

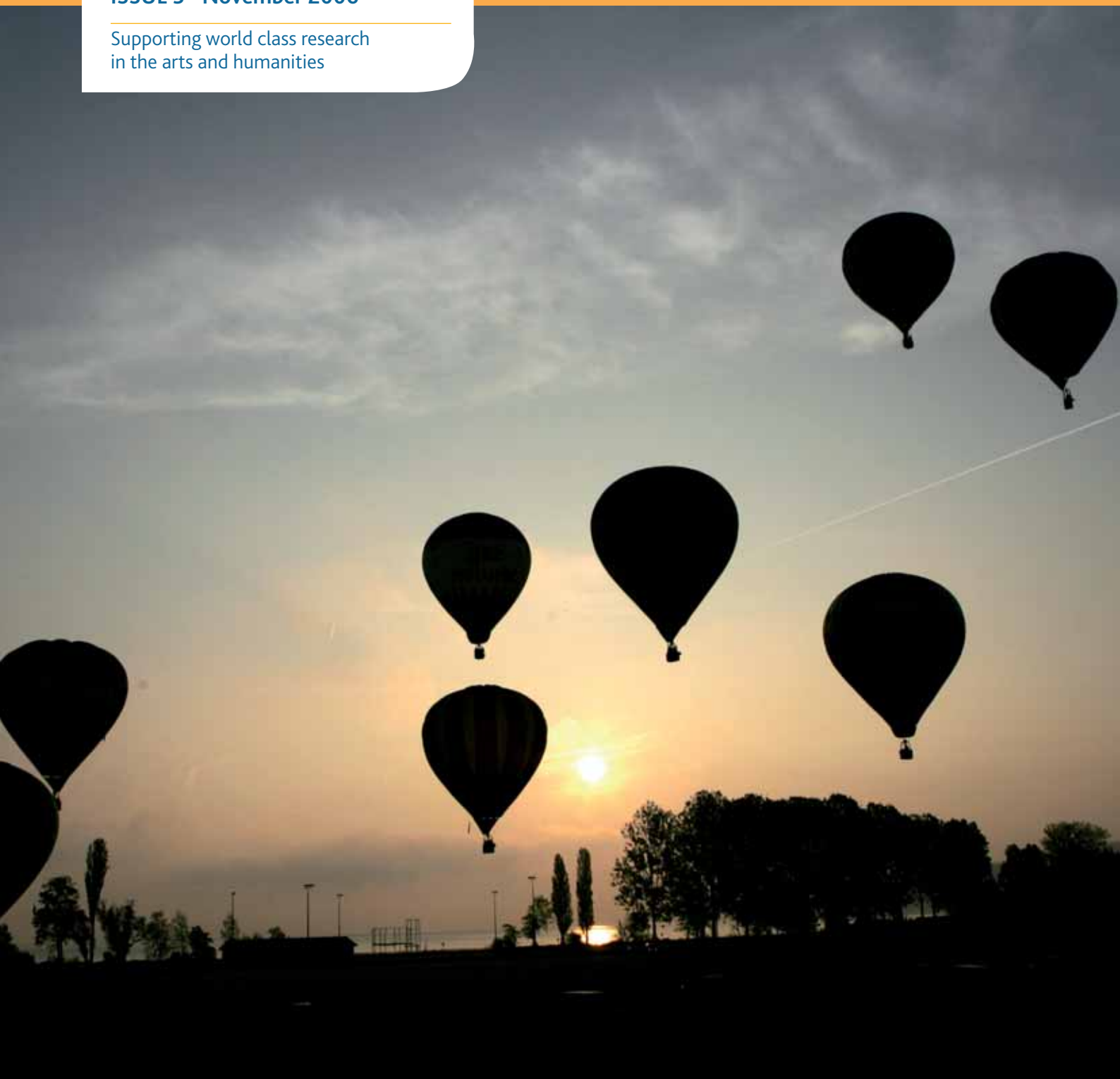
PODIUM



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

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Supporting world class research
in the arts and humanities



AHRC RESEARCH TAKES
FLIGHT! NEW STUDY
LOOKS AT AFFECT OF MUSIC
ON DIRECTING DREAMS

Darwin's papers
now available
online

News: AHRC
sets up
international
collaboration

Digitised
archives
allow public
access to rare
materials

Editor's Column

OVER THE LAST few years Collaborative Working has become more and more important within arts and humanities research. The AHRC has been exceptionally proactive in promoting such arrangements and currently has a number of such programmes in place including the Collaborative Doctoral Scheme and the Knowledge Transfer Fellowship Scheme.

This issue, to reflect this, we feature a number of articles involving AHRC funded academics who are working with non-academic organizations or with academics from other disciplines in collaborative research.

Our cover story features an artist, who as an AHRC Research Fellow, is working with psychologists to study the affects of sounds on sleep. We also look at an AHRC supported artist who has presented an exhibition in conjunction with an award-winning museum.

Overseas, the AHRC is working to set up a number of collaborations with other national research funding organisations. In News we report on a recently signed Memorandum of Understanding that the AHRC has signed with the Korea Research Foundation of South Korea. This is the first of what is hoped to be many such arrangements.

Finally, we look at the work being undertaken across the arts and humanities to allow greater public access to historical archives by digitizing their contents and then placing them on the internet. The most successful of these has been the recent launch of the AHRC funded Darwin Online database with over a quarter of million visitors in its first week of operation.

Jake Gilmore, Editor, *Podium*

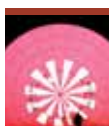
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*The views expressed in articles in **Podium** are those of the authors, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Arts and Humanities Research Council.*

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A very broad range of research topics are being covered by the award holders across all arts and humanities disciplines.

AHRC launches Religion and Society Research Programme

THIS NEW COLLABORATIVE research programme between the AHRC and the ESRC aims to explore the current developments in the arts and humanities and social sciences communities, concerning questions of belief, human culture, society and religion. This will be the first UK research programme to foster collaborative endeavours across the arts, humanities and social sciences in order to understand the interrelationships between religion and society. The programme will operate for approximately five and a half years with a budget of £8.3m.

