

Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts Report on Activities 2003-04



EXHIBITIONS AND DISPLAYS

In 2003-4, the SCVA organised 8 special exhibitions and 4 other displays on campus:

25 Years (13 May – 31 August 2003, 11,531 visits)

The SCVA's 25th Anniversary Exhibition, featuring works from the Robert and Lisa Sainsbury Collection.

Indian Miniatures (8 July – 14 September 2003, 6,870 visits)

A special display of the Indian Miniature paintings from the Sainsbury Collection.

Incommunicado (30 September – 14 December 2003, 6,695 visits)

A National Touring Exhibition from the Hayward Gallery of contemporary art exploring breakdowns in communication and the consequences.

Latin American Art: Contexts and Accomplices (27 January – 21 March 2004, 9,300 visits)

A selection of work from the University of Essex Collection of Latin American Art.

Macchu Picchu and the Camera (27 January – 14 March 2004, 8,544 visits)

Photographic responses to the ancient Inca site in the Peruvian Andes.

Through the Surface (5 April – 13 June 2004, 8,001 visits)

The SCVA's second collaboration with the Surrey Institute of Art and Design, this time resulting from a major AHRB funded research project exploring process and outcome resulting from partnerships between fourteen innovative textile artists from Britain and Japan.

Heroes or Villains (8 June – 18 July 2004, 4,906 visits)

The 11th annual exhibition curated by the students of UEA's Museology MA programme.

Rupert Spira (29 June – 25 July 2004, 3,303 visits)

An exhibition of new ceramics from the acclaimed studio potter.

DISPLAYS

Permanent Collections

The University of East Anglia Collection of Abstract and Constructivist Art and Design (UEA Collection) was re-displayed. Adjustments were made to displays in the Living Area (the main Sainsbury Collection gallery) and Reserve Collection to accommodate new acquisitions, outgoing and returning loan items and to facilitate the return of works from the 25th anniversary exhibitions. The current display was fully recorded prior to gallery closure, to assist with preparations for the move and with planning for the Redisplay post relaunch in 2006.

Window Shows

Small-scale exhibitions that relate directly to the life of the University and the region are shown in purpose-built display cases, 'Windows', in UEA's Elizabeth Fry teaching building. These displays allow the Centre to reach a wider university and visiting audience on a day-to-day basis. For 2003/04 these exhibitions included: **Modern Chairs from the UEA Collection (Summer 2003)**, **Norwich Fringe Festival (September – October 2003)**, **Building a Campus (October 2003 to April 2004)** an exhibition of architectural plans and models for buildings on campus to celebrate UEA's 40th anniversary, **ArtsLab (April to June 2004)**, an exhibition of work by GSCE and 'A'-Level students made in ArtsLab's Wednesday evening workshops at the Sainsbury Centre.

TEACHING, LEARNING, OUTREACH & EVENTS

The SCVA continues to offer highly regarded educational provision for learners of all ages and hosted 202 events in 2003-4. Events and activities included:

- A series of three two-day seminars in collaboration with the School of World Art Studies at UEA, entitled Culture Futures.
- Weekly lunchtime gallery talks which have proved a huge hit with the wider UEA community.
- 3 special education and research projects including 'Collaborations' a year-long diploma course for secondary school teachers run in collaboration with the School of Education at UEA.
- Regular Inset sessions for teachers.
- The continuation of Artslab, a weekly evening activity for GCSE and 'A'-level students.
- Provision of a touring education resource area for **Incommunicado**, a National Touring Exhibition that opened at the SCVA in Autumn 2003 and then toured nationally.
- Our third successful collaboration with the Eastern Evening News, the regional evening paper, on a 'Family Fun Day', once again attracting hundreds of new visitors to the Centre.
- Training, consultation and pilots for the **On Tour** Outreach programme, which is taking the SCVA to schools and community groups throughout East Anglia during the closure period.
- 20 new guides were trained and joined our existing team of 40, enabling the SCVA to enhance the service offered to school groups. The guides were also involved in training for **On Tour** and with providing resources for the artists and teachers leading the programme.
- Continuation of early opening for School Groups, two days a week and late opening on Wednesday evenings.
- Continuation of holiday and half-term workshops for children, First Sundays for families with young children; lunchtime talks and evening lectures on the collections and exhibitions for the general adult audience/adult learners and one and two day conferences on specialist subjects relating to exhibitions.
- Continuation of the Artists Consultancy Scheme, working with schools, now extended to two days a week.
- Special projects with social services and Norwich City College for adults with learning difficulties.

