

Oxford  
Road  
Corridor

MANCHESTER PSYCH FEST WE PREVIEW ONE  
OF THE UK'S BIGGEST URBAN MUSIC FESTIVALS

CELEBRATE THE WORK OF MANCHESTER  
SCHOOL OF ART AT THE DEGREE SHOW

ECONOMICS THE BLOCKBUSTER DISCOVER THE  
WHITWORTH'S MIF23 COLLABORATION

# Summer Edition



ISSUE 3 JUN 2023

At times in my life  
I've found it attractive  
to leave the British Isles.  
Amongst apes, army personnel, petty bureaucrats and criminals  
in Gibraltar, Malaya, Brunei, Malta, Italy, the Americas,  
I learned a little or too much regarding  
religion, sex, the world's languages, good and evil,  
the Englishness in myself and others.  
Adventures and misadventures, their embellishment and fabrication  
became books, not best-sellers, but each a stepping stone  
to a reputation questioned, sometimes rubbished in the national press  
and petulant literary journals.  
A demanding subject—the self—a swamp of blood and organs.  
The surgeon's scalpel, more lethal than a rudder,  
wants to make its way upstream,  
to where the intellect resides.  
Outside that cave, restless to dissect,  
are numerous cannibals and critics.  
Meanwhile I hit the typewriter keys,  
play hide and seek amongst nouns, verbs, adjectives,  
cigarette smoke and ice cubes,  
aware of another deadline.

Peter Bakowski

Peter Bakowski was Virtual Writer in Residence at the International Anthony Burgess Foundation. Find out more about the the project on page 10.

## Welcome

Oxford Road Corridor stretches south from St. Peter's Square as far as Whitworth Park, extending either side to Upper Brook Street and into Hulme. Within this square mile, two of the UK's largest universities and a university NHS foundation trust work beside the city's digital, technology and life science businesses to deliver innovation for Manchester and beyond.

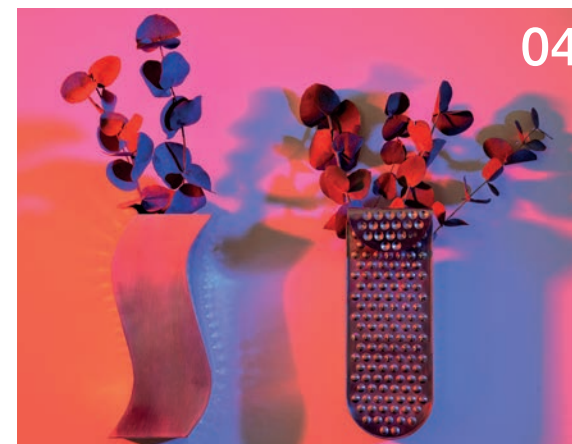
Around Oxford Road you can find many of Manchester's iconic venues and cultural spaces alongside the institutions that cultivate the next generation of artists and creatives.

There is a thriving nightlife with exciting new neighbourhoods which bring an abundance of cafés, restaurants and bars. Nestled between the beautiful architecture and landmarks are historic parks and contemporary green spaces.

Here is a taste of what's happening here this summer...

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# Next Message: The Degree Show

MANCHESTER SCHOOL OF ART'S DEGREE SHOW IS AN UNMISSABLE EVENT IN THE SUMMER CALENDAR. WITH ITS WIDE ARRAY OF EXHIBITIONS IN EVERY ART DISCIPLINE, IT IS SURE TO SATISFY THE CURIOSITY OF VISITORS AND CELEBRATE THE ARTISTS' ACHIEVEMENTS.



We may know Manchester School of Art as the striking glass cube that is its current home in the Benzie Building, but the School has been an integral part of the city's culture since 1838. Initially established as the Manchester School of Design, it was first housed in the basement of the Royal Manchester Institution on Mosley Street (the current site of Manchester Art Gallery), where it provided design training to the manufacturing industry. It is part of Manchester Metropolitan University and actually the second oldest design school in the country.

The institution's long history is not the only reason it is so well embedded into the local cultural landscape - its forward-thinking approach started early on in the context of the times, when the School opened its doors to female students in 1880. While male and female students were still segregated at that point, it did provide higher education to women. In fact, artist and activist Sylvia Pankhurst was one of its more prolific students, winning many prizes for the work she created while studying at the Manchester College of Art at the beginning of the 20th century.

Every summer, the School opens their doors to the public to celebrate the graduating students' achievements in the annual Degree Show. The display is both a chance for the students' friends and families to see their hard work realised in a professional exhibition format, as well as an opportunity to make connections that can help the students to continue their creative practice outside of academia. Degree shows are an integral part of the art school experience and the crowning moment that students work towards throughout their last year of study.

A lot of ideas, collaboration and decision-making is required to organise an event of this scale, from choosing how to display the work to the show's visual identity. This year's degree show title is *Next Message*, designed and brought to life by Jake Beddow (Graphic Design and Art Direction, 2003-06).

In Beddow's own words: "it was important to land on a concept that felt both personally significant and something that students could make completely their own." The concept is based on the ideas of Marshall McLuhan, a 20th century philosopher who predicted the existence of a 'Global Village' in which information is continually shared. McLuhan coined the term 'The Media is the Message' leading to the title of 'Next Message' which became the underpinning motif for the degree show.

The artist highlights the importance of instilling a sense of confidence in the next generation of graduates: "*Next Message* is also a direct statement to the 2023 Manchester School of Art graduates; they now have an opportunity to impact the creative landscape, their global village - an assertion that they should feel confident in moving onto the next step in their creative practice, be that post-graduate study or professional work."

The Degree Show will span all of the disciplines taught at the School of Art, providing a thought-provoking multimedia display, and showcasing a cross-section of emerging local talent.

As the Manchester School of Art celebrates its 185<sup>th</sup> anniversary, it continues to push creative boundaries to equip its graduates with the courage and initiative necessary to thrive in their chosen arts disciplines. Its

a key aspect of art education that not all art schools can take as much pride in.