A Programme Specification is now available and applications are being invited for the following funding opportunities:

- Collaborative Research Studentships to encourage and develop collaboration between Higher Education Institution (HEI) departments and non-academic bodies - closing date for this call is 11 January 2007.
- Research Networks and Workshops - closing date for this call is 29 March 2007.
- Small Research Grants (projects of up to one year) - closing date for this call is 29 March 2007.
- Large Research Grants (projects with a duration of between one and three years) - closing date for outline applications is 11 January 2007 with the subsequent closing date for full applications, 24 May 2007.

Further information on this programme can be found at: http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/apply/research/sfi/ahrcsi/religion_society.asp

Latest Research Leave Awards

THE LATEST AWARDS in the AHRC Research Leave Scheme have now been made and 224 researchers were successful. This was 51% of the total applicants for the scheme.

A very broad range of research topics are being covered by the award holders across all arts and humanities disciplines. Topics being covered in this round include Philosophy on Film: Baudrillard and The Matrix Trilogy; the history of design in British Film; the representation of Alzheimer's Disease in Contemporary Literature and Culture and also The Community and Identity of Gibraltar since 1704.

The next closing date for applications for the scheme will Thursday 8th March 2007.

Further details on how to apply can be found at http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/ahrb/website/apply/research/research_leave.asp

AHRC sets up international collaboration

IN SEPTEMBER THE AHRC signed a Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) with the Korea Research Foundation of the Republic of Korea (KRF) to allow both organisations to work together to create collaborative opportunities for Korean and UK research teams in the arts and humanities fields.

The KRF is a grant organization supported by the South Korean Ministry of Culture and Tourism and it focuses on providing support for research into new theories for the advancement of science, the arts, and Korean culture in general.

This joint endeavour represents a wonderful opportunity for research teams in South Korea and the UK to work together. In the first instance this MOU will allow the AHRC to receive applications for funding from teams that include both UK and Korean researchers for the existing AHRC 'Network and Workshops Scheme'.

This is the first signing of an international MOU by the AHRC with another national research funding organisation. However, the international team at the AHRC is currently working to develop

relationships with other national research funding bodies in both Asia and the Americas.

'This MOU is the first of what will hopefully be a series of key collaborative initiatives between the AHRC and other national research funding bodies around the World,' says Philip Esler, Chief Executive of the AHRC.

Further information on the AHRC Interdisciplinary Research Networks and Workshops scheme can be read at http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/apply/research/research_networks_workshops.asp



► Sang-Man Huh, President of the Korea Research Foundation & AHRC Chief Executive Philip Esler

New faces at the AHRC

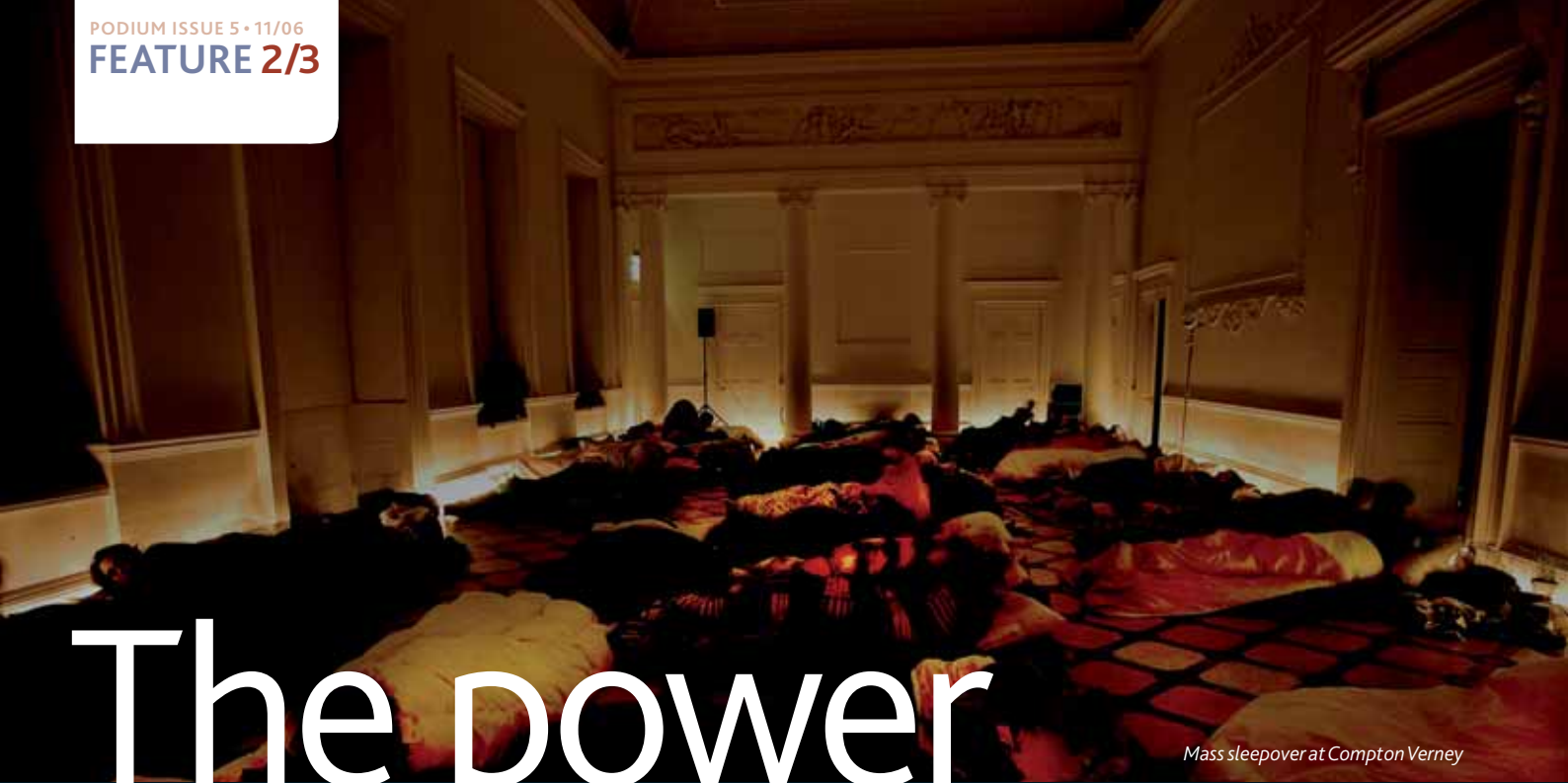
THE AHRC WELCOMED Professor Richard Trainor as the newest member to its' Council in September. Appointed to the Council by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, Professor Trainor has been Principal of King's College London since 2004. Prior to that he was Vice Chancellor of the University of Greenwich and before then Vice-Principal at Glasgow University. He is a Social Historian specialising in 19th and 20th century Britain.

