



Exchange

Autumn 2008

Sharing the skills, knowledge and experience of working with exhibitions

www.teg.org.uk



Welcome to the Touring Exhibitions Group's *Exchange* publication

Exchange is published twice yearly to keep TEG members and associates informed about forthcoming events, membership services and resources and the latest additions to our web site, including a list of titles of TEG members' newly available exhibitions for hire. In addition, each issue of *Exchange* features a review or case study to help TEG members to share ideas and practical tips on organising, touring and hosting exhibitions. We are keen to hear from any member who would like to contribute to *Exchange* – please email: judith@teg.org.uk.

Please note that views expressed in articles published in *Exchange* are those of the individual contributor and are not necessarily held by TEG.

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Touring Exhibitions Group www.teg.org.uk

Seminar on Touring Exhibitions in Alternative Venues The Portico Library, Manchester

Monday 15 September 2008

The Touring Exhibitions Group is holding a seminar on 15 September to generate discussion and ideas on touring exhibitions in alternative, non-gallery venues.

The event will be hosted by the Portico Library in Manchester, and will welcome delegates from community venues, churches, hospitals, schools, architecture centres, libraries, rural venues, sports and garden centres. It will aim to provide advice and information on touring exhibitions in alternative venues looking at particular case studies in a range of non-gallery venues.

- 11.30 Registration with tea and coffee
- 12.00 Welcome by the Chair, *Jason Williamson, TEG Committee member*
- 12.05 Touring Exhibitions in Libraries and Alternative Venues: Processes & Pitfalls
Emma Margilliano, Librarian, The Portico Library
- 12.35 Tour of Exhibition: Annie Horniman & The Manchester Theatre
- 13.00 Lunch
- 14.00 On the Front Line: Visual Arts Community Touring
Andy Horn, Exhibitions Manager, Craftspace
- 14.30 Building Links: Exhibiting in UK Architecture Centres
Architecture Centre Network
- 15.00 Travelling Exhibitions Under Canvas: Mobile Museums
Charlotte New, Museums Officer, Pembrokeshire Virtual Museum
- 15.30 Touring Exhibitions in Hospitals: UHB Cancer Centre
Jessica Kent, Arts Manager, Cancer Centre, Queen Elizabeth Hospital
- 16.00 Seminar evaluation survey prize draw and Close

Programme

This is the eighth in TEG's new programme of seminars, supported by funding from the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation.

The delegate fee is £40 for TEG members and £80 for non-members.

Bookings online at www.teg.org.uk/seminars or complete the booking form in this issue

Touring International Exhibitions

Gwenllian Ashley reports on the TEG seminar on Touring International Exhibitions held at the V&A in March, summarising key information, ideas and advice offered by speakers to those with an interest in working with overseas venues.

After a welcome to the V&A by Paul Williams, keeper of Sculpture, Metalwork, Ceramics & Glass, the first speaker was Poppy Hollman, Head of Touring Exhibitions at the V&A, and the sheer size of her operation was staggering, especially for someone working in a museum with only four curatorial members of staff! The V&A tours for many reasons and to many countries and the advanced planning for these can take up to three years, as in the Art Deco exhibition which toured to Japan and USA.

One of the reasons for touring is the promotion of the V&A as a global brand which encourages people to visit the museum when in Britain and to buy the licensed products which are for sale all over the world. Careful forward planning and liaising

with the Embassy and British Council in the receiving countries is absolutely crucial and this was emphasised by all the speakers throughout the day.

Donna Loveday, Head of Exhibitions at the Design Museum, also stressed the need to visit the venues whenever possible and have a watertight agreement which covered every eventuality. The Design Museum's international touring exhibitions programme has grown very rapidly; five years ago they had one exhibition touring in Britain, now they have had exhibitions in St Petersburg, USA, Helsinki and Tokyo. The exhibitions are designed to be adaptable and can be added to, or subtracted from, depending on the needs of the receiving venue.

Overseas TEG members

Overseas organisations with an interest in touring exhibitions in the UK are welcome to join TEG and currently make up a small, but growing, sector of our membership. In addition to some close neighbours in Ireland, TEG now has members in the USA, New Zealand, Dubai and South Korea. Fellow members can contact them via the Members search page in the web site Resources area.