David Grimshaw, Deputy Head of Design describes this openness in practice: "I'm always really inspired by the thinking that connects so much our students work. They are really conscious of not only of the opportunity to be personally creative, but are also very aware of wider social, environmental and economic issues, and their responsibilities within these."

This year's graduates can look to the School's long list of incredibly successful past alumni as inspiration for what can lie ahead. Painter L.S. Lowry is perhaps the best known figure who attended the school and whose name can now be found all over Manchester. Swinging Sixties fashion designer, and a friend of David Hockney, Ossie Clark also attended the school before embarking on an illustrious career in design. More recent graduates include

celebrated photographer Martin Parr, whose work has featured in around 80 exhibitions worldwide and contemporary artist Audrey Albert who graduated in 2018 and was selected as a Creative Fellow for MIF21.

*Next Message* will be open to the public from 10–21 Jun.

Maja Lorkowska-Callaghan / @majalorkowska



new site in the Benzie Building which opened in 2013, was designed with collaboration in mind. The School is divided into four departments with courses ranging from fine art, art history, graphic design and fashion to architecture, digital arts and more. The building's openness allows for free movement and dialogue between the different disciplines, which is



Ellie Williamson BA (Hons) Textiles in Practice 2020



Erum Aamir - BA (Hons) Three Dimensional Design 2019



Nikita Dhare BA (Hons) Interior Design 2022





# HATCH

Since its opening in 2017, Hatch has become an Oxford Road landmark. Not only a vital incubator of independent talent, it's also a standout destination for lovers of street food, craft beer and thoughtful gifts.

The open-air seating areas at Hatch are some of the best in the city, with a great soundtrack of live music and DJ sets whatever the weather. Owners Bruntwood run a socially-responsible operation, offering support for its traders, reducing the risks for start-ups, and encouraging an evolving selection of traders to keep things exciting.

But Hatch is perhaps best known for its wide range of street food traders. Fancy a burger? Here you'll find the best in the city - meat-eaters have the much-loved Kong's Burger Bar, and for vegan diners, Herbivorous serve the ultimate plant-based burger.

Then there's Fuku, named after the Japanese word for luck, which serves an out-of-this-world katsu curry. For a North-East classic, pick up a parmo at the brilliantly-named Parmogeddon and you'll see why this cheese-and-chicken dish has become a national classic.

Indo-Pakistani fusion food vendor Pukht offers a fascinating take on familiar dishes - start with the lime pickle-marinated

olives and go from there. New Brazilian/Tex-Mex fusion outlet Rio-Mex comes with an impressive pedigree - head chef Caroline Martins has appeared on the Great British Menu twice! Then there's Block Steak Shop, a raved-about steakhouse, which dishes up the best steak and chips dish in town.

Bondi Bowls is inspired by its founder's travels in Sydney, and serves colourful, nutritionally balanced bowls. To get an authentic taste of Sicily, head to T'Arricri, one of Hatch's first traders, where you can try deep-fried delights such as taleggio-filled arancini and pistachio cannoli. Only care about sweet treats? Crumbled is all about desserts, dealing in freshly-baked crumble with more toppings than you can count - plus a never-ending supply of custard. What's not to love?

Drinks-wise, a visit to original Hatch resident, ÕL Nano Brewery & Bar is a must. You won't find many places where you get to sit within touching distance of the beer brewing

process in such a great-looking Scandinavian-style saloon. And if you're in the mood for some dazzling cocktails, there's the vibrant 80s-themed cocktail bar, Miami Ice - a wildly popular recent addition to the Hatch family.

Shoppers can indulge in one-of-a-kind retail therapy, thanks to proudly independent boutiques such as Suzy Loves Milo, Curiosity Shop, Atherton Tech, revolutionary trainer refurbisher Sneaker Pharm and DJ Gym. And if you want to look your best for a big night out, you can get a glow-up courtesy of salon Industry Collectives, The Portland Barbers, It's a Nail Thing and Butterfly Effect Lashes.

Hatch has taken the traditional town centre experience and transformed it into something fresh and original, courtesy of a next-level collection of independent traders. It's a one-stop shop for everything positive and progressive about Manchester right now.

Ian Jones / @IanDJonesnet

# Peter Bakowski

VIRTUAL WRITER IN RESIDENCE AT  
THE INTERNATIONAL ANTHONY BURGESS FOUNDATION.

The International Anthony Burgess Foundation (IABF) encourages and supports public and scholarly interest in all aspects of the life and work of Anthony Burgess. Based on Cambridge Street, just off Oxford Road, IABF has an extensive library, archive and study centre containing Burgess's books, music and papers.

During spring 2022, A Virtual Residency was hosted by Manchester Literature Festival and Manchester City of Literature for the second Festival of Libraries. Australian poet Peter Bakowski produced a new selection of work inspired by his residency.

"I came to the Virtual Residency with no personal experience of visiting or living in Manchester and prior to the Virtual Residency having only read *A Clockwork Orange* by Anthony Burgess but I was attracted to the challenge of researching a prolific, varied and widely travelled writer who was also a largely self-taught pianist and composer. My goal was to turn my incomplete knowledge of Anthony Burgess and Manchester into something wider and deeper, insightful or intriguing.

My policy was one of immersion — to educate myself regarding Burgess, Manchester and Manchester creatives. I began by reading the two volumes of his autobiography, *Little Wilson* and *Big God and You've Had Your Time*. In them, Burgess reveals himself as bravely candid but also as an embellisher and fabricator, enjoying the licence which many writers use, to mix fact and fiction, for their own, and the reader's entertainment.

I balanced and cross-referenced the material in the autobiographies by then reading *The Real Life of Anthony Burgess* by Andrew Biswell, which I nicknamed "The Bible". The biography helped me underline key moments in Burgess's life and provided me with an emotional and vocational map of him. I started digitally requesting interviews and articles that were noted throughout the book and read or listened to each provided interview several times.

It was invaluable to my portraiture of Burgess to hear his voice, the sense of him being more open than defensive. I was struck by his inquiring mind, his great curiosity, how I sensed his self-assurance but at the same time also his humility and self-deprecation.