Professor Trainor replaces Professor Michael Worton, from UCL. Professor Worton has been an invaluable Council member and most recently he has been chairing a joint HEFCE/AHRC expert group exploring the potential for using 'metrics' to inform both the assessment of research quality and the allocation of funding for research.

In addition four existing members were re-appointed to the AHRC Council with effect from 1 September 2006. The reappointed members are Professor Lisa Jardine, Professor Graeme Barker, Mr Neil MacGregor and Ms Felicity Goodey.



► Professor Richard Trainor
Image courtesy King's College London.



Mass sleepover at Compton Verney

The power of dreams

All images courtesy of Luke Jerram

A unique collaboration in June between an artist, a composer and sleep psychologists resulted in a concert by a 'Sky Orchestra' of seven hot air balloons over Stratford upon Avon. What does this event tell us about the affect of sounds on REM sleep?

SUMMER 2006 SAW seven hot air balloons ascending above the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford upon Avon at dawn to perform a new composition into the sky. Devised by artist and AHRC Fellow, Luke Jerram, who is based part-time at the University of the West of England, the Sky Orchestra played sleep music in surround from speakers attached to the seven hot air balloons.

On this occasion a special score, that was inspired by 'A Midsummer Nights Dream', had been written by composer, Dan Jones, who has worked closely with Luke for a number of years. Luke Jerram is a sculptor who fuses his artistic practice with his studies of perception and science.

Luke Jerram explains, "Dan and I have collaborated on scores for a sky orchestra since 2003 and I have also been working with sleep researchers, Dr Chris Alford and Jennie Parker at UWE to deepen our understanding of the affect of sound upon sleep.

"I first had the idea for a sky orchestra when I experienced the call to prayer at 3.00am in Tunisia. The voices calling from many different areas of the town simultaneously created a sculptural kind of map in my head. This inspired me to make a sculptural piece of work that would be located on the edge of people's sleep."

The event in Stratford upon Avon was a lead into a 'Dream Concert' held later that month at Compton Verney. Around 60 people took part in a mass sleepover where they fell asleep to the sound of music. Again the score was written by Dan Jones. The sleepover participants' experiences have provided the UWE dream researchers with the opportunity to measure the connection between sounds heard during the Rapid Eye Movement (REM) state of sleep and the dreams experienced by the people taking part.

The intention of the study was twofold. Firstly, to look at environment, film and musical sounds as stimuli and to observe their impact on dream content. Secondly, to observe the effect of priming on the emotional content of the written dream and sleep reports of the participants.

During the event the participants watched the film 'A Midsummer Night's Dream', which was filmed at Compton Verney and also listened to a short talk on Shakespeare and on sleep before finally bedding down to sounds embedded within a musical lullaby that were associated with the play and the Midsummer Night's Dream theme.

These sounds were then also played during the night when the participants were most likely to be in REM sleep. Finally, a 'wakeaby' was played to help them wake up in the morning.

▼ Sky Orchestra over Stratford



One of the most intriguing findings were the numerous references to bodies of water in the reports. These ranged from water features such as oceans, seas, beaches and rivers.

Those who took part in the research were all volunteers and were asked to report the last dream that they remembered having before the event and then to describe what they dreamt about during the night at Compton Verney.

Of the over forty people who returned reports nearly two thirds of the dreams were described as being pleasant. This contradicts previous research which suggests that two thirds of all dream reports would be unpleasant in dominant emotional feeling.

The reports also contained more references to being at events than would normally be present in such data and in some cases the reference was direct in describing being at the event itself or a concert or theatre.

However, one of the most intriguing findings were the numerous references to bodies of water in the reports. These ranged from water features such as oceans, seas, beaches and rivers. There were also references to English woods and beautiful natural surroundings. These settings are in keeping with both the grounds and surroundings of Compton Verney as well as the music and sound themes presented during the night.

The findings from the sleepover event will now contribute towards the overall research project that the team are carrying out at UWE. Together with the support

of Cambridge Neurotechnology Ltd they are building and testing a 'Dream Director' which is a machine to scientifically test the affects of sound upon REM dreaming content.

Dr Chris Alford from UWE said, "One key application of this research is that we may be able to help trauma patients who experience recurring bad dreams through helping to steer and guide their dreaming narrative".

Worn by a participant as they sleep the Dream Director device sends signals to a computer which then plays specific audio files during the REM stage of sleep. Participant's dream-time experiences will be analysed and compared to uninfluenced dreaming and the overall sleep experience.

The feedback to both the events and the research as a whole has been very positive indeed with news and other media organisations giving wide coverage. The general public also seem to be overwhelmingly behind such events as the Sky Orchestra in Stratford with comments ranging from "beautiful and serene", "exhilarating", "a thrilling experience" to "I'd like to wake up every morning to that sight".

The next Sky Orchestra event is planned to be at the Sydney Festival in January 2007. Sweet dreams.

