016: Arts and health critical discussion day

Drop in portfolio review sessions for photography students / 11am-12pm

Photographer Tadhg Devlin and Open Eye Gallery will be offering portfolio review sessions for students interesting in showcasing their work and looking for some development support. This opportunity would be particularly suited to students interested in socially engaged arts practice.

Tadhg Devlin in conversation: An artist panel discussion / 1.30pm-3pm

Join photographer Tadhg Devlin and a host of guest speakers for a round table discussion around the current arts and health agenda, what learning and experience has come from this particular project, and what role photography played in realising a new co-authored body of artwork.

Tuesday 29 November 2016: Health & wellbeing day

A mindfulness session with Roy Foden / 11am

SURF group member Roy will be giving a personal insight into mindfulness and Dementia.

What role does art play in health & wellbeing? Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust / 12pm

An introduction by psychologist Sarah Butchard, Mersey Care NHS Foundation Trust and film screening of 'reflections' - specifically looking at the arts and mental health and how innovative approaches can improve quality of life.

Dealing with the difficult days / 2pm-3.15pm

An inspiring workshop for people living with dementia, their loved ones and carers by Alan Howells, Dementia Learning and Development Specialist, Community Integrated Care.

Aromatherapy hand massages / 10am-11am & 3pm-4pm

There will also be drop in free aromatherapy hand massages on offer for the health and wellbeing day on Tuesday 29 November 2016.

To find out more about Tate Exchange please visit tate.org.uk/tateexchange. For press information about Tate Exchange Liverpool please email alison.cornmell@tate.org.uk or call 0151 702 7444. For high-resolution images visit tate.org.uk/press.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Tate Exchange Associates

Tate Exchange allows other organisations and members of the public to participate in Tate's creative process. Organisations from a wide range of fields well beyond the gallery's normal reach have become Associates of Tate Exchange. This group will help to programme and run new dedicated spaces. Working in a spirit of generosity, openness and trust, the Associates will collaborate with one another around an annual theme inspired by the art on display. Tate Exchange will in time expand its group of Associates to include more partners from the UK and abroad, while consistently seeking to engage audiences which are new to the museum. For the full list of Associates and more information please visit: tate.org.uk/tateexchange

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.

openeye.org.uk / @OpenEyeGallery

Culture Shifts

Culture Shifts is a new and exciting socially engaged photography programme, working with 10 national and international photographers embedded in communities across 7 areas of Liverpool City Region. It aims to support communities to explore their stories in a way that is meaningful to them. Collaborating with photographers, communities will co-author a series of photo stories, reflecting on their identity, interests or lives. Collectively we hope these photo stories will inspire, surprise or challenge a wider audience through both a digital platform and 8 exhibitions across 7 venues.

openeye.org.uk/whatson-category/culture-shifts / #CultureShifts

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