I also viewed all the Burgess-related photos held by IABF and a complete listing of his record and cassette collection. I found the photos a great help. They gave me a deeper sense of Anthony Burgess as a committed participatory teacher in England, Malaya and Brunei, convivial and social on a bar stool, in a pub or expounding an opinion or philosophy from a sofa, armchair or cane chair in accommodation provided or found in England, Malaya, Brunei and Italy. From the photographs I also got the sense of Burgess as a belated father, largely affectionate and playful, but also having his patience and tolerance tested by his young son. And importantly I got the sense of Anthony Burgess at his ever-portable typewriter pounding the keys, getting the sound, flow and intent of a phrase, a paragraph or a page just right.

My non-Burgess Manchester-related poems were realised via watching the film, based on Martyn Hesford's play, *Mrs Lowry & Son*; the Ken Loach films, *Looking For Eric* and *Raining Stones*; the Shelagh Delaney play *A Taste of Honey*, and listening to the studio recordings of GoGo Penguin."



Peter Bakowski



## FIND OUT MORE

Peter Bakowski is a poet based in Melbourne City of Literature. He has been writing poetry for 40 years and has published many collections including *Our Ways on Earth*, and has co-written with Adelaide poet Ken Bolton, *Elsewhere Variations*, *Waldo's Game*, *Nearly Lunch* and *On Luck Street*.

Discover more of Bakowski's work using the QR code below:





# Economics the Blockbuster: It's not Business as Usual

**POPPY BOWERS**, HEAD OF EXHIBITIONS AT THE WHITWORTH, INTRODUCES US TO A NEW PROJECT WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER, PRESENTED AS PART OF MIF23.



Centre for Plausible Economies: Kathrin Böhm and Kuba Szreder. © Dan Weill.

What I love most about being part of the Whitworth is the shared purpose to nurture a creative and productive way of life through the application of artistic thinking. Much of our focus at the gallery is on transforming the way that art is encountered and used in our spaces, our city and indeed our wider world. To consider our gallery as a gathering site to address what matters in people's lives, respond to current urgencies, and propose solutions to problems in the world.

Economics, a fundamental part of our everyday life yet seemingly a force beyond our control, is one such urgent issue shaping art and society. At a time of workers strikes, a cost-of-living crisis and a climate emergency, economy can feel as though it is driven by expansion of monetary wealth for the few, determined by those in power,

rather than a system for social, ecological, or creative wealth determined by the many. It is within these conditions that artists in various regions in the world, are using art to radically rethink the economic systems in which they live.

On 30 June, we will open an exciting new exhibition at the Whitworth as part of Manchester International Festival that demonstrates what economic life looks and feels like when it is created and shaped by artists. *Economics the Blockbuster: it's not Business as Usual* brings together ten art projects, based in different areas of the UK and elsewhere, that are changing their local economies in a radical, positive way. From an alternative school using group meditation to question how neoliberalism affects our everyday lives, and a tablecloth toolkit that prompts conversations on

our food systems during a group meal, to an art collective reclaiming plantation land. The exhibition and accompanying live programme includes artist commissions, art as business, merchandise with a purpose, and workshops to reimagine and take back the economy. Let me introduce you to a couple of them.

Company Drinks is a community interest business that makes and sells drinks, based out of a former bowling pavilion in Barking Park, London. It was initiated by the artist collective My Villages in 2014, when they invited people to join them on a hop-picking trip. Together, they retraced the steps of working-class east London residents who, for generations until 1950s, travelled to Kent every summer to offer their labour for the hop harvest. Today it operates as a community-led space and drinks company, running monthly foraging and picking trips. It employs a team and processes, bottles and supplies its products to shops, markets and even the annual Frieze Art Fair bar. The income generated supports the continued production and running costs of resourcing and equipping their community building, as well as their art-as-business activity and skills sharing.

For some of its users, Company Drinks is a gardening space, a source of healthy eating, for others a common room, after-school entertainment, a space for exercise, paid employment. It is also an art practice and an artist's studio. As an example of learning from and with others, Company Drinks will collaborate with the Whitworth Community Garden and its users to co-produce and sell a joint elderflower cordial. Together, they will host foraging trips and processing workshops in our city to initiate a community-led drinks company here in Manchester that will continue beyond the lifespan of the show.

Over 6000 miles away, in the town of Lusanga, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, an art cooperative of plantation workers are reforming economies of the land. Cercle d'Art des Travailleurs de Plantation Congolaise, (CATPC) translated as the Congolese Plantation Workers Art League, operate from a former Unilever palm oil plantation. The cooperative makes sculptures from the plantation's raw materials as well as drawings and videos that speak to the collective experience of colonial extraction of resources from their region. A selection of sculptures, ink drawings and a six-part video work made in collaboration with Dutch artist Renzo Martens will be presented in the exhibition. A largescale diagram will illustrate how, through the sale of their works via the Western art market, they generate income to buy back depleted plantation land for the community and carry out the re-introduction of biodiversity into the exhausted crop fields, creating long-term food security.

As Company Drinks and CATPC demonstrate, the projects in *Economics the Blockbuster* are founded and made by artists and the local communities in which they live. They emerge from the resources and knowledges held in those communities, enabling them to collectively reclaim their economies in order to better serve their needs.

A key question for the gallery team is how can such models of self-organisation and collective practice infiltrate and transform larger organisations like the Whitworth? We have begun to explore this through a long-term collaboration with Centre for Plausible Economies, another participating art project in the exhibition.

Set up in 2018 by artist Kathrin Böhm and curator Kuba Szreder, Centre for Plausible Economies (CPE) is a platform for re-thinking economic systems. They facilitate workshops and discussions that use drawing as a tool to map out and make visible the everyday economies in which we participate. These drawings are then used to imagine new ways in which economies can be understood and reorganised from the ground-up, creating a much-needed creative dialogue between art, economy and community action.

