

#Metal Billboard

Ten new artworks for Peterborough to stimulate public debate



Arts organisation **Metal** approached key national figures working in the creative industries to pose questions to the city of Peterborough. The questions were given to ten visual artists as inspiration for the creation of new designs to be displayed on advertising hoardings at **Thorpe Road, Bourges Boulevard, Westgate, Lincoln Road, and Oundle Road** throughout September. **Metal** are keen that as many people as possible join in this conversation and respond to the questions. There are a number of ways to get involved, both online and via public discussions and talks. Post your responses on Facebook and Twitter **#MetalBillboard**

'What's an artist worth?'

Mark Grist is a poet and battle rapper based in Peterborough, who rose to prominence when his rap battles became an internet sensation with over 3 million views. Following a career as an English teacher, he formed *Dead Poets*, a double act that fuses spoken-word poetry with hip-hop, with fellow Peterborough MC Mixy. Mark has most recently been seen on TV in Mr. Drew's School for Boys.

Laura Keeble is a sculptor and painter who creates 'un-commissioned' site specific installations often in the public realm. Her work is both playful and radical employing covert tactics, and using symbolism and familiar objects in unexpected places to encourage the viewer to pause and reflect. She studied Fine Art at South East Essex College. www.laurakeeble.com

'Why do animals exist?'

Kate Garner is an English photographer, fine artist and singer. She first came to prominence as one third of the 1980s avant-garde, pop project Haysi Fantayzee. Garner then returned to painting, photography and video, launching a successful media arts career. Garner has photographed many musicians and celebrities with her work appearing in the American and British versions of *Vogue* and *Harper's Bazaar*, *GQ*, *Vanity Fair*, and *Elle*. Kate is also a strong supporter and champion for animal rights and welfare.

Lee Mason is a self-taught designer and digital illustrator based in Peterborough. He has over 15 years' experience of working in the design industry, leading projects for clients large and small. Lee is currently putting plans into action to focus more on his artwork, exploring his passions for drawing, animation and film making. Visit: lee-mason.co.uk

'Are migrants not human?'

Yasmin Alibhai-Brown is a Ugandan-born British journalist and author, who describes herself as a "leftie liberal, anti-racist, feminist, Muslim, part-Pakistani, and ... a very responsible person". Currently a regular columnist for *The Independent* and the *Evening Standard* she is a well-known commentator on issues relating to immigration, diversity and multiculturalism.

Edén Barrena studied Fine Arts at the Universidad Complutense de Madrid, spending her last year at the ABK-Stuttgart, Germany. She is currently doing a Printmaking MA at the Royal College of Art. Her practice deals with the face conceived as a form rather than portrait, researching alternative ways of interpreting reality through deformation and abstraction. She is currently exploring the possibilities of the 'instant' drawing as a tool for capturing the moment in a project with OCAT (Contemporary Art Terminal) in Shanghai, China.

'Are you worth it?'

Neil Hannon is a Northern Irish singer and songwriter, best known as the creator and frontman of the chamber pop group The Divine Comedy, a band who have achieved critical and commercial success throughout the past 25 years. Hannon is considered one of the last 'crooners' in the pop landscape and a masterful lyricist.

Paula Begvenu is a product designer and art director of a London based design studio. The studio focuses on bespoke sculptural furniture designed to commission in addition to a range of products retailed through galleries and shops. She has a broad career history of working for design agencies in both Madrid and Buenos Aires. paulabegvenu.com

'What role does love play in economics?'

Jude Kelly OBE is a theatre director and producer. She has directed over 100 productions including at the Royal Shakespeare Company, the National Theatre, Chichester Festival Theatre, the English National Opera, and in the West End. She is currently Artistic Director of the Southbank Centre in London, Britain's largest cultural institution. In February 2013 she was assessed as one of the 100 most powerful women in the United Kingdom by Woman's Hour on BBC Radio 4

Jason Duckmanton received a BA (Hons) in Illustration from the University of Lincoln in 2007. Since then he has worked as a commercial illustrator and graphic designer whilst also exhibiting his artwork in local galleries and participating in street art festivals. Jason is based in Peterborough and a partner of the design co-operative Paper Rhino. Paper Rhino's latest project has been the public art regeneration of the Peterborough Cowgate underpass in collaboration with Blok Collective. www.jasonduckmanton.com

'When was the last time you went to an art gallery?'

