

ARNOLFINI STAFF

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ARNOLFINI

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BOOKSHOP ENQUIRIES

0117 917 2304
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WEBSITE ADDRESS

www.arnolfini.org.uk

FACSIMILE

0117 917 2303

Alternative formats

If you would like to receive this newsletter in a different format, eg large print, cassette tape, Braille or email, please contact Sharon on 0117 917 2316, sharon.tuttle@arnolfini.org.uk

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Keep up to date

Keep up to date with the reopening plans and what's on at Arnolfini by joining our free contacts list. You can opt to receive our brochure by post, email or both. We also produce a large print brochure, a brochure on cassette tape and can provide a brochure in Braille.

Join by writing, emailing or phoning us with your name, address and, if you want to receive emails, email address.

Double your donation

More than double your donation

Are you part of a company with less than 500 employees? The government is currently offering financial incentives of up to £500 for Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to set up payroll giving schemes.

Payroll giving is a very efficient way to support charities as the donation is deducted from your salary before tax is paid. The government will also match the first £10 donated by each employee for a period of 6 months which means that if you pay standard rate tax, a donation of £7.80 is worth £20 to your chosen charity.

Information about the scheme can be found at www.payrollgivinggrants.org.uk or from Lyndsey Jones at Arnolfini on 0117 917 2313.

Filton College



Image by Filton College student, Anna Peters

Twelve foundation art and design students from Filton College were given a project brief by Arnolfini this spring. Asked to respond to the theme of flowers, the students worked with college and Arnolfini staff, a designer and a photographer, to produce a diverse

range of work from prints and paintings to jewellery and even sound-based installations. The results are being used to create a series of posters that will be downloadable from the Arnolfini website in June and will later be on display at Filton College and Arnolfini.

Staff update

We are pleased to welcome **Nicola Prosser** as Arnolfini's new Accountant. Nicola started in May and is juggling working for us along with a part-time

position at Colston's School and two young children! Nicola's last role was as Finance Director at Harrison Cowley, the PR agency.

ARNOLFINI inside out

No 9 Summer 2005

News from Arnolfini

Arnolfini reopening 10 September



Photograph Woodley & Quick

Arnolfini's ground floor gallery space

Arnolfini's new improved and expanded spaces will reopen to the public on 10 September 2005. It's starting to feel as though the end is finally in sight. Our redevelopment project has been a long process, starting back in 2001 with the award of the National Lottery funding which enabled us to buy Bush House. Major engineering work has been ongoing since September 2003 when we closed the building to the public and started demolishing Arnolfini's spaces which had remained more or less unchanged since a refurbishment in the mid '80s. There's still much to be done to fit out the café/bar and front of house areas, but we're very much looking forward to welcoming people back to Arnolfini. The improvements that people can expect to see in September include:

- Lifts to all floors and a clearer layout to make the building much easier to get around
- Improved and extended galleries and project spaces. Arnolfini has expanded from two floors to four. Upgraded facilities will widen the range of artists' projects that Arnolfini can present and



Arnolfini staff outside an 'almost finished' 'Fini!

Photograph Mark Simmons

enable us to meet the conditions needed to bring fragile and valuable artworks to the South West

- A new education centre for education workshops; an extra 60-seat studio; a resource area and a library/archive
- Improved bookshop facilities and the return of the much-missed café bar, which is being completely redesigned by artist Bruce McLean
- Better public facilities including more toilets and baby changing space

Arnolfini will be open seven days a week and admission will still be free.

CUTTINGS

BREATHING SPACE

Breathing Space International continues driving forward, with the Australia Council for the Arts pledging a financial contribution to help bring four new Australian productions over to the UK. Helen Cole, Producer (Live Art & Dance) has just returned from visiting the three Australian partner cities – Sydney, Melbourne, Perth – to select the artists who will bring the edges of new Australian performance to Bristol for the first time at the next Inbetween Time festival of Live Art.

WORKSHOPS FOR TEACHERS

Arnolfini is hosting two workshops aimed at teachers with primary, secondary or special needs experience with an art and design qualification. Artists Anna Lucas and Jessica Hoffmann will lead activities on 28 and 29 June that explore new ways of collecting and disseminating visual information and to consider how a gallery context differs from unusual outside sites of display. The workshops also include an opportunity to visit Arnolfini and the new education resources.