Over the last year, Whitworth staff have been working with CPE to understand how parts of our gallery operate, what value systems they support and what vital activities go unnoticed and ignored. How might we re-draw this to create a more equitable, honest and caring system? A central drawing room in the exhibition will display the drawings made by staff, inviting visitors to have their say and help us shape our gallery's economy for the better. The space will also act as a studio for everyone to map out their own economic activity; it could be drawing how your football club operates, your home, an allotment or your office.

Finally, a 'blockbuster' exhibition on art as economic practice would not be complete without merchandise. lumbung Kios, a global network of artists forging a self-driven, sustainable economic model for selling their work, will be providing merchandise with a purpose. Artists within the group collaborate with makers local to the kios to create products investing into local manufacturing and craft industries. The kios sells the work to generate funds for a collective pot, re-distributing the wealth equally across the network. A lumbung Kios at the gallery will sell wares to visitors and will sit alongside produce and toolkits made by other artists in the show, from a box of chocolates by CATPC to RE-drawing kits by Centre for Plausible Economies. Come drink some cordial, draw your economy, forage some fruit, watch a film, buy a pencil. Join us in imagining, making and testing new systems that help us to live together better.

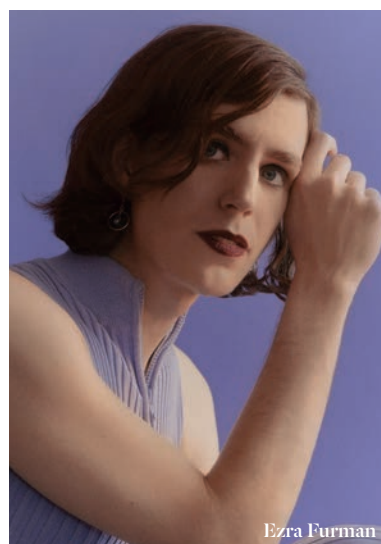


# PSYCH FEST

Thousands of music fans will descend on Oxford Road in the first weekend of September as Manchester Psych Fest returns to stages around the Corridor to celebrate its 10th edition. We sat down with Gareth Butterworth, the festival's director, to talk all things Psych Fest.



Nightbus



Ezra Furman



bdrmm

Art pop innovator Ezra Furman headlines this year's festival alongside psych heroes The Brian Jonestown Massacre in a packed line-up of indie favourites, including Irish post-punks The Murder Capital, Hamish Hawk, KOKOKO!, Snail Mail and Jeffrey Lewis. Manchester Psych Fest is now one of the biggest city-based music festivals in the UK. It began life in 2014 as an all-day at the Night & Day Cafe, growing each year and adding Soup Kitchen, Peer Hat and Band on the Wall to its venues. In 2019 the festival moved to Oxford Road, where it could play to bigger audiences at larger venues.

"We wanted to move the festival to Oxford Road where there's a high concentration of bigger, walkable venues. It was, and still is, the place to be for most music fans' says Butterworth. This year's festival takes place at The Ritz, Gorilla, Yes, Canvas, Deaf Insitute and The Albert Hall. 'There's healthy competition amongst the venues across Manchester, they're always pushing each other, and it stops the city from getting left behind. Manchester arguably has more gigs per square foot than any other city in Europe'.

The area has played its part in the history of Manchester's music scene. Sir Charles Hallé formed Manchester's symphony orchestra at the Lesser Free Trade Hall, in the same venue Bob Dylan was famously heckled for going electric and its where the Sex Pistols played the "gig that changed the world". Most of Manchester's most famous bands started here, The Smiths name-check The Holy Name Church in *Vicar in a Tutu* and The Temple bar is 'the hole' in Guy Garvey's neighbourhood.

How difficult is it to be a forward-thinking festival in a

city that still proudly celebrates its past? "You can't ignore Manchester's musical history, it's probably attracted a lot of people here, but there is a massive student population alongside a thriving young music and artist community. We might not tap directly into that heritage music, but you can't negate its influence. Genre is getting more mixed. There's a big grime, hip-hop and electronic scene in Manchester... there's lots of bits and bobs going on."

While the festival is unashamedly indie-tinged, they actively try to mix it up where some festivals fail. "We aim for at least 50% of the line-up to be non-male. It's something we've been working on since 2017. The industry has to do better". Is that difficult? "It's difficult booking a festival full stop! But we're proactive, and we can give smaller artists bigger slots if that's what it needs. So it can be done. If we can do it, so can those with more resources."

"We're already working on 2024. We have 50 or 60 artists playing each year, but we make enquiries with more than 200. It comes down to finances and logistics, but as the festival's reputation grows, more acts want to play."

What's helped the festival grow is a knack for lining up the next big thing. "You have an idea of which artists might go on to do well. Ideally, they all would, but you never know. Yard Act and Dry Cleaning were 'small-fonted' bands in 2020/21 when we announced, but they'd exploded by the time of the festival".

Who are the ones to watch this year? "The bottom end is really strong, probably the highest calibre yet, so I'd look out for a lot of them. There's a good thirst for people to watch bdrmm who sit a little further up. I'm really happy with the line-up. A real mix, something for everyone. The issue for me will be watching as many acts as possible on the day!"

Some other tips from Gareth include Los Bitchos, 'a show no-one leaves without a smile', Heartworms, Allah-Las and Italian psychedelic pop project Dumbo Gets Mad. He will also be cheering on Manchester's very own Nightbus, who, in just one recent review, drew comparisons with Joy Division, the XX, The Cure, Massive Attack and Fontaines DC... no pressure.

How easy is it to make it all fit into one day? "It's tough. We do 200 shows a year in the city with Now Wave, so we have a good idea of where the audience will go, so we try and split them accordingly."

Last year the festival made Circle Square its hub with market stalls, food and drink, DJs and visual art all on display. Expect more to be announced over the summer. "We want to promote (none music) artists from the city and beyond. It gives it more of a feel of a festival. It's not just about individual bands but making sure it's a great day out, and we want that festival vibe to run throughout."

"Last year was really special. Having Circle Square as the festival hub was incredible. Since we moved to Oxford Road and Courtney Barnett headlined in 2019, we've not looked back. We get emails every day from bands who want to play." Such is the success of Manchester Psych Fest that they're expanding to run a sister event, Edinburgh Psych Fest, which will see much of the line-up travel to the Scottish capital over the same weekend.

