

The Artists' Agency and Stephen Turner present
STEPHEN TURNER: EVERYTHING COMES FROM THE EGG

The Chainstore, Trinity Buoy Wharf, London, 12 – 29 January 2017

Grand Union Canal, Milton Keynes, 3 April – 14 May 2017

Gunwharf Quays & Aspex, Portsmouth, 16 June – 3 September 2017

Jerwood Gallery, Hastings, 16 September – 15 October 2017



"In an urban 21st century world where we are increasingly disconnected from nature I wanted to use this ancient archetypal symbol to nurture re-enchantment with the natural world, as a step toward a sustainable future." Stephen Turner

Stephen Turner, the artist who created the 'Exbury Egg', a wooden egg-shaped vessel in which he has lived and worked for nearly three years, continues his odyssey across southern England with **Stephen Turner: Everything Comes From The Egg**, a new exhibition and residency programme. Launching in January at Trinity Buoy Wharf in East London, the show will tour throughout 2017 to galleries and waterside locations in Milton Keynes, Portsmouth and Hastings.

At **Trinity Buoy Wharf**, *Stephen Turner: Everything Comes From The Egg* is located in a former chainstore warehouse by the Thames. It will be the first time the Egg has resided in an enclosed environment where it features as the central sculptural form in a wide-ranging exhibition comprising drawings, prints, photographs, found objects, works on paper, sculptures and video made by Turner during the last few years. He will also be continuing his explorations of places and communities in Bow Creek and along the River Lea, during the exhibition.

Stephen Turner: Everything Comes From The Egg melds Turner's ongoing environmental, historical and cultural investigations into the natural world with a sustainable artistic practice and temporary 'hermit' lifestyle. During solo residencies in the Egg on the River Exbury in the New Forest in 2012-2014 and by the Leeds & Liverpool Canal for Super Slow Way in Burnley in 2015, Turner catalogued his forays in each location in collections of digital imagery, objects, drawings and personal maps. Borrowing scientific methodologies, the artist transmuted them to his creative process; from collecting red river water in order to observe sedimentation, to presenting multiple series of glass jars filled with fauna and flora preserved in alcohol to upcycling clothing by patterning the fabric with natural dyes. His observational drawings on discarded packaging use inks sourced from oak leaves; and small egg-shaped sculptures are



made from dove feathers, mosses, shells, crab claws and other natural materials. Turner's video works present visual meditations on living and working in and around the Egg.

During Turner's long residencies in Hampshire and Lancashire the exposed sculptural form of the Egg has become bleached by the sun, scoured by wind and rain, and accrued algae, worms and barnacles. In the exhibition at Trinity Buoy Wharf, the weathered patina of the Egg's shell opens to reveal its interior state with displays of the diverse ephemera of Turner's practice including his tools and works in progress amongst the domestic disarray of recent occupation.

Turner's practice is concerned with aspects of time and the dialectics of transience and permanence. His work often involves spending long periods in odd abandoned places, noting the changes in the complex relationship between people and the natural environment. His previous work includes installations for Turner Contemporary in Margate, Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art in Sunderland and Fermynwoods Contemporary Art in Northamptonshire. He has undertaken residencies for Stour Valley Arts at Kingswood in Kent and for Seafort, where he occupied a derelict searchlight tower on the Shivering Sands in the Thames Estuary.

Everything Comes from the Egg is financially supported by Trinity Buoy Wharf Trust, Gunwharf Quays, Canal & River Trust, Super Slow Way, Jerwood Gallery, Milton Keynes Council and public funding by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

Stephen Turner was commissioned by **Space Placemaking and Urban Design** to work with architects **PAD Studio** to develop the Exbury Egg. It was financially supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Barker Mill Foundation and Hampshire County Council.

For further information, images and interview requests please contact **Janette Scott Arts PR** on janettescottartspr@gmail.com or +44(0)7966 486156.

Notes To Editors

Stephen Turner: Everything Comes From the Egg, 12 – 29 January 2017.

The Chainstore, Trinity Buoy Wharf, 64 Orchard Place, London E14 0JY.

Opening times: Tuesday - Friday 12:00pm – 6:00pm; Saturday and Sunday 11:00am – 4:00pm. Admission free.

www.trinitybuoywharf.com

For further information about the tour for Stephen Turner: Everything Comes From the Egg see:

www.everythingcomesfromtheegg.com

Notes To Editors

Stephen Turner was educated at the University of Leeds, England; University of Regina, Canada and undertook a Fellowship in Painting at Exeter College of Art and Design. Recent residencies and commissions include the Exbury Egg in the New Forest National Park (2012-14); artist-in-residence at Bridge Guard Art and Science Centre, Sturovo, Slovakia (2011); and the Seafort Project at Shivering Sands, Kent (2005). Selected solo exhibitions include *Sedimental*, Rochester Art Gallery, Rochester (2011); *Cella*, Turner Contemporary, Margate (2002), and *Grotta*, Whitstable Museum and Art Gallery, Whitstable (2001). Selected group exhibitions include *Estuary*, Museum of London, Docklands, London (2013); *Shadows in Paradise* (Stedelijke Musea Ypres, Ypres, France (2007) and *Crossovers UK*, Toyota Metroplitan Museum of Art (2003). www.stephenturner.org.uk