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Contact: Luke Jerram; email: info@lukejerram.com

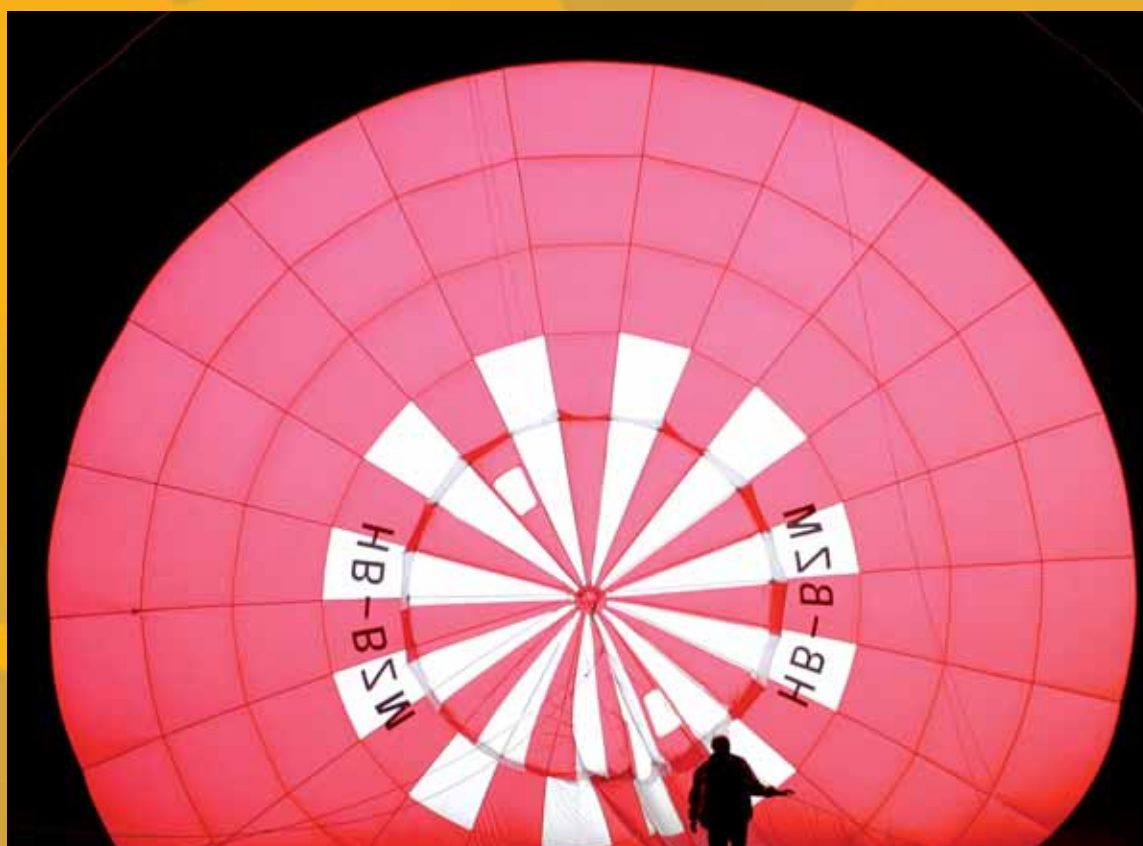


Photo: Thierry Grodet

Images: Desmodus D'Orbigny taken from 'Darwin, C. R. ed. 1838. Mammalia Part 2 No. 1 of The zoology of the voyage of H.M.S. Beagle. By George R. Waterhouse. Includes by Darwin: Geographical introduction (pp.i-v) and A notice of their habits and ranges. Edited and superintended by Charles Darwin. London: Smith Elder and Co.'

Copyright: The Complete Works of Charles Darwin Online

▼ Page 40 from Darwin, C. R. 1890. 'Journal of researches into the natural history and geology of the various countries visited by H.M.S. Beagle etc.' London: John Murray
 Copyright: The Complete Works of Charles Darwin Online

Bringing Darwin to the world

How a media frenzy evolved out of the launch of the AHRC supported online database of the complete works of one of history's greatest scientists.



▲ Dr John van Wyhe
 Copyright The Complete Works of Darwin Online

October 2006 saw the launch of a website resource that is publishing the entire works of Charles Darwin - 50,000 pages of searchable text and 40,000 images of original publications - online. The publication of the website ended up being a surprise media sensation, probably unparalleled for an academic online publication on one person.

The AHRC has provided the primary funding for the site for three years along side other supporters including the Charles Darwin Trust. The site comprises the largest collection of Darwin's writings ever published and is aimed at serious scholars, but can be used by anyone with a passing interest in Darwin. The site is completely free to use and most texts can be viewed either as colour originals or as fully-formatted electronic transcriptions, and the two versions can also be compared side-by-side. There are also German, Danish and Russian editions. This access meant that in the first week of being online over a quarter of million people visited the site.

The entire project was the vision of Dr John van Wyhe, the project's director, who has compiled materials from around the world over the course of four years.

Based at the University of Cambridge Dr van Wyhe was inspired to make all of Darwin's works accessible in one place when his own efforts to research the famous naturalist at a university library in Asia ran into trouble. He was only able to find one of Darwin's books, and a web search proved almost as fruitless - turning up an incomplete set of electronic texts that were themselves missing large quantities of relevant information.

"For a scholar it was incredibly frustrating," Dr van Wyhe said. "What was needed was a comprehensive electronic collection of Darwin's writings, and I realised that since no-one had done it, I could create it myself."

One of the most exciting features is the availability of Darwin's work as mp3 files. Users will be able to download audio versions of works like the Origin Of Species on to a computer, allowing them to burn them on to CDs, or straight on to an iPod. The audio files were created using text-to-speech software.

"The idea is to make these important works as accessible as possible; some people can only get at Darwin that way,"

Dr van Wyhe, said. "It's also a new medium and there's no reason why, if you can search and read the text and look at images of the original, you shouldn't be able to download and listen to it as well."

The website includes the most comprehensive Darwin bibliography ever published and the largest catalogue of Darwin's handwritten manuscripts. There is also a complete collection of published descriptions of Darwin's Beagle specimens and important related works for understanding Darwin and his times.