What's next for the festival team, world domination? "We're open to ideas".

*Manchester Psych Fest takes place across Oxford Road Corridor on Sat 2 Sep. Get tickets at [manchesterpsychfest.com](http://manchesterpsychfest.com)*



Minister of Health Aneurin Bevan at Park Hospital, Davyhulme, meeting with 13-year-old Sylvia Beckenham, the first NHS patient.  
© Daily Herald Archive, National Science and Media Museum, Bradford



# NHS 75

THE 5<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY 2023 MARKS 75 YEARS OF THE NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE. THE MANCHESTER UNIVERSITY NHS FOUNDATION TRUST IS ONE OF THE LARGEST IN THE UK, EMPLOYING OVER 28,000 STAFF, MANY OF WHOM ARE BASED IN THE FIVE HOSPITALS WHICH MAKE UP THE OXFORD ROAD CAMPUS.

In 2018, the NHS celebrated its 70th anniversary. Little did they know they were about to face their biggest challenge yet. In this article, **Stephanie Snow** Professor of Health, History and Policy at the University of Manchester and Director of NHS at 70 and NHS Voices of Covid-19, introduces the programme of work that captures the unique heritage of the NHS through recordings of patients, staff and communities across the UK.

“The NHS was launched by Aneurin Bevan, health minister in the Labour government, at Park Hospital (now Trafford Hospital) in Davyhulme, Manchester on 5 July 1948. It was a significant

historical moment that marked the birth of an iconic and treasured British institution. At the time however, the creation of the NHS was opposed by many politicians, doctors, and local authorities. But it proved highly popular with the British public. GPs, dentists and opticians were overwhelmed by patients seeking treatment and dentists estimated they had fitted over 33 million artificial teeth during the first nine months. From the beginning the NHS has had to grapple with rising costs and pressures from an ageing population, expensive new medical technologies, and increasing patient expectations yet it has remained at the forefront of British life, beloved of patients and staff alike. Given the importance of the NHS to post-war British history it is surprising that little attempt was made to capture this heritage until 2017 when, with support from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the NHS at 70 project was set up at the University of Manchester.

Volunteers from all walks of life joined the NHS at 70 and NHS Voices of Covid-19 project bringing their life skills and expertise from other fields and were trained in oral history methods. The NHS' 70th anniversary was marked by special services at Westminster Abbey and York Minster and there were many award ceremonies for NHS heroes and special communities including the Windrush generation, Big Teas and other celebrations. No-one knew that the NHS' darkest and most testing times were yet to come with the Covid-19 pandemic.

Concern built across the globe after the first death from a new, unknown, severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (Covid-19) was recorded in Wuhan, China in

early January 2020. Clinicians in Italy shared horrendous accounts of being inundated with seriously ill patients in February 2020 and the NHS began to prepare itself for a crisis of unknown magnitude. By March 2020 NHS staff were innovating and reorganising services, and redeploying thousands of staff to ensure they would be able to treat the anticipated numbers of critically sick patients. Primary care and other services were moved online where possible. New Nightingale hospitals were established using conference centres, stadiums and other spaces to provide dedicated care for Covid-19 patients. In the end, many of these were not needed thanks to the creation of additional intensive care space within existing hospitals and the success of lockdown policies in reducing the spread of the virus.

By March 2020, NHS at 70 had collected more than 800 interviews and were planning a touring exhibition to showcase these across the UK. But as the NHS faced its biggest crisis to date, the project rapidly refocused its work to capture the unfolding of the pandemic through recording the experiences and reflections of patients, staff and communities across the UK. Lockdown and social distancing rules meant that interviews were done remotely, using people's phones. In July 2020 NHS at 70 won further funding from the UKRI Covid-19 Urgency Call through the Arts and Humanities Research Council to work in partnership with the British Library to create a national collection of Covid-19 focused testimonies to capture its impacts on our lives and communities. Both the NHS at 70 and the NHS Voices of Covid-19 interviews are deposited at the British Library as 'Voices of Our National

Health Service' collection. It is one of the largest health-focused collections in the world and is a unique historical footprint of the UK's pandemic experiences. Testimonies from the collection have already been used to inform various public and political enquiries into the pandemic including ones instigated by the British Academy, the Health Foundation, the All Party Parliamentary Group on coronavirus, and the House of Commons' Public Accounts Committee.

In 2021 Queen Elizabeth II awarded the George Cross to the National Health Services of the United Kingdom in recognition of 73 years of dedicated service by NHS staff and their courage in responding to the pandemic. In summer 2023, though the Covid-19 pandemic has waned, its effects will be felt for years and the full impacts on our lives and communities are still revealing themselves. The public demonstrated huge love for the NHS during the early waves of Covid-19 with Thursday night claps. Now, many NHS staff are experiencing the personal impacts of working through the crisis and suffering burnout and trauma. Severe workforce shortages are intensifying the pressure on staff and ongoing disputes about pay are adding to the challenges. Patients are expressing their frustration with long waiting lists and backlogs. Nevertheless, the NHS continues to represent our shared ideals of compassion and humanitarianism. The 75th Anniversary is an opportunity to take a moment to reflect on the place of the NHS in all our lives and to thank staff for the courage, sacrifice and dedication they showed through the pandemic.”

To hear the voices of our NHS visit: [nhs70.org.uk](https://nhs70.org.uk)



# Good day, Sunshine

IGNORE THE RAIN-OBSSESSED NAY-SAYERS, A TYPICAL MANCHESTER SUMMER MEANS PLENTY OF SUN-KISSED AFTERNOONS AND BALMY EVENINGS OUT.

By Ian Jones / @lanDJonesnet

When it comes to al fresco food and drink, Oxford Road Corridor has some unmissable spots. For the ultimate sun crawl, we suggest going from north to south, starting at the top end of Oxford Road where you can drop into three of Manchester's most renowned pubs.

