



LEEDS  
ARTS  
UNIVERSITY  
1846



**Exhibitions**

July — December 2018

As the new gallery at Blenheim Walk moves towards its final stages of completion, the curatorial focus for the current programme will take place primarily at the older of our two campuses, Vernon Street Gallery, as well as various off-site spaces.

Three exhibitions curated by alumni and/or current staff consider the rich heritage and current research, teaching and learning practices at Leeds Arts University by championing the following groups of media: craft and printed textiles, animation and comics, and mural painting. As part of this we are excited to be collaborating with The Crafts Council, Thought Bubble Comic Art Festival, and Light Night on a range of engagement events. Highlights include our Women World Builders symposium, offering a feminist perspective on concept art.

Towards the end of the season, our two postgraduate courses Creative Practice and Curation Practices will also have the opportunity to work with the Curation team on exhibition projects showcasing their multifaceted practices, findings and future investigations. Meanwhile, two of our esteemed alumni from Fine Art and Visual Communication will share their recent work in The Boardroom.

**Dr. Catriona McAra**

University Curator


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**1 Leeds Arts University**  
 Blenheim Walk Building  
 LS2 9AQ



**2 Leeds Arts University**  
 Vernon Street Building  
 LS2 8PH



# Visitor Information

**Vernon Street Gallery is open:**

Monday - Friday  
 10am - 4pm

**Vernon Street Building**

Leeds Arts University  
 Vernon Street  
 Leeds  
 West Yorkshire  
 LS2 8PH

**Blenheim Walk Building**

Leeds Arts University  
 Blenheim Walk  
 Leeds  
 West Yorkshire  
 LS2 9AQ

Please note that we are closed on Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays. Both sites are wheelchair accessible. All exhibitions are free of charge and everyone is welcome.

If you wish to visit The Rotunda and Boardroom (first floor) and The Library (second floor) at our Blenheim Walk site, please call in advance to make an appointment.

For more information, please contact the Curatorial Team:

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 Tel: (0113) 202 8263



**Vernon Street Gallery**

29 June – 16 August

**Preview:** Thursday 28 June, 5pm–7pm

**Symposium:** Thursday 12 July

# Make Your Future

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Make Your Future is a Crafts Council project that aims to reignite a passion for making in schools by creating opportunities for students and teachers to learn new traditional craft skills.

The project is creating networks that bring together Higher Education Institutions, cultural partners, secondary schools, and makers to develop craft learning opportunities. By embracing new craft technologies, Make Your Future shines a light on craft as a cross-curricular bridge which draws together science, technology, and creative subjects.

Curated by Gareth Wadkin and with support from Caroline Pratt, the exhibition offers a curated collection of craft-inspired samples from several partner schools in West Yorkshire. It also seeks to develop Gareth Wadkin's current research into pedagogy, craft and collaboration.

Leeds Arts University is delighted to be hosting this year's Make Your Future exhibition to coincide with Leeds Art Teachers' Conference.

With grateful thanks to The Clothworkers' Foundation for its support of Make Your Future in Yorkshire.



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS



Image: Horsforth School, Paper weaving and heat transfer printing, 2018

## Vernon Street Gallery

14 September – 31 October

Preview: 13 September, 5pm–7pm

### Thought Bubble Comic Art Festival:

Make-a-Monster: 22 September 10am–3pm  
(drop-in, 3–6 year olds)

Ask-the-Artist Talk: 22 September 12pm–1pm

### Light Night:

4 October, 6pm–9pm

5 October, 6pm–9.30pm

### Halloween Closing Event:

Underground Comix Launch and Talk: 3pm–7pm (18+) (Graham P. Manley and other legends of Underground Comix)

# Doctor Simpo, The Norms:

## Process and Production

Doctor Simpo (aka Ben Simpson) is a cartoonist using a variety of analogue and digital technologies including 16mm, lithograph, silk screen, letterpress, pencil and ink, modelling clay, interactive art, puppetry and Pentel Sign Pens (his favourite felt-tip pen). This exhibition will showcase his multifaceted publication *The Norms*. Realised in 3D as if stepping into his narrative world, the show will include a glow in the dark dimension for Light Night.

As an 'ideas man,' Simpo celebrates eighteen years since he studied at Leeds Arts University, The Glasgow School of Art, The Pratt Institute and The Royal College of Art.