Media frenzy

The website launched on October 19th and was immediately taken up by the front page of the BBC news website. From there the story quickly spread to other news sites. Most importantly it was picked up by the major news services such as the Press Association and Reuters. Eventually more than 900 websites and newspapers were carrying the story - literally all over the world and in very many languages. Hundreds more blog sites carried the news. There was a feature in Nature and pieces in The Times, Guardian, Telegraph, Financial Times, The Independent, Singapore Today, Die Sueddeutsche Zeitung, Washington Post amongst many other papers.

During the course of the 19th the story became the most e-mailed on the BBC website and the second most-watched video. All this helped to make the news of the launch of Darwin Online reach well over 400 million people across the globe.

It even got mentioned that weekend on 'Ant & Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway.'

More than a million pages

Before the launch Google showed that 174 pages carried the exact words "the complete work of Charles Darwin online". A search on 25 October, less than one week later, showed 20,500. Meanwhile "Darwin Online" is now listed on over a million pages.

This has meant that Darwin Online has fulfilled its aims at a very early stage. It has brought Darwin to the world, and people all over the world are reading Darwin. But there is still plenty more to come.

At the moment the site contains about 50% of the materials that will be provided by 2009. Forthcoming materials will include images of the Darwin Archive at Cambridge University Library, further published editions and translations, more editorial introductions and notes and transcriptions of Darwin manuscripts.

.....
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 tel: 01223 760475
<http://darwin-online.org.uk/>





◀ Users logging on to the PBW website for the first time at the PBW launch event.

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Ultimate who's who of the Byzantine world

THE HISTORY OF Byzantium, told through the careers of individuals, is captured in the unique Prosopography of the Byzantine World (PBW). This rich online searchable database of more than 10,000 people was launched in August by King's College London.

A Prosopography is the systematic recording and study of individuals. This way of presenting material, which evolved during the nineteenth century as a tool to help scholars write a new kind of history, tells not just the stories of monarchs and 'great men', but of wider social groups as well.

The PBW is a definitive Who's Who of the Byzantine world. It aims to record all surviving information about every individual mentioned in Byzantine textual sources in Greek, Latin, and other languages of the Middle East: as well as

these, it also exploits the abundant evidence from surviving seal impressions, an under-used resource which archaeology is gradually revealing. The overarching project covers the period 641-1261 with this first section covering the eleventh and early twelfth century.

Funded by the AHRC and the British Academy the PBW works in collaboration with the Berlin-Brandenburg Akademie's Prosopographie der mittelbyzantinischen Zeit (PmbZ) and the Evergetis Project. It was established as a British Academy Research Project in 1989 and the project is housed in the School of Humanities at King's College London.

Professor Charlotte Roueché, Chair of the project comments: 'Our goal is to record in a computerised relational database all surviving information about every individual mentioned

in Byzantine sources and every individual mentioned in non-Byzantine sources during the same period who is relevant to Byzantine affairs at this time. More importantly, having gathered the information, we want to make it available to as many people as possible, to use however they wish – to investigate their genealogy, or the history of a place, or the details of a historical event'.

By its nature, this resource is not static and it is continuing to develop. It is planned to add more data from Arabic sources; and it is hoped that scholars and archaeologists will continue to provide further information.

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Contact: Michael Jeffreys or Tassos Papacostas,
email: pbw@kcl.ac.uk
The website is at: www.pbw.kcl.ac.uk

Landscape and Memory

FOR THE LAST three years Judith Tucker has been AHRB (now AHRC) Research Fellow in the Creative and Performing Arts in the School of Fine Art, History of Art & Cultural Studies at the University of Leeds. During this fellowship Judith has worked on a research project entitled 'Painting and Postmemory: Re/visioning, Re/visiting, Re/placing'.

Judith's project focuses on Landscape and Memory and exemplifies the possibilities of

Her work draws on the major debates about place, identity, displacement and memory.

trans-disciplinary research across a unique combination of Jewish Studies - her work is based on Marianne Hirsch's concept of post-memory and the second generation of Holocaust families - fine art - she is a landscape painter opening up fine art to the questions of memory and displacement – and cultural studies - her work draws on the major debates about place, identity, displacement and memory. This project culminated, from June to September this year, with an exhibition, **Resort**, that Judith presented at University of Leeds Gallery.

These paintings and drawings explore the Baltic seaside resort of Ahlbeck. Through visiting the resort in 2004 and exploring the evocative mixture of decay and lavish restoration that can be seen there, she became intrigued with the relation between certain temporary structures and the landscape: notably the ubiquitous Strandkörbe. These hybrids between beach hut and deck chair offer the possibility of temporary shelter against the flat vastness of the Baltic.

In her work Judith questioned the risk of domesticity in 'wilderness' and then introduces the problematic of the relation of grief to leisure.



◀ Diversion ▶ Afterwards.
Copyright Judith Tucker.

As she explored the issues she demonstrated how, for her, visual art as place-making and the notion of 'postmemory' interrelate.

As well as giving a number of public talks discussing her work the exhibition was also timed to coincide with the CongressCATH 2006 Conference 'The Afterlife of Memory: Historia/Memoria/Amnesia'.

Further images from the exhibition can be viewed online at http://www.leeds.ac.uk/fine_art/events/2006/0630/

.....
Contact Judith Tucker j.a.tucker@leeds.ac.uk



► Robert Hanbury Brown
(right) at the Narrabri
Observatory, Australia
Courtesy NCUACS University of Bath

Shedding light on the archives of key scientists

UNDER THE AHRC Resource Enhancement Scheme the archives of 11 of the UK's most important physicists and mathematicians are to be preserved for posterity. Scientists whose work will be catalogued include two of the leading women scientists of Twentieth Century Britain as well as two pioneers in the development of radar. These archives are to be catalogued over the next three years by the National Cataloguing Unit for the Archives of Contemporary Scientists, based at the University of Bath.

This funding will ensure the archives can be made accessible for future researchers. Once they have been catalogued the 11 project archives will be placed in the libraries or archives in Cambridge, London, Nottingham, Oxford and Reading

Two of the 11 scientists are women who were each leaders in their respective fields: Lady (Bertha Swirles) Jeffreys (1903-1999), played a leading role in women's education and undertook important early research into quantum physics. She was Director of Studies in Mathematics at Girton College, Cambridge.

