



1-4th June 2012

Camp & Furnace,
Greenland Street,
Liverpool

Background

The aim of the Liverpool Art Fair is to showcase as many visual artists working and / or living in the Liverpool City Region as possible. Artists were invited to submit up to five works for consideration.

From the hundreds of submissions the panel of judges chose 15 3D pieces; 45 artworks priced at under £100 (which will be situated in the whole smaller, downstairs room at the Camp and Furnace) and 90 pieces under £1000 (situated in an upstairs room).

One of the judges, Jason Jones of Liverpool Hope University, had this to say about the Art Fair: "Liverpool has long needed a platform to promote its creative talent. From established to newly emerging artists there is a great dynamic and variety in the work that has been submitted. The 2012 Liverpool Art Fair submissions have established a solid foundation for future artists to build upon and it has been a privilege to be a part of its first ever judging process".

The Liverpool Art Fair is organised by dot-art Director Lucy Byrne who said: "Working closely with artists in the region for the past eight years, I have long been conscious of the need for a regular, large scale, high profile selling event for art in Liverpool.

"When we began working with the organisers of the Liverpool Art Month, it seemed like the perfect opportunity to launch such an event. The market for art here is still developing, and while the city is incredibly rich in both grass roots arts organisations, and world class institutions such as the Tate, the Biennial and the Walker, there is often a gap between the two which is very hard for talented newcomers to broach.

“With the Liverpool Art Fair, we hope to nurture and support the next generation of visual artists, while at the same time developing the market for buying art in the city, by encouraging new and younger buyers; a third of the work in this show will sell for less than £100.

“The response from the artistic community has been overwhelming; both the number of submissions from artists wishing to take part, and the support from other organisations in spreading the word and getting behind the event has demonstrated to me that we were right to take on this ambitious project. I hope that with the additional support of the Liverpool people coming along and buying art work for their homes over the Jubilee Bank Holiday weekend we can make the Liverpool Art Fair a huge success, and go on to make it an annual event!”

The renovated Camp and Furnace is a new kind of venue for art in Liverpool city centre offering a range of activities to tempt people to visit the area. Manager Ian Richards said: “With our indoor park, bar/eatery, photographic studio, nightclub and soon to launch caravan park hotel, our programme of events include art installations, exhibitions and performances; theatre, cabaret, comedy and music; street food markets and dinners. And that’s just for starters.”

“We’re very happy to be involved with the first Liverpool Art Fair and we look forward to continuing our support and promotion of the city’s cultural offer.”

dot-art Director Lucy Byrne said: “Camp and Furnace was the perfect solution when we were looking for a venue for the first Liverpool Art Fair. The exhibition space is a fantastic size (over 3,500 sq ft of exhibition space is hard to come by in Liverpool), and with the current owners’ commitment to supporting the creative industries in the area, it was a great fit.

“It is a unique venue which lends itself really well to our ethos of “Affordable Art for All”. Rather than a clinical, intimidating gallery space, it is welcoming and inclusive.”

See: www.liverpoolartfair.com / www.campandfurnace.com