

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leisure and Arts Services Committee – 22 August 2005

REPORT ON: Exhibition at McManus Galleries

REPORT BY: Director of Leisure and Arts

REPORT NO: 493- 2005

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To inform the Committee of the forthcoming **Craftspace Touring Exhibition 'Self'**. The exhibition will be held at McManus Galleries from Saturday 10 September to Sunday 23 October 2005.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the Committee notes the content of the report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost of the Self Exhibition and supporting programme is £14,000. £5,000 has been awarded by the Crafts Department of the Scottish Arts Council, £4,000 from the European Regional Development Fund and the balance of £5,000 being met from the Leisure and Arts 2005/06 Revenue Budget.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

4.1 The project supports the principles "opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are available to all" and "access to the skills, knowledge and information needed to enable everyone to play a full part in society".

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The project enhances the position of cultural and heritage resources for all age groups.

The project provides opportunities for people of all ages regardless of ability, social background, race, sex or disadvantages.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

6.1 'Self' is a major new touring exhibition curated by Craftspace Touring which examines physical, cultural and personal identities. The show features work by an international group of artists and makers, who investigate the notion of belonging and our sense of who we are through our relationship with others. Their work questions the rigidity of terms such as 'us', 'them' and 'others', and instead draws attention to the way we all differ slightly from one another. Through jewellery, photography and installation, these artists respond to their own experience of the status quo, to explore the value of difference and diversity.

- 6.2 The exhibition aims to explore the complex nature of personal identity, challenging the compartmentalising of individuals in the language and imagery of the media. The exhibition raises awareness of the diversity within the contemporary society and the relationship between individual and common experience. The inclusion of artists whose practice is based outside of Britain, offers visitors a wider perspective of human experience as well as the opportunity to engage with work rarely exhibited in the UK.
- 6.3 Artists include Barby Asante, Jivan Astfalck, Ari Athans, Roseanne Bartley, Dinie Besems, Clement Cooper, martin Figura, Patricio Forrester, Karl Fritsch, Ken Ohara, Gerd Rothmann, Joyce Scott, Lorna Simpson and Pamela So.
- 6.4 Over the last few months prior to the opening of Self there has been a number of educational and outreach activities throughout the wider community, these included:

Self aware with Healthy Initiative Group (NHS) - Adult Learners Craft & Visual Arts Project at Kirkton Neighbourhood Centre.

Self aware with the Rep Summer School – Young People's Performance project.

Self image with the Rep Summer School – Children's Performance Project.

Self aware with Rep Summer School – Young People's Live Performance.

Self aware with Hot Chocolate Ministries at The Steeple – introduction session for Exodus Project.

Self aware with Portal at McManus – Young People's Multi Arts Project.

Self aware with YALP at The Highwayman – Young People's Literacy Group.

- 6.5 During the exhibition the following activities are planned to take place at McManus Galleries:-

09 Sept 2005 - Private View of exhibition & Activity Room display. All pre & exhibition programme participants.

Throughout Sept & Oct 2005 - Community Groups, Schools & Colleges exhibition tours. Bookable tours of exhibition and Activity Room with 'Self' facilitator.

10 Sept & 1st Oct 2005 - Activity Room Drop-in Days. Display of Outreach work and 'Self' expressions activities.

10, 17, 24 Sept 2005 - Ask Us! Gallery activities with 'Self' facilitator.

13, 20, 27 Sept 2005 - Self discovery. Gallery activities with 'Self' facilitator.

16 & 17 Sept 2005 - Self expressions. Young people's weekend performance events at McManus Galleries, Activity Room.

24 Sept 2005 - Self determined. Peer Led Literacy and Art workshop from YALP at McManus Galleries, Activity Room.

28 Sept 2005 - Discussion Event. An invited panel of guests, including 'Self' artist Pamela So.

02 Oct 2005 - Traditional Scottish Music Festival Performance. Sheena Wellington and Sheila Stewart in Gallery 6.

02 Oct 2005 - Reception in Activity Room with performers, YALP and Hilltown Horizons participants.

08 Oct 2005 - Self preserve. Children's art workshop in McManus Galleries, Activity Room.

15 Oct 2005 - Self portrait. 'Big Draw' family workshop in McManus Galleries, Activity Room.

19 Oct 2005 – 'Who We Are'. McManus Galleries & Museum, Dundee's 21st Century Museum Development Discussion led by Project Director John Stewart-Young.

22 Oct 2005 - Self styled. Young people's art workshop in McManus Galleries, Activity Room.

6.6 'Self' is the final exhibition before McManus Galleries closes for the major refurbishment programme "**Who We Are**", which is scheduled for completion in late 2007.

7.0 CONSULTATION

7.1 The Chief Executive, Depute Chief Executive (Finance), Depute Chief Executive (Support Services) and Assistant Chief Executive (Community Planning) have all been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

8.1 None.

STEVE GRIMMOND
DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND ARTS
29 JULY 2005