In 1998, **Trinity Buoy Wharf** was an empty, derelict site. Now it is a thriving centre for the arts and creative industries with a community of over 570 people enjoying the unique riverside location. Free from overdevelopment, the site's fascinating history can still be seen in the buildings, installations and residents such as the Lightship LV95 is are moored here along with London's only lighthouse, home to Jem Finer's sound installation *Longplayer*. With careful regeneration, Trinity Buoy Wharf has kept its character whilst offering amenities such as studio and gallery space, a pier, the base for the Royal Drawing School Foundation year, rehearsal rooms and two dining options in the form of Bow Creek Café and Fat Boys Diner and 5 of the hugely sustainable Container City buildings. www.trinitybuoywharf.com

The Canal & River Trust is the guardian of 2,000 miles of historic waterways across England and Wales, caring for the nation's third largest collection of listed structures, as well as museums, archives, and hundreds of important wildlife sites. We're proud of our rivers and canals as unique places where you can step off everyday life onto the towpath and breathe. The Arts on the Waterways programme was initiated by the Trust in 2012 in partnership with Arts Council England, and more recently with strategic support from the Arts Council of Wales. The Trust works with talented artists and leading arts institutions that are based near waterways to inspire more people to experience and appreciate them.

www.canalrivertrust.org.uk/enjoy-the-waterways/waterway-arts/2015-programme

Aspex exists to support emerging artists, expose the creative process, and engage new audiences with visual art. We achieve this by delivering an exciting and varied programme of exhibitions, off-site projects and participation events. Our aim is to make the appreciation and creation of art a more inclusive activity. It is an ethos we have been adhering to for 35 years. We have a track record of supporting sensational artists at the embryonic stages of their careers. Artists such as Mona Hatoum, Richard Wilson and Susan Collis, all now internationally-acclaimed, received support from Aspex which helped establish them as household names. Today, we continue to offer the next generation of contemporary visual artists a platform from which to launch their careers. Key projects like EMERGENCY, our open submission biennial exhibition, put new work by new artists centre-stage.

www.aspex.org.uk

Set on Portsmouth's historical waterfront, **Gunwharf Quays** is the South's leading premium shopping outlet boasting over 90 designer stores, offering up to 60% discount, and over 30 restaurants, bars and coffee shops featuring a variety of cuisines. Gunwharf Quays is a unique and vibrant shopping and leisure destination and is the ideal place to explore, shop and dine and take in the exciting sights of this coastal city. www.gunwharf-quays.com

Opened in March 2012, the award-winning **Jerwood Gallery** sits next to the fishing beach in Hastings' historic Old Town. The gallery is home to the Jerwood Collection and a varied temporary exhibition programme, both of which showcase the best of modern and contemporary British art. Recent exhibitions have included Jake and Dinos Chapman, Rachel Howard, Chantal Joffe and Marcus Harvey. The Jerwood Collection's main focus is from the First World War to the 1960s. Highlights of Jerwood Collection include works by some of the great British artists: Sir Stanley Spencer, Barbara Hepworth, LS Lowry and Walter Sickert. The collection, which continues to grow, also features contemporary works by artists including Rose Wylie, Maggie Hambling and Jeffery Camp. www.jerwoodgallery.org

The Leeds & Liverpool Canal powered the Industrial Revolution in Pennine Lancashire. 200 years on from the canal's birth, **Super Slow Way** aims to stage a new, creative revolution powered by art and people. Super Slow Way is a major arts commissioning programme established to create a lasting legacy of arts and culture in Pennine Lancashire. Working with communities along the canal from Blackburn to Pendle, Super Slow Way is delivering an ambitious programme comprised of local, national and international artists in a series of commissioned and community-based residencies. It will bring art to a space where time slows down, to look afresh at how people live their fast-paced lives and how they relate to their environment, neighborhoods and to each other. Super Slow Way is funded by Arts Council England's Creative People and Places programme, initiated and funded by Arts Council England. Super Slow Way is a partnership made up of the Canal & River Trust, Newground, local authorities of Blackburn with Darwen, Burnley, Pendle and Hyndburn and Arts Partnership Pennine Lancashire (APPL). www.superslowway.org.uk

On 23rd January 2017, **Milton Keynes** will be 50 years old and throughout 2017 we will be celebrating locally and sharing nationally and internationally what a unique and inspiring place Milton Keynes is to live work and visit. The heart of Milton Keynes provides a unique working and living environment, with its characteristic grid roads, large modernist buildings and tree lined avenues, filtering out and integrating with abundant and varied green spaces, ensuring that the City continues to be a reference point for strong design and innovation.

Milton Keynes is renowned for its pioneering commitment to supporting and commissioning ground-breaking public art and now boasts a collection of over 200 works of art in the public realm. Continuing this tradition of ambition and excellence, Milton Keynes is embarking on a major new programme of public art commissions which will contribute to the City's growth and development, engage and inspire local communities and visitors alike and celebrate some of the very best contemporary visual art practitioners working within the public realm today. www.milton-keynes.gov.uk/leisure-tourism-and-culture

The Artists Agency supports individual contemporary visual artists in the development of their practice and profile.

www.theartistsagency.co.uk