Funded by NSEAD as part of its Artist Teacher Scheme and the Innovation Unit at the DfES. For further information contact Beth Alden at Arnolfini.

Appeal

As we enter the final phase of Arnolfini's development project, we are working to raise funds to fit out the new spaces. Items we are fundraising for include; furnishings and equipment for the public archive, video projector and screen for the new education

space, digital camera, video camera and CD player for use by artists and those taking part in education workshops, a cantilever racking system for the safe storage of art work and portable lifting equipment for use throughout the exhibition spaces.



Looking Up, Hillcrest Primary School, June 2004

If you are able to make an in-kind contribution or a donation towards the project, please contact Lyndsey Jones at Arnolfini on 0117 917 2313 or lyndsey.jones@arnolfini.org.uk

A year of celebration

On 10 September we will begin a year-long programme to celebrate the reopening of Arnolfini.

Audiences can look forward to a year of innovative programming.

Details of the programme will be released in June on our website www.arnolfini.org.uk

If you are on our postal contacts list,

these programme details will be mailed to you in our new brochure in mid August.

If you are not on our mailing list, details on how to sign up for this free service are on the back page.

CUTTINGS

AMBIT ON TOUR

QEH theatre provided the venue for the final date in the Ambit tour of the South West. The tour presented readings by a superb line up of poets who have published with Ambit, one of Britain's most respected Arts magazines, over the years.

Martin Bax, Ambit's founder, introduced the evening which featured readings by Tim Liardet and Gerard Woodward, both of whom teach creative writing at Bath Spa University College, the poet, critic and broadcaster Peter Porter, and Carole Satyamurti. Tim, as some of you may remember, launched *To the God of Rain* at Arnolfini in May 2003 – his new collection is due to be published in summer 2006.

Tim said, "We really enjoyed ourselves in Bristol and felt the audience was both dedicated and responsive."

NEW WEBSITE

Arnolfini's website is currently being redesigned to make it more useful and more accessible. The new website will launch sometime in June so keep your eye on www.arnolfini.org.uk

Let us know what you think of the changes by emailing marketing@arnolfini.org.uk

Andrew Walker

Andrew Walker writes about his role as Access Advisor to the Development Project



My connection with the Arnolfini comes from an invitation to produce an Access Report in the 1990s. I am an Architect and wheelchair user and I had done similar

work for Watershed Media Centre so did anticipate some of the problems that would greet me. I was confronted by the red carpeted stair in a building free of a much needed lift. The ambiance and hospitality were marvellous however and the food in the café. Here there was a parent with an infant in a buggy – but there was nowhere to change a nappy. I had to be lifted about to reach many of the spaces. There was one accessible lavatory and performing in the auditorium was difficult for any disabled actor. The balcony was inaccessible to wheelchair users.

Since then much has happened with the purchase of the building itself and the development of more of the listed structure for Arnolfini use. Another submission was made to the Lottery and at last work on site is almost complete. The Lottery is paid for by people buying tickets and so it is right that any suitably qualified person should be able to visit, manage, work or perform and eat in the building.

The building has to be able to be used by all ages without discrimination and comply with the latest building and fire regulations. Also any changes have to enhance the listed nature of the building.

Parking will be available near the entrance and the granite setts from the parking bay to the front door will be modified to provide a smoother route. Previously, the worst part was just reaching the building and wheeling over these setts – all part of the historic legacy that included Arnolfini in Bush House. Doors will open easily and desks will not be so high to prevent easy conversation. There will be a large public passenger lift, easily found and easily operated. In addition there will be some small platform lifts to allow access to less accommodating spaces. Now there will be accessible lavatories on all levels and facilities for parents to change babies' nappies. Disabled actors can reach the stage with ease. A users' group will keep an eye on the need to maintain and enhance facilities.

With many facilities having been engineered into an old building some compromises have had to be made on the way. But instead of it being a place for the few, now it is for the many and we are all much the richer for it.

Closure for temporary Bookshop



Our temporary Information Point and Bookshop will finally be closing its doors on Sunday 31 July.

The portakabin has served us well over the past 18 months and has received many customers and visitors. Closing at the end of July, however, will give Peter and Julian enough time to re-stock and refurbish the bookshop in the main building.

Due to this closure, ticket bookings from after this date will only be available by telephoning the box office on 0117 917 2300. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

After 10 September, you will of course be able to book in person as usual.