CURATORIAL CARE AND CONSERVATION

Key developments in the stewardship, care, conservation and documentation of the collection:

- 29 objects received specialist conservation treatments. These included major work on paintings by Francis Bacon and David Bomberg to stabilise canvases and reframe and glaze to conservation standards and on a group of works on paper, new acquisitions by Eduardo Chillida, to bring their glazing and framing up to conservation standards.
- 253 works were prepared for loan to other institutions. To put this in context, in their most recent biennial report, Tate reports only twice this many loans per year.
- Preparations were made for the collections move into storage during the 2004-5 building works. Detailed packing specifications and packing lists were prepared for all 3,000 objects in the collections. Stores and exhibition areas were audited, a complete review of object values was undertaken, photographic records were completed and documentation updated.
- Objects from two teaching collections were assessed for inclusion in a new handling collection for use in the 'On Tour' outreach project during building closure.
- Digital photography of all 150 objects in the UEA collection was completed, in preparation for a new UEA catalogue and for putting collection images on line.
- 22 acquisitions were made between 1st August 2003 and 31st July 2004, including six new works into the Paget collection, a teaching and handling collection of world art.
- The Collections and exhibitions team fielded 104 exhibition proposals and 50 collections enquiries that required a researched response.

ELECTRONIC ACCESS

Improvements made in electronic access over the last year include:

- **Artworld:** this JISC-funded project to create resources for teaching and learning from the collections at the SCVA and the Oriental Museum, University of Durham, was completed in June 2004. The results can be seen at <http://artworld.uea.ac.uk>.

ELECTRONIC ACCESS contd.

- **Collections on line:** 1,500 transparencies were digitised in preparation for putting the collections on line. Adlib Internet Server was installed and object records on Adlib checked and groomed. A web design company was commissioned to overhaul the website and link to the Adlib. The site should be ready for launch by the end of 2004.
- **Electronic Access in the galleries:** two special exhibitions made particular use of electronic and new media in the galleries: **Incommunicado** (Autumn 2003) made extensive use of electronic media, including interactive installations; **Through the Surface** (Spring 2004) made use of web diaries kept by artists during the creation of works.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Other significant developments or improvements in 2003-04:

- A new staff structure was implemented, grouping the activities in three teams working for 3 team 'heads' reporting to the Director.
- All SCVA staff were intensively involved in all aspects of closure and the building work planning, from preparations for the safe removal of the collections, to working with the Project Team on plans for the new building.
- In addition to press and PR campaigns for exhibitions and events, a communications plan for the closure and building works was put developed and initial stages of implementation has proved very successful.
- A rolling programme of in-house audience research was implemented.

FUTURE PLANS

Activities planned for the academic year 2004-05 include:

(NB: All activities were planned and are being executed within the context of the SCVA's 15-18 month closure for major building and refurbishment works.)

- **On Tour:** an innovative outreach project working in partnership with schools and communities in culturally deprived areas of Norfolk and Suffolk.
- Launch of www.scva.ac.uk, an entirely new website covering all aspects of SCVA activity with on line access to the collections.
- First Sundays and other outreach events transposed to the City Centre.
- A series of lectures at UEA, entitled 'Places for Art'.
- Planning for the extension of the post-graduate Museology programme which will forge even closer links between the academic school and the SCVA (intake September 2005).
- Inclusive programme of staff secondments, further study and CPD during the closure period
- Packing and removal of all collections to store.
- Continuation of intensive programme of collection loans including Chillida drawings to Bilbao, Sainsbury Collection ceramics to Dulwich Picture Gallery and Anderson Collection works to the Bowes Museum, Co. Durham.
- **Out There:** An exhibition project that will bring 6 to 8 artists from around the world to the University of East Anglia campus for a 3 week residency in June 2005 to make work outside.
- Redisplay of the Collections for the Centre's reopening in 2006. Our aim is to maintain excellence in the display of the collections while increasing access to the work through new forms of object display, maps and the development of new leaflets and an audio guide to the collections.
- A new modestly priced guide to the Collections.
- Continuation of the programme of Window Shows focusing on the UEA Collection of Abstract and Constructivist Art, Architecture and Design.
- Refocus of the Membership scheme.
- Communications and marketing campaigns for closure and relaunch, including a review and relaunch of the SCVA 'brand' identity.
- Working with Building Project Team on plans for new shop, visitor reception, signage and improvements to disabled access.
- Development of SCVA merchandise for new shop.

STAFF ACTIVITIES

SCVA contributions to teaching and research at UEA and other significant external activities:

Nichola Johnson – Director, Sainsbury Centre and Museology

- Normal academic duties as Director of Museology and of the annual Museum Leadership Programme at UEA.
- Led drafting and publication of University Museum Group (UMG) report 'University Museums in the United Kingdom, a National Resource for the 21st century.'
- Co-ordinated and chaired UMG report launch at British Museum.
- Session for MA conference, Brighton; Lectures: University of Essex; UCL and UEA Schools of World Art and Environmental Sciences.
- Project Reviews for Esmée Fairbairn Trust, University of Oxford, Museum of London and the Monument Trust.
- Committees: Chair: UMG. Member: Clore Leadership Programme Management Board; AHRB museum committee; Norfolk Museums Joint Committee; Norwich School of Art and Design EAST Steering Committee; East Anglian Art Foundation; University College Cork Gluckman Gallery Management Committee; UCL Heritage Committee; University of Reading MERL Board.