**The Briton's Protection** might be best known for the vast selection of drinks and quirky stained-glass corridor, but head out back and you'll find a wide-open beer garden, packed with some of the city's friendliest eccentrics.

Don't be fooled by the name, the nearby **Rain Bar** is famed for its canalside outdoor section, just across the water from the Hacienda apartments. Grab a pint and a bite to eat while watching the barges float by, but be watchful of the geese - they can be feistier than the Gallagher brothers.

Then there's **Peveril of the Peak**, one of the city's most eye-catching pubs, thanks to its green-tiled, gin palace-style exterior. Dating back to 1830, this popular pub has had the same landlady for over fifty years - get there early and grab an outside table for a slice of authentic Manchester.

Fancy something more modern? Head round the corner to **Society**, a hub of street food kitchens with an impressive range of cocktails and craft beers - complete with a Mediterranean-style outdoor space full of lush greenery and even a water fountain.

There are many great spots to eat and drink nearby at First Street, from fine dining to super-spicy chicken wings. For our money, it's hard to beat a drink on **HOME's** sundrenched terrace.

Music lovers should head over to **YES** on Charles Street, one of the city's standout bars and live music venues. Even if you're not out for a gig, this four-storey venue has a must-visit upstairs terrace and fairy-lit outdoor bar with a pitch-perfect soundtrack.

At **Circle Square**, you'll find several places to eat and drink around its central Symphony Park, but the best outdoor tables belong to **North Taproom**. Our tip? Sit in the sun sipping a guava mango Triple Fruited Gose.

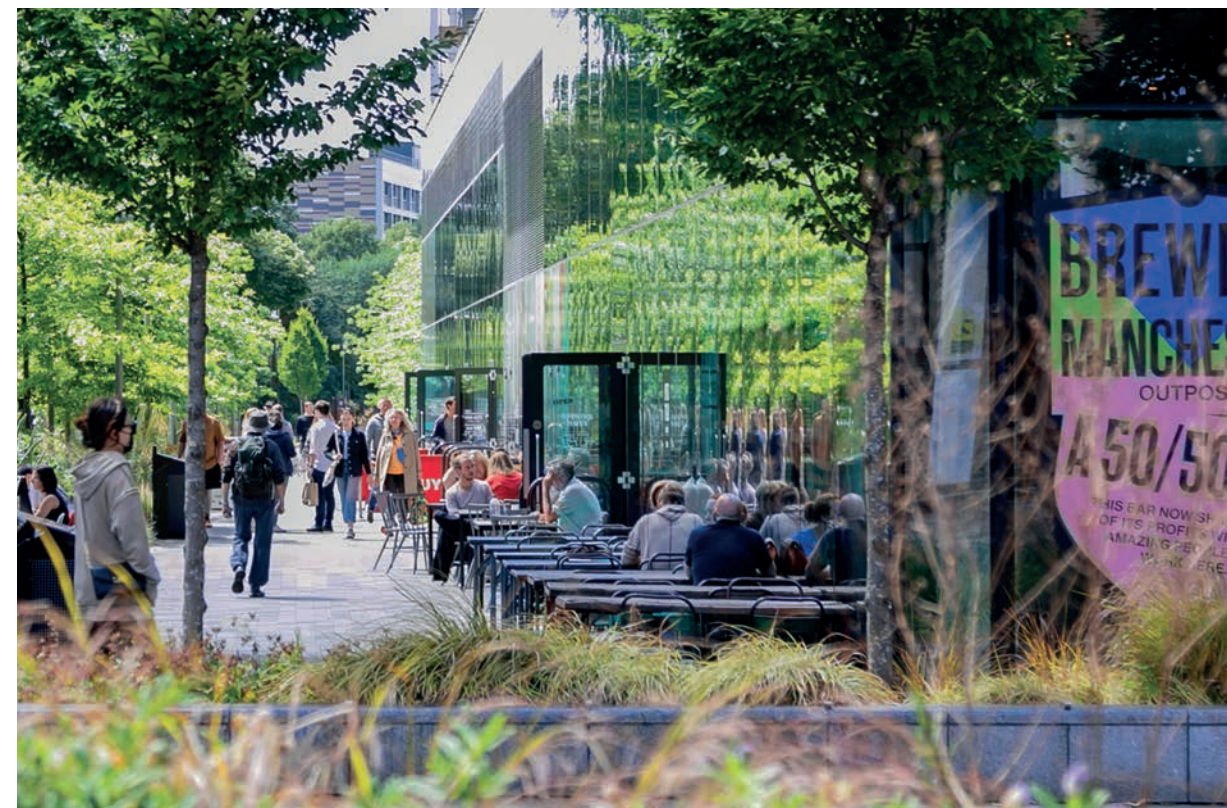
From here it's a short walk to **Hatch**, an open-air collection of top-notch independent street food and drink retailers (see page 8). Or go a few doors down to **Eighth Day** for an ethical, sustainable and above all delicious vegetarian lunch which you can take across the road to scoff in the scenic (and squirrel-packed) All Saint's Park.

Then there's **Sandbar**, an award-winning pub that serves up some of the best pizzas and craft ale for miles. The outdoor space might be small but it's perfectly formed, soaking up the sun all day long.

**University Green** is one of the jewels in Oxford Road's crown. Get an outdoor caffeine boost from one of two artisanal coffee shops - **Takk** and **Bold Street Coffee** - or simply kick back with a craft ale at **Brewdog Outpost**. **Kro Bar** is another safe bet for beers and snacks - this longstanding Danish-inspired Manchester institution has a well-designed outdoor space with plenty of seating.

Off to a gig at the Academy? Head to near-neighbour **Big Hands** and grab a seat on the open-air terrace for food and drink in the sun. This also serves as a Mediterranean-style rooftop garden - time it right and you could catch one of their celebrated barbecue sessions. This great little venue is a firm favourite with touring bands so there's a chance you'll end up rubbing shoulders with your musical heroes.

Finally, **The Whitworth Cafe** is an elegant location you can enjoy whatever the weather. The floor-to-ceiling windows mean you can gaze out over Whitworth Park and enjoy the outdoors, from indoors. If you're lucky you might even spot some of the local parakeets flitting from tree to tree. Who says Manchester can't do sunshine?