Suggestions on ways for TEG to expand its network of overseas contacts are welcome and we would like to hear from members with experience of international touring who are willing to advise others looking for venues outside the UK. Please email judith@teg.org.uk stating the countries or regions in which you have contacts and we will make this available through the members' area of the web site.

After a very good lunch, Gigi Chang delivered a fascinating presentation on the background to the *China Design Now* exhibition, on show at the V&A until 13 July. Her talk was full of insights into the Chinese character and how to deal with their sometimes labyrinthine bureaucracy. The best way of communicating is by fax, as emails are still not the norm in China.

Next followed a presentation by Renée Pfister, Associate Director Museums & Galleries, of Gander & White Shipping (a TEG corporate member), who gave us the sometimes daunting list of everything one had to think of and do when preparing to take an exhibition overseas. They ranged from war risk through to provenance, and even making sure the timbers of the packing cases were heat treated to halt the movement of a particularly nasty-looking beetle. Again she stressed the need to see the venue, as plans could be deceptive and access could be difficult. All in all, it made one think that the best thing to do was to pay a company to do it all for you, as there seemed so many pitfalls and so much paperwork.

The last presentation of the day was from Michael Nixon, Consultant MN Arts Associates, on Wales at the Venice Biennale and the

exhibition's subsequent tour in Wales. He gave a brief history of Wales's first participation in the Biennale in 2003, which was triggered initially by devolution and the fact that the British Pavilion had never shown a Welsh artist in a solo show. Scotland went the same way and was followed by Northern Ireland two years later. Michael was the Commissioner for all three Wales exhibitions and talked about the physical difficulty of getting work to Venice as everything has to go by water for part of the way.

He also stressed the problems of touring contemporary art as so much was site specific and how the shows had to be reconceived for the venues in Wales. Artists had also become more demanding and often had other commitments which could affect the balance of the show. Byzantine Venetian bureaucracy was an added problem.

Good contacts particularly with the British Council and the Embassy, meticulous planning and a lot of vision and hard work seemed to be the theme for the day, which was enjoyable and inspiring. The same could be said for the venue, and the chance to see the *China Design Now* exhibition was an added bonus to round off a very interesting day.

Gwenllian Ashley is assistant curator at Ceredigion Museum, Aberystwyth and TEG's Publications Manager.

Note: TEG members can download full reports and presentations from this and other previous seminars at the Seminar Papers webpage in the Events area at www.teg.org.uk.

TEG Marketplace 2008

Merseyside Maritime Museum

Friday 21 November

TEG's annual Marketplace is an invaluable networking opportunity for everyone involved in touring or hiring exhibitions. Delegates can make contacts, promote exhibitions available for hire, create a network for exhibition ideas, or simply find out what other organisations have to offer.

Marketplace welcomes delegates from:

- national, local and independent museums and galleries
- galleries in universities, colleges and schools
- exhibition spaces in art centres, science centres, libraries and community venues
- invited businesses (TEG corporate members) offering products or services to assist touring exhibitions.

You can use Marketplace in three ways:

- book a table, from which you can display and distribute information about your exhibitions
- circulate freely, gathering information and speaking to other delegates about exhibitions on offer, exhibition exchanges or potential collaborations
- professional development through our programme of seminars and opportunities to network with other exhibition programmers.

About the venue

Marketplace 2008 will be hosted by National Museums Liverpool and will be held in Merseyside Maritime Museum. National Museums and Galleries on Merseyside was established as a national museum in 1986 because of the outstanding quality of its collections and in 2003 changed its name to National Museums Liverpool. Its origins go back to 1851 and the founding of Liverpool Museum. Today there are seven National Museums Liverpool venues, together attracting 2 million visitors in 2007.

Merseyside Maritime Museum (www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk/maritime)

Collections reflect the vitality and importance of the port of Liverpool and its role in world history. At the museum you can see a variety of objects associated with nautical archaeology and the social and commercial history of the port. Highlights include ship models, maritime paintings, colourful posters from the golden age of liners and even some full sized vessels. The Merseyside Maritime Museum is also home to the International Slavery Museum.

Programme

During the day, delegates will have the opportunity to attend the seminar programme in the format of a rolling series of presentations and talks on case studies highlighting collaborative exhibitions and practical issues.

Details will be posted on the TEG web site shortly.