Doctor Simpo will be 'holding-court' on specific dates through-out the course of the exhibitions run and will also be curating a symposium on the theme of 'Women World Builders.'

### Women World Builders Symposium (Part of the Thought Bubble Comic Art Festival)

Friday 21 September 1pm–5pm, Vernon Street Lecture Theatre

- Louise Curtis (Musician, Performer and Composer)
- Rosemary Chalmers (Creature Designer, Leeds Arts University)
- Virpi Kettu (Director-Animator)
- Rosie Summers (VR World Builder and Animator)

Free but ticketed:

[www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/women-world-builders-tickets-47106652265](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/women-world-builders-tickets-47106652265)

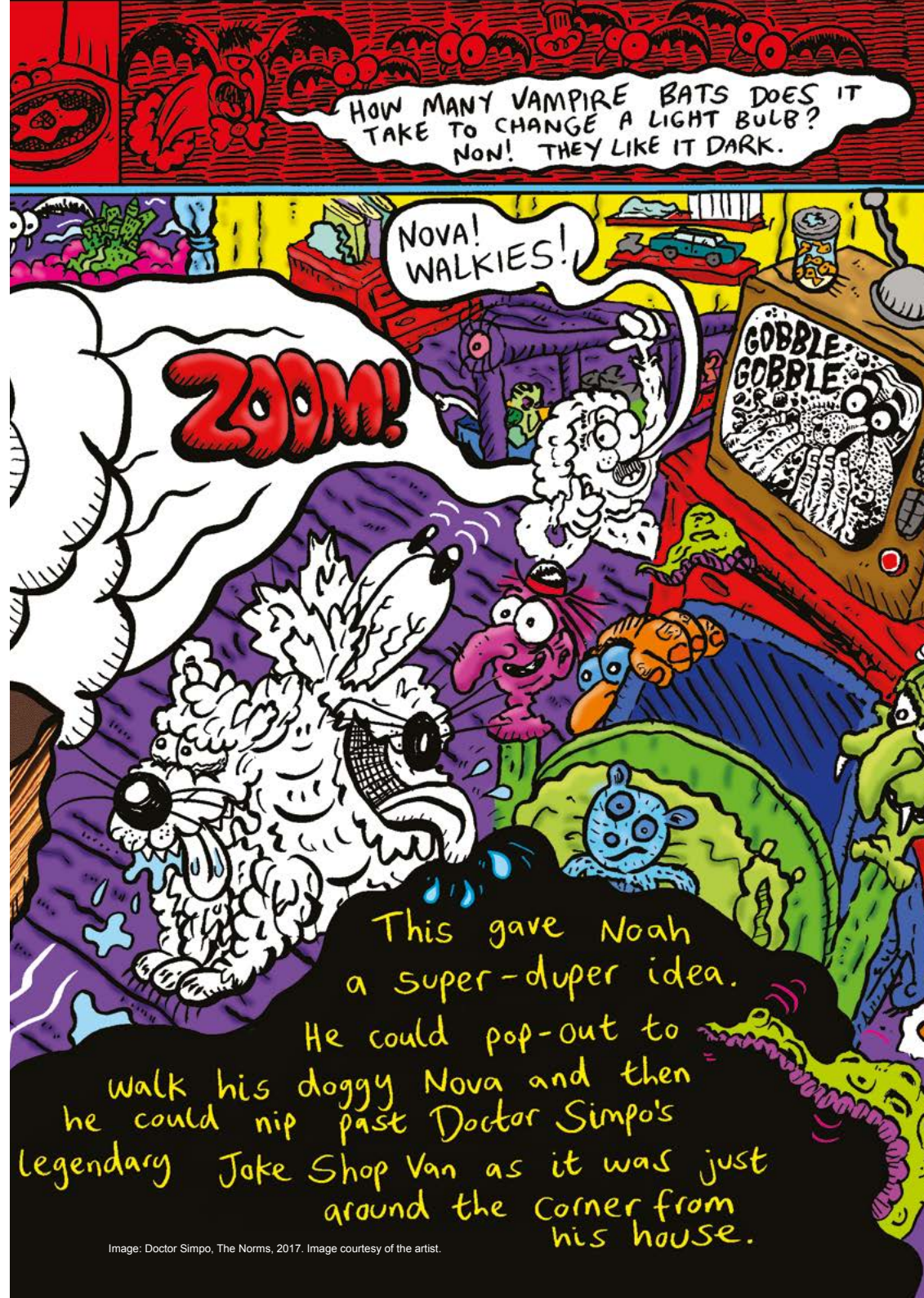




Image: Modes of Expression, 2017. Photo: Mike Medlock

**Vernon Street Gallery**

16 November – 21 December

**Preview:** 15 November, 5pm–7pm

# Modes of Expression: Emma Hardaker and Bobbi Rae

Curated by Matt Wheeldon

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Based in Leeds, a city historically known for its rich ceramics and textile culture, Modes of Expression are renowned for their vibrant murals found across West Yorkshire. The kindred duo takes research-led practice on a journey of mixed-media experimentation; in order to produce culturally-coded, visually harmonic artwork; which is meaningful, for the site in which it is created.

Offering a discerning eye for tasty colour palettes and a daring sense of scale, Modes strive to make contemporary, artistic contributions to the city in which they live. Drawing inspiration from specific locations, its people and its histories: Modes take a hands-on, playful approach to liberating unique perspectives through their large scale, hand-painted artworks.

**@modesofexpression**

Colours May Vary, Munro House

23 November – 29 November

Preview: 22 November, 5pm–8pm

# MA Creative Practice

## End of Year Show

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The MA Creative Practice exhibition showcases the projects completed by our postgraduate students. They come from a range of backgrounds that encompass media, design and art practices. Each year the cohort is encouraged to engage with external audiences and clients. The students often collaborate with their peers to make and present ambitious and innovative work. The philosophy of the course that underpins its curriculum is that students should embrace practice-based research as a means of questioning and developing their professional identities whilst becoming part of a creative community.

Image: Photo courtesy of Keeley Stone, 2018.