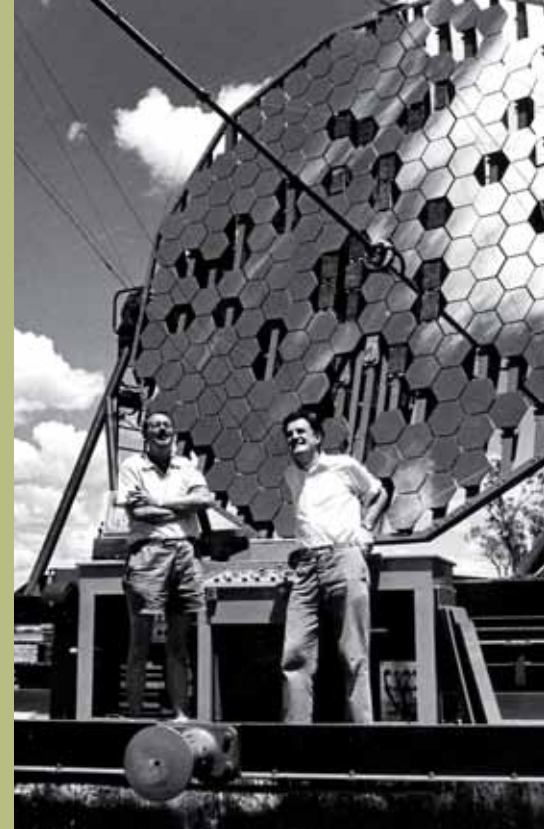
Dame Kathleen Lonsdale (1903-1971) was one of the first two women to be elected a Fellow of the Royal Society, in 1945 and she was a pioneer x-ray crystallographer at the Royal Institution and University College London.

The ground-breaking research in the development of radar is represented by two of the key scientists who worked in this field.

Sir Martin Ryle (1918-1984) was latterly Professor of Radio Astronomy at the University of Cambridge and won the Nobel Prize in 1974 for his pioneering work in radio astrophysics. However, his early work included helping develop the system that allowed British pilots to defeat the Luftwaffe.

Another important figure in radar development whose work will be preserved is Robert Hanbury Brown (1916-2002). Later he went on to work in astronomy at the universities of Manchester and Sydney, Australia.

Other scientists whose work will be catalogued include great mathematicians of the twentieth-



century and a trailblazer in the field of nuclear magnetic resonance spectroscopy and magnetic resonance imaging.

The Unit's Director, Mr Peter Harper, said: "This project offers a unique opportunity to advance understanding of the ways in which the physical and mathematical sciences have shaped the modern world."

For the full list of scientists whose work is being catalogued please visit:

<http://www.bath.ac.uk/ncuacs/AHRC.htm>

Contact Peter Harper, email: ncuacs@bath.ac.uk
tel: 01225 383522

Opening access to Rhodesian Army archive



▲ British Empire and Commonwealth Museum

IN THE SECOND half of the Twentieth Century the wars of liberation in southern Africa had a profound impact on the region. In what is now Zimbabwe, the Rhodesian Army was the main fighting force opposing African majority rule and like any large fighting force it produced sizable amounts of paperwork and documentation.

After independence in 1980 a huge collection of these papers relating to the Rhodesian Army was saved from destruction and smuggled into South Africa. This archive of hundreds of

un-catalogued boxes is now sitting in the British Empire and Commonwealth Museum in Bristol.

The AHRC has recently awarded the African History research team at the University of West of England funding through the Resource Enhancement Scheme for three years to research and catalogue these archives. This project will be carried out in partnership with the British Empire and Commonwealth Museum.

Researchers who have made initial investigations of the boxes have found gems such as poignant photographs of soldiers on both sides of the war for independence; intelligence reports; operational instructions, and policy debates exposing the strengths and weaknesses of a doomed but desperate government. However, at the present time there is no way of locating specific documents and no organising principle behind the collection.

It is intended that the project will produce a comprehensive searchable catalogue of this unique collection, with user-friendly web-based

access, and a guide to the contents. Up to 10,000 pages of material will also be digitised and included in the Aluka Struggles for Freedom in Southern Africa collection, which documents the liberation struggles in southern Africa since the end of World War II.

Project leader Dr Diana Jeater is Principal Lecturer in African History in UWE's Faculty of Humanities, Languages and Social Sciences, and also Chair of the Britain Zimbabwe Society. She said:

"This is a really exciting collection with something for military and social historians, those interested in liberation struggles and questions of identity, and the wider community."

A full-time archivist will be appointed and the project will welcome volunteers who are training to be archivists or PhD students who wish to base theses on the material.

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► Exhibit from 'In Search of A Hidden Landscape'

Courtesy Killhope, the North of England Lead Mining Museum and David Walker Barker

Going underground

OVER THE SUMMER Killhope, the North of England Lead Mining Museum, in Upper Weardale, staged a new exhibition, 'In Search of A Hidden Landscape', by acclaimed artist David Walker Barker. The award-winning lead mining museum invited visitors to discover literally 'hidden' landscapes on its North Pennines site.

David, from the School of Design at Leeds University, has been working with Killhope on a research project funded by the AHRC and Leeds University. This project culminated in the exhibition of over twenty art and related artifacts, two of which were actually located underground within mine shafts.

David has been working with and from aspects of landscape environments since 1973 producing paintings, drawings and painted constructions. He has made an extensive collection of crystallised mineral specimens and related artefacts from the Northern Pennine area during the course of fieldwork in the region over the past thirty years.



The geology, minerals and human stories of the Pennines are themes for his work as he seeks to view landscape as a process in and through time.

"It is a privilege for me to work with Killhope, its staff and the heritage site and in being able to focus specifically on the landscape of the North Pennines," said David.

"Generations of miners have created a 'hidden landscape' as they chased the mineral veins to ever greater depths in the cold limestone. The crystals on display in the museum are reminders of the once real men and women who still seem present, though silent, in the landscapes they once occupied," he said.