Phill Jupitus is an English stand-up and improv comedian, actor, performance poet, cartoonist and podcaster. He has been a team captain on BBC Two's popular music quiz *Never Mind the Buzzcocks* since its inception in 1996 and

also appears regularly as a guest on several other panel shows, including *QI* and BBC Radio 4's *I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue*.

Scott Spencer is an accomplished graphic designer/illustrator based in Liverpool. He studied Fine Art at Hull School of Art and Multi Media Design at Liverpool University. In addition to his design work for clients, Scott often collaborates, working closely with other creatives like poets, musicians and designers to create print and digital artworks, video and set designs www.joyofatoy.co.uk

'What is necessary here?'

Sally Tallant is Artistic Director of Liverpool Biennial - The UK Biennial of International Contemporary Art. From 2001-11 she was Head of Programmes at the Serpentine Gallery, London where she was responsible for the development and delivery of Exhibitions, Architecture, Education and Public Programmes. She has curated exhibitions in a wide range of contexts including the Hayward Gallery, Serpentine Gallery, hospitals, and schools as well as public commissions

Jessie Brennan Brennan is an award winning visual artist who lives and works in London. Her practice explores the representation of places, informed by their social histories and changing contexts. Brennan graduated from the Royal College of Art in 2007. Recent exhibitions and projects include: Progress, The Foundling Museum, London (2014); *Interchange Junctions*, HS Projects, London (2014); *Adrift on Life's Tides*, Rochester Art Gallery, Kent (2013, solo); *Coup de Ville*, Sint-Niklaas, Belgium (2013). Jessie is also an educator and visiting lecturer at a number of universities in the UK. www.jessiebrennan.co.uk

'Can you fall up?'

Mehmet Sander is a Turkish choreographer living in Istanbul. He formed his dance company in 1990 and toured extensively internationally over the next decade. His work, often described as 'brutal', challenges perceptions of what is dance. Associating his pieces more closely to the fields of architecture and physics rather than performance and music, Sander's movement is about space and time, explored through collaboration with physical forces such as gravity, inertia and velocity.

Helen Schell is a visual artist based in Newcastle, UK. She specialises in work about space exploration and the science of the cosmos under the auspices of Space Agency. The artwork takes the form of vast paintings & drawings, smart materials costumes and glass installations. She has devised a series of space art projects at the London Science Museum, Centre for Life, British Science Festival, The Arts Catalyst, and World Monument Fund. This has included an education project with NASA & currently with ESA. She is an ESERO-UK Space Ambassador for the education wing of the European Space Agency.

'What happens next?'

Paul Morley is an English writer, journalist and music producer. He wrote for the *New Musical Express* and has since written for a wide range of publications. He has also been a band manager and promoter as well as a television presenter. He achieved genuine notoriety as co-founder, with Trevor Horn, of ZTT Records, and electronic group Art of Noise. He was the first presenter of BBC Two's *The Late Show*, and has appeared as a cultural commentator and music pundit on a number of other programmes including *The Review Show*.

Richard Cramp studied Fine Art at Wimbledon School of Art (2004). He lives and works in London. His practice is influenced by architecture, structures within societies, science fiction; and the processes and materials used in construction. He produces installations, sculptures and photographic works that comment on utopian ideals, capitalist issues, and society's formed coping mechanisms in a world in flux. See www.richardcramp.com/on

'For how much longer do we tolerate mass murder?'

The Pop Group is a British post-punk band from Bristol, formed in 1977, whose dissonant sound spanned punk, free jazz, funk and dub reggae. Their lyrics were often political in nature. They have been cited as an important influence in the development of alternative music in the 1980s and particularly the 'Bristol sound' of bands like Massive Attack and Portishead. The band is touring the UK in October 2014.

Alan Dunn studied at Glasgow School of Art and The Art Institute of Chicago. He was curator of *The Bellgrove Station Billboard Project* (Glasgow 1990-91), lead artist on the *tenantspin* project (FACT, Liverpool 2001-7) and recently produced the 10xCD opus *The sounds of ideas forming*. Through these projects Dunn has developed collaborative work with Bill Drummond, Douglas Gordon, Yoko Ono, Philip Jeck, Pauline Oliveros and Brian Eno. He currently lives and works in Liverpool and lectures at Leeds Metropolitan University where he has just completed a PhD on sound art. alandunn67.co.uk