10.00	Arrival and Registration (please register by 10.30 if you have booked a table)
10.45	Morning refreshments
11.00	Marketplace opening and welcome
11.30	Start of seminar programme
13.00-13.15	TEG AGM (TEG members only)
13.15-14.00	Lunch
15.45	End of seminar programme
16.00	Close of Marketplace and evaluation prize draw

Delegate fees

TEG members £50 first delegate; £25 additional delegates from the same organisation

Corporate members £240 (including stand and up to four representatives)

Non-members £80

Book online at www.teg.org.uk/marketplace or complete the Events Booking Form in this issue.

Delegate information will be circulated approximately two weeks before the event. All delegate information and invoices will be sent by email to the main contact name supplied.

TEG online www.teg.org.uk

Handbook

TEG's Handbook (2005) is a practical guide to organising, touring and hosting exhibitions. It is a significant plank in TEG's platform of membership services, making an important contribution – along with the seminar programme – to professional development. In essence, it is the membership's 'expertise exchange'.

Individual members contribute sometimes just a page, sometimes a full section, on a subject where they have experience that they can share. The Handbook is the place where the exhibition sector shares its knowledge of how things are done, so proposals are welcome from members who are willing to write up their expertise, to make it available to colleagues and add to the accumulation of experience.

Where can I access a copy?

The Handbook is available exclusively at www.teg.org.uk and is an important component of the new TEG site that went online in December 2005. It may seem perverse to use the word 'handbook' for an online resource. The word suggests something 'at hand' that can be held 'in hand', and a virtual resource with no physical existence seems a long way from these implications. In fact, the Handbook's origins are in a real book: *Touring Exhibitions, TEG's Manual of Good Practice*. Directly after the *Manual's* publication in 1995, TEG began to look at ways to update it. Butterworth-Heinemann had printed only 1,500 copies, forecasting (realistically) that revisions would be needed every couple of years, whilst TEG hoped (less realistically) to find resources to pay new contributors, revise old texts and edit

new ones, and afford the printing and distribution of a second and possibly subsequent editions. Finally, it occurred to us that we could both update the Manual and keep it up-to-date by putting it online. And, instead of a limited print run being swallowed up by the libraries (publishers must rely on dependable buyers), TEG could have a source of information which was truly 'on hand' – both available and accessible – to all members.

What does the Handbook contain?

For members, the best way to check is to go to the Handbook section in the web site Resources area, because an alphabetical index of contents, containing more than 70 topics, can be accessed from any page. Each topic can be expanded to list its sub-topics, each of which is a downloadable page.

The Handbook aims to answer any question you might have about the minutiae of touring. If you don't find answers to questions you have about organising, hosting and touring exhibitions, let us know. TEG can then take steps to fill or plug any cracks and gaps. Not only do we not wish to let you down, but we also want to provide answers for colleagues who may ask the same questions in future.

Please send comments and offers to:
Mike Sixsmith
e: am6smith@ntlworld.com
or 29 Point Hill, Greenwich, London SE10 8QW,
t: 0208 691 2660



Handbook contents

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Education Programme	Marketing	Venue Negotiation
Electrical Equipment	New Media	Water Damage
Emergencies	Non-Gallery Venues	
Environment		

Note: Each main heading in the Contents list above can be expanded to a list of sub-topics – for example, clicking on the + symbol after Access, will provide links to:

Institutional barriers • Physical barriers • Psychological barriers • Social barriers • Sarah Champion & Sonja Kielty (the authors)

New Exhibitions for Hire

The following new exhibition titles have been added to the web site between February and mid-July 2008. TEG members can view full details at www.teg.org.uk, Exhibitions.

7th Mini Print Sub-Committee, Printmakers Council 7th British International Miniature Print Exhibition

Aberystwyth Arts Centre We Are Family

Aberystwyth University Ceramics Collection Animal Fantasies • Sensational Ceramics • Taking Tea

Art Circuit Touring Exhibitions Pot Luck

Bridge + Tunnel Productions Last of the Dictionary Men: Stories from the South Shields Yemeni Sailors

Central Saint Martin's College of Art & Design Modern British Posters

Expositionis Storyboard – The Art of Children's Illustration • The Art of Dr Seuss

Fermynwoods Contemporary Art Retrmorphosis

Fibre Art Wales Journeys

Flow Just Swedish • Ten Thousand Butterflies – Colourware Exploring Colour in Porcelain

Hayward Touring Unpopular Culture: Grayson Perry selects from the Arts Council Collection • Now Showing: New film and video from the Arts Council Collection