Over the course of the exhibition numerous school groups visited the mine and over 15,000 people have seen his artworks at the site.

Contact: David Walker Barker,
email: d.walker-barker@leeds.ac.uk
<http://www.durham.gov.uk/killhope/usp.nsf/pws/killhope+-+Killhope+Homepage>

21st century design on the move

OVER THE LAST eighteen months 21 research clusters, supported jointly by the AHRC and EPSRC, have been exploring the new knowledge and understanding needed to underpin designing in the 21st Century. A broad range of new contexts for design have been examined.

Examples of work undertaken include that of Professor Alastair MacDonald, from Glasgow School of Art, who has been leading work investigating the role of design in improving patient journeys within the 21st Century NHS and a cluster led by Cathy Burke and Judith Torrington (Leeds & Sheffield Universities respectively) who have been exploring how children view the designed environment, particularly in the context of schools.

Professor Tom Inns, Director for the Designing for the 21st Century Initiative has been leading a recent series of workshops and symposia where the outputs of all 21 projects have been reviewed. "Design is such a great catalyst for

interdisciplinary exploration," he explains, "the initiative has brought together researchers from across the humanities, the arts, engineering and computing. Each one of the research clusters has provided a hot-bed for lateral thinking about many of the key issues that confront society in the 21st century."

A portfolio of research projects that build on these research cluster activities has just been announced by the research councils and further information can be found at www.design21.dundee.ac.uk

► Researchers attending the Designing for the 21st Century Reflection and Projection workshop held at the Lighthouse, Glasgow

Credit: Tom Inns



The city of the future



▲ Carrington Street, Nottingham: a frame from *Tram Rides Through Nottingham No.1* (Mitchell & Kenyon, 1902) inset in a photograph of the street in 2003

Image courtesy of bfi and Patrick Keiller

ARTIST, FILM-MAKER and architect Patrick Keiller has been making films since 1981 which have concentrated on city life and which have successfully screened in cinemas and on television, internationally and in the UK.

For his latest work, 'The City of the Future', Patrick successfully applied to become an AHRB Fellow in the Creative and Performing Arts at the Royal College of Art. Beginning in 2002, his three year research project looked at and explored the landscapes of films c1895-1905 taken from the National Film and Television Archive. The project investigated ways in which the city has changed over the past 100 years, and suggests a critique of present and possible future spatial experience.

After initially searching through the National Film and Television Archive, and other participants in the AHRB Centre for British Film and Television Studies, Patrick produced a list of films illustrating aspects of the history of urban space. At this point Patrick decided to concentrate particularly on films from 1895-1905 and these films were then made available to him so that he could digitize them.

Finally, Patrick produced a DVD that now works as a silent film with intertitles. Films appearing on the DVD included film of a train journey from Holyhead to London; an itinerary across the Pennines ending in Barton, on the Manchester Ship canal; and an epilogue of a car driving up Whitehall and through Trafalgar Square.

Patrick continues to work as Research Fellow at the RCA and in the last two years Patrick has made a number of very successful appearances at events and exhibitions to talk about this work.

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Public access to database of scottish architects

MAY 2006 SAW the launch of a unique online historical database of Scottish architects. The Dictionary of Scottish Architects resulted from a three year research project that was funded by the AHRC under its Resource Enhancement Scheme. The project was led by David Walker, Emeritus Professor in the School of Art History at the University of St. Andrews.

The Dictionary of Scottish Architects is an online database that records biographies and job lists of all architects in Scotland for the period 1840 to 1940. The database contains information on both those architects who were born and worked in Scotland as well as architects from elsewhere who contributed to the built environment North of the Border at that time.

The database was developed to be as sophisticated as possible and allow very flexible searching. This has led to previously unrecognised links being found between architects, their pupils and assistants, their practices and their work. In addition it is made to be open-ended so that new details can be added as they come to light.

In amongst the facts and serious analysis of the many practices on the website is a plethora of anecdotal information that helps to add some spice to the data with a mix of humorous detail and personal touches.

The origins of the project go back to Walker's student days in Dundee when he began



▲ Hatrack front elevation
▼ Hatrack front upper floor

Images courtesy Dictionary of Scottish Architects

the process of recording information about Scottish architects' biographical details, dates and jobs. This process continued in his spare time throughout his working life leading to an immense amount of valuable data. At the beginning of the research project it was estimated that there might be about 800 architects and that this number might rise to 1,700 when further research was undertaken. However, this was a considerable underestimate with the total number of architect and practice entries currently standing at over 6,500.

Although the AHRC-funded project has now been completed, the enormous size of the Dictionary of Scottish Architects means there is some information which could not be included within the three-year period. Therefore, with support from the University of St Andrews, the Pilgrim Trust, Historic Scotland, RCAHMS and various other bodies, the project is continuing for a further period. In the longer term it is hoped to attract funding to bring the database right up to the present day.

This publicly available research tool is the first of its kind in Europe and the database should be an invaluable resource for many users from planning officers and architectural historians; family historians and genealogists to homeowners wanting information about the buildings they live in.

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Further details can be found at
www.scottisharchitects.org.uk

The creation of the archive represents an opportunity to preserve valuable materials that are vulnerable in their current state, through the process of collation and digitisation.

Opening access by digitising contemporary dance archive

THE AHRC, THROUGH its' Resource Enhancement Programme, are supporting Dr. Sarah Whatley & Professor Karen Ross from Coventry University's School of Art and Design for a project that will bring together the collected works of Siobhan Davies Dance, Britain's flagship independent dance company, into an online fully searchable digital archive.

It is their intention to make this archive freely available to all on-line and so allow the research community, in particular, access to materials relating to the Company that might otherwise be unavailable.

Formed by Siobhan Davies in 1988, the Company is one of Britain's leading contemporary dance companies with both a national and international profile. In that time they have built up a sizable archive of materials relating to their performances and contemporary dance.

The lack of access to the body of collected works by the Company has been a serious limitation to the development of academic and artistic discourse around contemporary dance. The creation of the archive represents an opportunity to preserve valuable materials that are vulnerable in their current state, through the process of collation and digitisation and will also provide unprecedented access to the body of work relating to the Company in a way that has not been possible before.