Veronica Sekules - Head of Education and Research

- Teaching and mentoring on MA Museology at UEA
- Committees: Fabric Council, Lincoln Cathedral; ACE Visual Arts Advisory Task Group & Visual Arts Learning Group; engage Board and editorial board; William and Jane Morris Committee, Society of Antiquaries.
- Lectures for: National Museum of Fine Art, Bucharest, Romania; Globalising Art, Architecture and Design History conference, London; Cultural Difference and the Visual conference, University of Surrey, Farnham; 'Incommunicado' engage Scotland seminar, Edinburgh; Medieval Cloisters conference, Rewley House, Oxford University; Architectural Association Building Conservation course; 'Making Connections' Conference, Milton Keynes Gallery.
- Publications: author and co-editor: 'The Celebrity Performer and the Creative Facilitator: The Artist, the School and the Art Museum', p. 135-150 in, *Researching Visual Arts Education in Museums and Galleries. An International Reader*. Ed. Maria Xanthoudaki, Les Tickle and Veronica Sekules, Kluwer, Dordrecht, Boston and London, 2003; 'Imaginary Poems: Jewellery and the Art Nouveau phenomenon', p. 93-106, in: *The Anderson Collection of Art Nouveau*, ed Amanda Geitner and Emma Hazell, SCVA, UEA, Norwich, 2003.

Amanda Geitner – Head of Collections and Exhibitions

- Teaching and mentoring on MA Museology at UEA.
- Lectures for School of World Art at UEA: Displaying the artist & Role of the Curator.
- Hospital Arts Project Committee, Norfolk and Norwich University Hospital and Norwich Creative (Biennale) Steering Group.
- *Escalator* Visual Arts Partner for the ACE (East) Visual Arts Talent Plan initiative.
- Curatorial Adviser to Bolwick Arts 2, ACE funded residency programme at Bolwick Hall, Norfolk.
- Midland Band curatorial and professional development trip to India, Autumn 2003.

Kate Carreno – Head of Public Services and Administration

- Teaching and Mentoring on MA Museology at UEA.
- Lectures: Durham University Museum Studies MA and APU Arts Management MA.
- Committees: Convenor, Arts Marketing Association (AMA) Museum and Galleries Steering Group; Audience Data UK steering group.
- Joint convenor of AMA/MMG/VSG session at MA Conference, October 2003; member of organising committee for AMA Museums and Galleries Marketing Day, February 2004.

Pippa Yuill - Marketing and Press Officer

- Teaching and Mentoring on MA Museology at UEA.
- Committees: Norwich City Attractions Partnership, Eastern Marketing Group.
- Speaker at Museums Association Day Seminar on PR, London, May 24 2004.

Sara Dutton - Collections and Exhibitions Assistant

- 19-21 November 2003: Midland Band Curatorial trip to London, organised by artist Erika Tan.
- Member of East England Curators Group.

Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, UEA Norwich

Income and Expenditure Statement

Year ending 31st July

	2004 Actual
SALARIES & WAGES	
Permanent & Temporary Payroll Costs	442,399
Cost to Museology of contribution to Director's Salary	33,936
NON-PAY EXPENDITURE	
General Administration	27,084
ITCS support (Plan shows as deduction from Allocation)	7,261
Conservation/Collections Management/Workshop	4,538
Works on Paper Project	(106)
Design & Display	25,873
Security & Technical	31,986
Publicity & Marketing	29,443
Special Exhibition and Closure Project Costs (Gatsby)	126,218
Special Exhibition Costs (externally generated)	64,863
Education - Recurrent	11,048
Education - Special Projects (Net)	3,169
Shop Costs (Excluding Staff)	37,870
UEA Collection (Net)	(243)
Other externally generated projects	9,843
PRG and valuation (Gatsby)	646
Repairs & Maintenance	155,692
Cleaning	31,326
Rates, Gas, Electric, Water and Buildings Insurance	255,287
Total Non-Pay Expenditure	821,798
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	1,298,132
INCOME	
University Funds (1)	395,811
Contribution by Museology to Director's Salary	33,936
AHRB Museums Grant	259,548
S.C. Endowment Fund Standard	144,923
SC Endowment Fund Direct	83,789
Gatsby Grant towards support staff, PRG and valuation	46,010
Net Income from services	36,352
Membership Scheme (net)	2,395
Spec. Exhibition and Closure Project Income (GCF grant/earned)	126,218
Spec. Exhibition Grants (RLSCT)	64,863
SCVA Publications	2,902
Special project contribution to staff costs	16,890
Other externally generated projects	9,843
Shop Income	75,459
Loans (Net)	(1,451)
Allocated from reserves	0
TOTAL INCOME	1,297,487
SURPLUS / (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(646)

Figures in grey are 'indirect' costs and income. The 'University funds' figure is UEA's allocation to the SCVA plus the Estates costs net of the income received by UEA from the AHRB Museums Grant and the SC Endowment Fund.