The Holburne Museum of Art The Holburne Portrait Prize

Jewish Museum From Eastern Europe to the East End • Child's Play • Britain, Zionism & British Jews • Tapestry of Many Threads • Angels & Demons • Living Up West • Portraits of an Era: Photographs of the East End • Abayudaya: The Jews of Uganda • From Ridley Road to Radlett • Identities • Disraeli – A Man of Many Parts • Gentlemen, Scholars & Scoundrels • A Time to be Born • Gibraltar Rock: British Fortress, Jewish Haven • Closing the Door? Immigrants to Britain 1905 to today • By the Rivers of Babylon • Three and a Half Centuries of British Jewish Life • 'The Boys' Triumph over Adversity • Am I My Brother's Keeper? Rescue in the Holocaust • The Last Goodbye

Jonathan Ross Hologram Collection Holograms, The First 60 Years

Kate Plumtree Flocks to Flocks

Mascalls Gallery Adam Hahn: Portraits of Macular Degeneration

National Museums Liverpool Masterpiece Watercolours & Drawings

Oriel Davies Gallery William Roberts

Sara Glenn The Ladybird Make and Do Exhibition

Titanic Honour & Glory For Our Freedom and Yours

Tyne and Wear Museums (Hatton Gallery) Hans Burgkmair: Triumph of Maximilian • Poems from the Catalan

University of Hertfordshire (UH) Galleries Kiss Kiss Kill Kill – The Spy Film in Europe 1964-1969



Far left: Cozens, *Gulf of Salerno*
(Exhibition: Masterpiece Watercolours & Drawings)

Left: *Andy Sheppard* by Michael Taylor.
Commissioned painting by the winner
of the 2002 Holburne Portrait Prize

Events Booking Form

Online booking for TEG Marketplace and seminars is available in the Events area at www.teg.org.uk. Alternatively, complete the form below and post it with your payment to Judith Kelly, TEG Membership Manager, 16 Llwyn Fedw Road, Rhiwbina, Cardiff CF14 1UL. Cheques should be made payable to Touring Exhibitions Group.

I wish to book for the following TEG event(s):

- Seminar on Touring Exhibitions in Alternative Venues**, Portico Library, Manchester, 15 September
TEG members £40; non-members £80
- Marketplace 2008**, Merseyside Maritime Museum, 21 November
TEG members £50 first delegate; £25 additional delegates from the same organisation
Corporate members £240 (including stand and up to four representatives)
Non-members £80

Main contact name

Main contact position

Organisation

Address and postcode

Telephone

Email

Category:

- TEG member; membership number (if known) _____
- TEG corporate member Non member
- I want to join TEG and claim the members' discount on the booking fee

Order number (if requesting an invoice)

Second delegate name

Third delegate name

Fourth delegate name

For Marketplace only:

- I would like a table for displaying and distributing exhibition information
- My table requires access to a power supply (please note that TEG cannot guarantee access to power or provide technical equipment).

Note: All delegate information and invoices will be sent by email to the main contact name supplied. Booking alterations or cancellations may be subject to a £10 administration charge and no refunds can be made for bookings cancelled less than two weeks before the event.

How to contact TEG

The Touring Exhibitions Group is an independent membership network of galleries, museums, libraries, art and science centres and other organisations and individuals committed to exchanging exhibitions as a means of sharing ideas, materials and resources. We aim to promote professional standards and consistent practice and to encourage exhibition touring as widely as possible in order to extend public awareness, knowledge and enjoyment of historical and contemporary culture. For full details about TEG membership benefits and to join online, please visit the Membership area of www.teg.org.uk. For a complete list of TEG's Executive Committee members, see the Contacts webpage.

Chair: Sarah Champion, Chinese Arts Centre, Manchester
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Cover images, from left

Kingfisher, Kate Plumtree, Flocks to Frocks touring exhibition

China Design Now Exhibition © V&A Images

Grayson Perry, Unpopular Culture touring exhibition, Arts Council Collection, Photo: Eric Great-Rex

Idris Khan, A memory after Bach's Cello Suites, 2006, Now Showing touring exhibition, Arts Council Collection

Mr Abdo Ahmad Mohammad Obeya by Youssef Nabil, 2007, Last of the Dictionary Men touring exhibition, Bridge & Tunnel Productions



TEG online is supported by



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