**The Rotunda, Blenheim Walk**

7 December – 19 December

**Preview:** 6 December, 5pm–7pm

## MA Curation Practices Show

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This show is to be co-curated by postgraduate students undertaking our new MA Curation Practices course. The development and content of this curatorial project will depend upon the collective research interests of the students. Last year's show ((Re)Sound) marked the curatorial debut of the course and was co-curated by Gill Crawshaw, Bex Hayne, Louise Dwyer, Wes Perriman and Stu Hansom.

The image opposite depicts (the speakers of) Matt Parker's W.I.T.C.H. (2015), a sound piece created from field recordings made at the National Museum of Computing at Bletchley Park, the only piece included in the exhibition by an artist otherwise unconnected to the University. This 'sound of the future' installation immersed visitors in white noise and the speakers were placed in close proximity to the static-effect of Bex Hayne's Untitled (2017) print. The curators were interested in the way the sound of the future (from the past) conversed with the contemporary visual language of the present via the other exhibits.



Image: Photo courtesy of Stu Hansom featuring artwork by Rebekah Hayne, 2017.



The Boardroom, Blenheim Walk (by appointment only)

21 September – 1 November

Preview: 20 September, 5pm–7pm

# Lydia Blakeley

You're Doing Amazing, Sweetie

Lydia Blakeley graduated from Leeds Arts University in 2016 with a first class BA (Hons) in Fine Art. She is currently completing her MFA at Goldsmiths in London. Following her first solo show, *Leisure*, at Vernon Street Gallery, Blakeley returns with a new body of work featuring paintings based on the banal and/or uncanny nature of celebrity homes and reality television.

@lydiablakeley



Image: Lydia Blakeley, *Kim's House*, 2018. Oil on canvas. Image courtesy of the artist.

The Boardroom, Blenheim Walk (by appointment only)

9 November – 21 December

# Maria Brzozowska

The Seven Layers of a Dream

Maria Brzozowska is an illustrator and visual storyteller currently based in Poland. She graduated with a BA(Hons) in Visual Communication from Leeds Arts University in 2013, and then completed her Masters in Fine Art in Media and Design at Bilkent University, graduating in 2016. She went on to work as a research and academic assistant at Alanya HEP University. Preoccupied by magical realism, her work explores the point at which reality and fantasy merge into dreamscapes.

@brzozo



Image: Maria Brzozowska, *Girl with the Silk Dream*, 2018. Image courtesy of the artist.