University Green, home to BrewDog, TAKK, Bold Street Coffee and more.



Peveril of the Peak, named after Sir Walter Scott's novel and a favourite hang-out of Eric Cantona.



# Summer 2023

With the student population taking a well-earned break, Oxford Road can feel a little quieter over the summer, but there’s no shortage of things to see and do. Here are some of the exhibitions, performances and gigs we’re looking forward to; for the latest, visit [oxfordroadcorridor.com](http://oxfordroadcorridor.com) and always double-check times and dates with the event organiser before making a special trip.

## Exhibitions

### JILL FURMANOVSKY : PHOTOGRAPHING THE INVISIBLES

Central Library  
Until 24 Jun  
A fascinating retrospective of iconic works and hidden gems from the photographer’s archive.

### DAB HANDS

Manchester Museum  
Until 31 Jul  
*Dab Hands* is an exhibition that celebrates the extraordinary relationship that we have with our hands.

### (UN)DEFINING QUEER

The Whitworth  
Until 3 Dec  
*(Un)Defining Queer* delves into the Whitworth’s collection to examine how we can use a queer lens to define what the term ‘queer’ means.

### GOLDEN MUMMIES OF EGYPT

Manchester Museum  
Until 31 Dec  
*Golden Mummies of Egypt* explores expectations of a life after death during the relatively little-known ‘Graeco-Roman’ Period of Egyptian history.

### TRACES OF DISPLACEMENT

The Whitworth  
Until 7 Jan 2024  
*Traces of Displacement* uses the Whitworth’s collection to address one of the major humanitarian concerns – forced displacement.

### A TALE OF MANCHESTER LIFE

Elizabeth Gaskell’s House  
Until 2 Apr 2024  
Explore how the Victorian writer Elizabeth Gaskell presented Manchester and its people through her novels and short stories, and the impact she had through her writing.

### THE POETICS OF WATER

Castlefield Gallery  
25 Jun–24 Sep  
*The Poetics of Water* asks visitors to look at landscapes, borders and centuries and think deeply about soil and water’s fundamental elements.

### MIF23: ECONOMICS THE BLOCKBUSTER

The Whitworth  
30 Jun–22 Oct  
A research and exhibition project, developed with Alliance Manchester Business School and MIF. *See Page 12*

### ALBRECHT DÜRER'S MATERIAL WORLD

The Whitworth  
30 Jun–10 Mar 2024  
The first major exhibition of the Whitworth’s outstanding Dürer collection in over half a century.

### MIF23: BALMY ARMY

HOME  
1 Jul–17 Sep  
A movement for youth-led mental health. This is art and activism rolled into one show - expect the unexpected.

### MIF23: THIS ENTRY

The Whitworth  
7–16 Jul  
Tino Sehgal presents a playful exchange between different masters of their craft. Premieres at the National Football Museum and the Whitworth.

## Stage & Events

### FESTIVAL OF LIBRARIES

Various Venues  
7–11 Jun  
Celebrating the role libraries play in wellbeing, culture, creativity and more.

### WE WERE PROMISED HONEY

HOME  
7–10 Jun  
A hopeful, hopeless prophecy for earth and humankind.

### UNDERScore

Manchester Poetry Library  
7 Jun  
A round-table discussion on poetry and text in live performance chaired by John McAuliffe, Professor of Poetry at University of Manchester.

### HOT BROWN HONEY

HOME  
7–10 Jun  
Rise and Shine Motherlovers! Hot Brown Honey are back!

### OPERA NORTH: THE PEARL FISHERS

The Bridgewater Hall  
8 Jun  
The story of two men whose vow of friendship founders on their love for the same woman.

### THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER COMMUNITY FESTIVAL

University of Manchester  
10 Jun  
Go behind the scenes of the University and discover the diverse and exciting work taking place.

### JUNO BIRCH

The Bridgewater Hall  
12 Jun  
Everyone’s favourite alien drag queen Juno Birch stars in her theatrical one woman show.

### THE REST OF OUR LIVES

HOME  
13–14 Jun  
Hopefully hopeful, *The Rest of Our Lives* is a joyful dose of dance, theatre, circus and games.

### BLUE MACHINE: HOW THE OCEAN SHAPES OUR WORLD

Contact  
16 Jun  
The official homecoming launch event for Blue Machine, Dr Helen Czerski’s exploration of the “ocean engine”—the physics behind the ocean’s systems—and why it matters.

### ENDURANCE

HOME  
22–24 Jun  
A blend of dance, theatre, and an attempt at a sports spectacle.

### I, DANIEL BLAKE

HOME  
27 Jun–1 Jul  
One of the most important stories of a generation is brought to stage.

### OPERA GALA WITH OPERA NORTH

RNCM  
28 Jun  
Join students and the Orchestra of Opera North for a fantastic evening of opera’s greatest hits.

### MIF23: THE FAGGOTS AND THEIR FRIENDS BETWEEN REVOLUTIONS

HOME  
28 Jun–2 Jul  
Step into a world where fables and myths celebrate queer community, friendship and pleasure: a manifesto for survival for the marginalised everywhere.

### MIF23: SONICS, STORIES AND SCENES OF THE DIASPORA

Manchester Museum  
1 Jul  
*SEEN Magazine* and Manchester Museum shine a spotlight on the sounds of the South Asian diaspora.

### MIF23: ALL RIGHT. GOOD NIGHT.

HOME  
6–8 Jul  
A meditation on disappearance, loss and how to deal with uncertainty.

### MIF23: FIND YOUR EYES

Manchester Academy  
12–16 Jul  
Benji Reid invites us to watch him at play as he creates live photography in this genre-bending show.

### MIF23: 50 HOURS OF FREEDOM

Contact  
14 Jul  
In celebration of International Non-Binary People’s Day, Contact and Manchester International Festival are bringing together three local, non-binary artists to create a new piece of work.