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▲ Siobhan Davies Dance Main Studio

Photographer: Richard Bryant – Arcaid. Courtesy Coventry University.

Going back in space and time

PHOTOGRAPHIC ARTIST Denny Robson is an AHRC practice-based fine art doctoral student at Goldsmith's College, University of London. Her research title is 'Re-thinking time', and her most recent exhibition, 'Going Back', took place during November at the Arts Institute of Bournemouth.

Denny has exhibited nationally, recently in a solo show 'Shadowplay' at Focal Point Gallery, Southend; and also internationally, most recently in a group sci-art exhibition at CERN, Geneva. Her new exhibition, 'Going Back', focuses on the ways a medium of stillness can take time itself as its subject and suggest something of the complexities of our relationships with the past. The work depicts a journey, both spatial and temporal, back to the seaside towns of growing up, back to another time.

Denny grew up in the North-east of England and was interested in the universal in any 'going back', that at such times the past can exist in the present, a present in the past, so that in the act of looking we may see not only a present-day landscape, but also an overlay of the site it once was.

In these works a dark, deserted funfair marks the end of the journey, and climax of recall. The Spanish City at Whitley Bay, built in 1903 and recently pulled down, was a summer

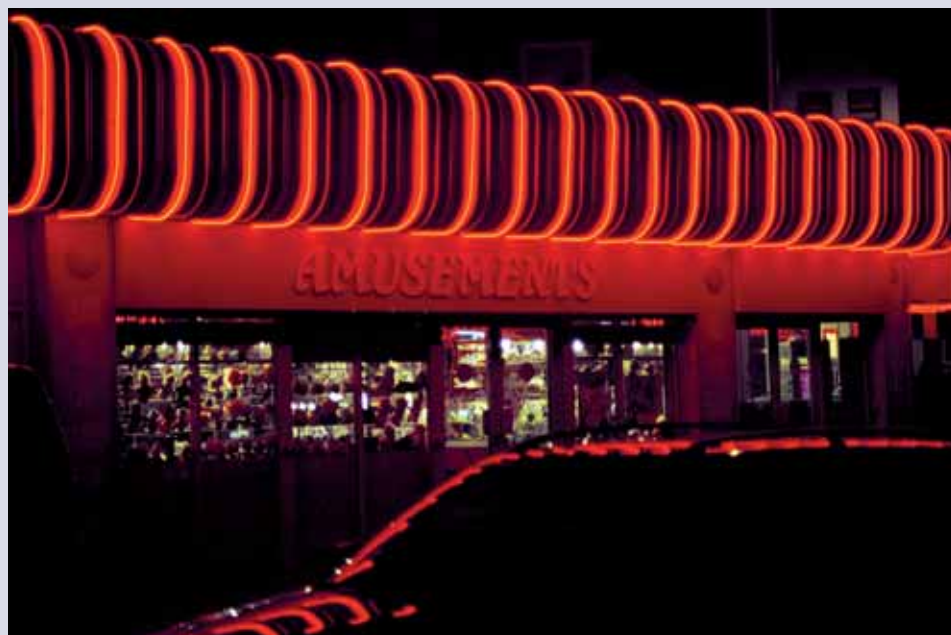
In these works a dark, deserted funfair marks the end of the journey, and climax of recall.

backdrop for generations of teenage desire, played out in nights filled with excitement, the smell of diesel, music deafening at every ride. These images are devoid of life, the dodgems, the 'waltzer', the 'grand national' (on which only the coolest would stand, precarious but nonchalant), all are stilled. But the emptiness of these images, together with captions that float rather than anchor, hint at narratives, at tales that have no beginnings or ends. Denny does not believe the past is fixed, any more than our memories are fixed, but that both are flexible, subject to interpretation, to our creativity, and open to narrative possibilities that may alter as often as we do ourselves.

In 'Going Back' she explores such possibilities, in spaces that might invite the viewer to do likewise.

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Contact Denny Robson:
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http://www.dennyrobson.com/gallery.php

▼ *Going Back*
Credit Denny Robson



Information for applicants

Changes to the submission route of AHRC responsive-mode scheme applications

Since September 2005, it has been possible to submit proposals to the majority of Research schemes through the Joint Electronic Submission (Je-S) System. AHRC is now phasing out paper applications and since 1 September 2006 the Je-S System has become the only accepted submission route for responsive-mode scheme applications to AHRC.

AHRC Project Fund

The deadline for all applications is Thursday 7 December 2006.

The AHRC's Project Fund scheme provides awards to support well-defined projects of up to 12 months in duration that will bring about significant improvements in the stewardship of small university-based collections of regional, national, or international importance to higher education. You can apply to the Project Fund scheme for proposals with full economic costs of up to £42,000.

Knowledge Transfer Fellowship Scheme

The Knowledge Transfer Fellowship Scheme supports academics, either working as individuals or within a team, to work with a non-academic partner organisation to work on a programme of knowledge transfer. The scheme aims to support researchers delivering a project which will utilise a completed piece of arts or humanities research.

The next closing date for this scheme will be in **May 2007**. The scheme guidance and help-text will be revised before applications can be made to this round of the scheme. To check on the latest updates with regard to the KTF scheme go to:

http://www.ahrc.ac.uk/about/ke/knowledge/knowledge_transfer_fellowship_scheme.asp



▲ *Bird Song (Co-spiral)*

Copyright: Joel Chester Fildes
Courtesy Coventry University



▲ *Judith Tucker Installation*

Credit Judith Tucker



▲ *Otus Galapagoensis taken from 'Darwin, C. R. ed. 1838. Birds Part 3 No. 1 of The zoology of the voyage of H.M.S. Beagle. by John Gould. Edited and superintended by Charles Darwin. London: Smith Elder and Co.'*

Copyright: The Complete Works of Charles Darwin Online



▲ *Going Back 2*

Credit Denny Robson



▲ *British Empire and Commonwealth Museum*

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