## Advertisement

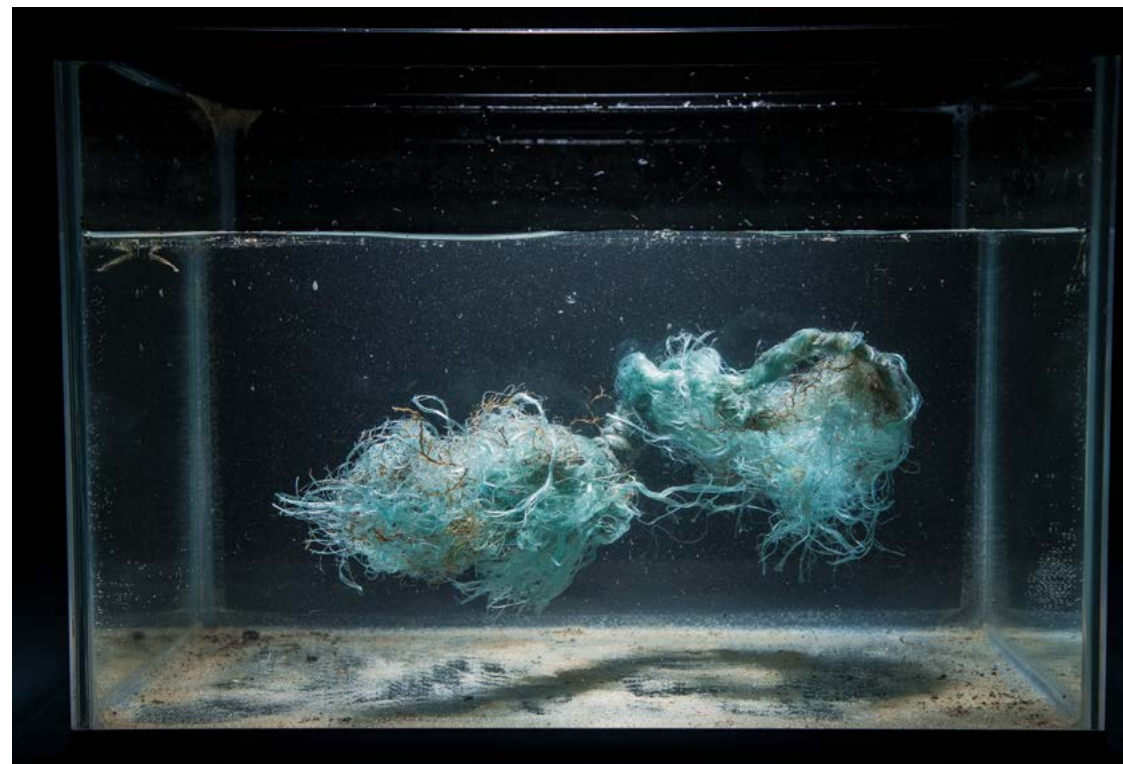
The Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery  
21 November 2018 – 23 March 2019  
**Preview:** 20 November, 6pm–8pm

# Still Life:

## Things Devouring Time

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Things made from non-biodegradable materials and the human inclination to collect possessions contradict the concept of *tempus edax rerum*, time as devourer of all things. Still Life: Things Devouring Time focuses on the visual representation of vanitas, symbolic objects that warn against excess and the shortness of time. This exhibition explores how those ideas inform the practice of contemporary artists, working in diverse media, who respond to consumer culture and the social, environmental and sustainability issues it produces today. The evolution and enduring relevance of the genre of still life is highlighted by the variety of contemporary art - photographs and objects by Nicole Keeley, Caroline McCarthy, Simon Ward and Dawn Woolley - displayed alongside historic Dutch still life paintings in this exhibition. It is co-curated by visual artist Dr Dawn Woolley (Research Fellow, Leeds Arts University), whose work explores the social value of objects in still life, from 17th-century Dutch paintings to contemporary advertising, and Dr Katie J T Herrington (Curator, The Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery, University of Leeds).



**THE  
STANLEY & AUDREY  
BURTON GALLERY**  
LEEDS UNIVERSITY LIBRARY GALLERY



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Image: Nicole Keeley, Tide Mark series, 2017. Photographic print.



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