### HEATHERS: THE MUSICAL

Palace Theatre  
8–12 Aug  
*A black comedy rock musical based on the eponymous ‘89 film.*

### JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR

Palace Theatre  
11–23 Sep  
Timothy Sheader directs this mesmerizing new production of the iconic global phenomenon.

Music

<b>PRIDE CLASSICAL</b>	<b>ARAB STRAP</b>
The Bridgewater Hall 2 Jun	Yes 15 Jun
<b>FLOWDAN</b>	<b>VALETTE ENSEMBLE</b>
Joshua Brooks 2 Jun	Burgess Foundation 15 Jun
<b>GRACE CARTER</b>	<b>TORS</b>
Gorilla 3 Jun	Deaf Institute 16 Jun
<b>AUDIOBOOKS</b>	<b>SCREAMING FEMALES</b>
Yes 3 Jun	Yes 17 Jun
<b>NORTH WEST CALLING</b>	<b>RNCM SESSION ORCHESTRA</b>
Manchester Academy 3 Jun	RNCM 17 Jun
<b>THE HALLÉ – THE DREAM OF GERONTIUS</b>	<b>RNCM GUITARS</b>
The Bridgewater Hall 4 Jun	RNCM 19 Jun
<b>JEN CLOHER</b>	<b>VICTOR LIM</b>
Deaf Insitute 7 Jun	RNCM 20 Jun
<b>NIGERIAN GOSPEL SINGING ENSEMBLE</b>	<b>THE DEAR HUNTER</b>
Martin Harris Centre 8 Jun	Gorilla 20 Jun
<b>THE HALLÉ – THE APOSTLES</b>	<b>RNCM 50TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION</b>
The Bridgewater Hall 10 Jun	RNCM 22 Jun
<b>KEATON HENSON</b>	<b>MANCHESTER CLASSICAL</b>
Yes 11 Jun	The Bridgewater Hall 24–25 Jun
<b>AZIYA</b>	<b>GOO GOO DOLLS</b>
Yes 13 Jun	Manchester Academy 23 Jun
<b>ADELA MEDE + DIALECT</b>	<b>AMIGO THE DEVIL</b>
Burgess Foundation 14 Jun	Gorilla 24 Jun

<b>WYRES</b>
Retro Bar 24 Jun
<b>HUNEE</b>
Gorilla 30 Jun
<b>LIL SKIES</b>
The Ritz 3 Jul
<b>DAVID KUSHNER</b>
Gorilla 3 Jul
<b>WILL JOSEPH COOK</b>
Gorilla 4 Jul
<b>ADAM MELCHOR</b>
Yes 4 Jul
<b>TOMMY LEFROY</b>
Deaf Institute 6 Jul
<b>MIF23: SONIC GEOGRAPHY</b>
The Bridgewater Hall 7 Jul
<b>D.R.S</b>
Joshua Brooks 7 Jul
<b>BELLE &amp; SEBASTIAN</b>
Manchester Academy 21 Jul
<b>AIRBOURNE</b>
Manchester Academy 22 Jul
<b>THE DREGGS</b>
Deaf Institute 27 Jul

<b>OSCAR LANG</b>	<b>GRAHAM NASH</b>
Deaf Institute 10 Aug	The Bridgewater Hall 12 Sep
<b>HURRAY FOR THE RIFF RAFF</b>	<b>WHEATUS</b>
Yes 15 Aug	Gorilla 15 Sep
<b>THUS LOVE</b>	<b>THE HALLÉ – MAHLER’S SYMPHONY NO.9</b>
Yes 25 Aug	The Bridgewater Hall 21 Sep
<b>THE ACES</b>	<b>JASMINE JETWA</b>
Manchester Academy 28 Aug	Yes 22 Sep
<b>BUCK MEEK (OF BIG THIEF)</b>	<b>PI.L</b>
Yes 29 Aug	The Ritz 22 Sep
<b>GAMES WE PLAY</b>	<b>NABIHAH IQBAL</b>
Deaf Institute 1 Sep	Yes 23 Sep
<b>MANCHESTER PSYCH FEST</b>	<b>THE COVASETTES</b>
Various - <i>See Page 14</i> 2 Sep	Manchester Academy 23 Sep
<b>WILCO</b>	<b>FAR CASPIAN</b>
The Bridgewater Hall 5 Sep	Yes 24 Sep
<b>CHRISTINE AND THE QUEENS</b>	<b>PUMA BLUE</b>
Manchester Academy 7 Sep	Canvas 26 Sep
<b>ARLO PARKS</b>	<b>GRACIE ABRAMS</b>
Manchester Academy 8 Sep	Manchester Academy 27 Sep
<b>DEXYS</b>	<b>DO NOTHING</b>
The Bridgewater Hall 8 Sep	Gorilla 29 Sep
<b>BRELAND</b>	<b>PIGS PIGS PIGS PIGS PIGS PIGS PIGS</b>
Gorilla 10 Sep	The Ritz 30 Sep



MANCHESTER  
PSYCH FEST

THE BRIAN JONESTOWN MASSACRE  
THE MURDER CAPITAL  
ALLAN-LAS  
THE LOVELY EGGS  
JUST MUSTARD  
ULRIKA SPACEK  
PANIC SHACK  
LAUNDROMAT  
EXPORT IMPORT  
60+ LIVE ACTS

SNAIL MAIL  
EZRA FURMAN  
LOS BITCHOS  
BODEGA SORRY  
JEFFREY LEWIS & THE VOLTAGE  
HAMISH HAWK  
SAY SHE SHE  
THE UNDERGROUND YOUTH  
MAD MAD MAD  
THE PRIZE  
DEAD LETTER  
JEMIMA COULTER  
THE KUNDALINI GENIE  
UNIVERSITY  
ART  
FOOD  
DJS  
WORKSHOPS

SAT 2ND SEPT 2023  
VARIOUS VENUES  
TICKETS: MANCHESTERPSYCHFEST.COM  
\*LINE-UP SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Oxford Road Corridor

CIRCLE SQUARE

BIMM INSTITUTE

FIRST CHOP

HYATT house

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