

Talks / Events

July

Pedro Reyes: Therapies for London *Discussion*
Wednesday 3 July, 2–3.30pm.
Zilkha Auditorium (£8/6 conc.)
Mexican artist **Pedro Reyes** leads an afternoon of discussion across psychology, psychiatry and theatre practice, addressing the performance of therapy, the role of the expert and experiments in self-improvement.
This event launches *Sanatorium Operations Manual*.

Julieta Aranda and Anton Vidokle: Time/Bank *Talk*
Thursday 4 July, 7–8.30pm.
Zilkha Auditorium (£8/6 conc.)
e-flux founders **Julieta Aranda** and **Anton Vidokle** discuss alternative economic models, drawing upon their ongoing **Time/Bank** project and image archive. Throughout *The Spirit of Utopia* exhibition, a range of thinkers are invited to utilise the archive and present lectures exploring discourse around currency, time and exchange.



Claire Pentecost: Soil *Workshop & Talk*
Friday 5 July, 2pm.
Creative Studio (£10/8 conc.)
What is the relationship between soil health and human health? Chicago-based artist **Claire Pentecost** consults both soil science and medical science to expand cultural attitudes towards agriculture, biodiversity and health. Bring a cup of soil and a jar.



Peter Liversidge: Proposals for Whitechapel Gallery
Across the summer, artist **Peter Liversidge** realises a series of conceptual proposals as part of his work in the exhibition *The Spirit of Utopia*.

Proposal no. 53: Weekly Label Readings
Saturdays, from 6 July–31 August, 2pm. Galleries 1, 5, 6, 8 & 9 (Free)
Drawing on a practice popular at the Gallery since the early 1900s, every weekend a guide reads aloud wall texts and labels for visitors throughout the exhibition.

Ha Za Vu Zu: Crying *Performance*
Saturday 6 July, 3–4pm.
Study Studio (Free)
When was the last time you've cried with other people? Can tears bring us together? **Ha Za Vu Zu** invite you to water this dry universe. Crying for nothing! Crying for laughing!

David Batchelor: To Make a Tree *Talk*
Thursday 11 July, 7–8.30pm.
Zilkha Auditorium (£8/6 conc.)
In 2003 artist **David Batchelor** created *Evergreen*, a glowing stainless steel and Plexiglas tree flanked by planted trees and corporate architecture by Tower Bridge. Batchelor takes this work as a starting point to consider encounters with artificial colour and light in the urban environment.

Proposal no. 44: Comedy Night *Performance*
Zilkha Auditorium (£8/6 conc.)
Producer **Anthony Caveney** curates an evening of comedy featuring celebrated stand-up comics.
Date to be announced, check website for details.



Proposals nos. 33 & 61: Summer Snow and Vodka *Performance*
Thursday 5 September, from 6pm. Foyer (Free)
On the last day of *The Spirit of Utopia*, Peter Liversidge will bring snow to the streets of Whitechapel, while serving up home-made berry vodka in etched limited edition glasses.

Nayia Yiakoumaki on Black Eyes and Lemonade *Gallery Talk*
Thursday 11 July, 6.30–7pm.
Gallery 4 (Free)

The Spirit of Utopia *Curator-led Gallery Talks*
Friday 12 July, 2pm & Thursday 5 September, 7pm.
Galleries 1, 5, 6, 8 & 9 (Free)

First Thursdays Bus Tour with BSL interpretation
👉 Thursday 4 July, 6.45–9pm.
👉 Meeting point: Foyer (Free, BSL users, to reserve a place email: bsl@whitechapelgallery.org)
Join a guided tour of east London galleries open late for First Thursdays.

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51% Studios & Peter Holden: To Make a Tree *Walk*
Sunday 14 July, 4–6pm.
Meeting point: The Wheatsheaf, 24 Southwark St, SE1 1TY (£8/6 conc.)
Ornithologist **Peter Holden** and architect **Catherine du Toit** lead a walking tour of *Networks* - a creative conservation project which responds to dwindling tree populations in the city by providing readymade habitats for birds around Bankside.

The Real World: Possibility *Conversation*
Wednesday 17 July, 7–8.30pm.
Study Studio (£3)
For *The Spirit of Utopia*, artist **Peter Liversidge** proposed to demolish the buildings opposite Whitechapel Gallery and build an exact replica of the Gallery in its place. Liversidge talks to **Robert Mull**, Dean of the Cass Faculty of Art, Architecture and Design, about the dynamic space between the impossible and the possible.
In association with Artquest.

Difference as an Arithmetic *Exercise Seminar*
Thursday 18 July,
The Showroom (NW8 8PQ): 1–3pm.
Whitechapel Gallery Creative Studio: 6–9pm. (Free)
Annette Krauss and **Claudia Hummel** consider the entanglements between everyday life, visible and invisible numbers. Departing from an investigation into text and image politics in maths textbooks, the seminar explores forms of mathematisation in art, school and daily life. With Critical Mathematician **Eva Jablonka** and artist **Ricardo Basbaum**.
In association with The Showroom, London.

Positions on Utopia *Discussion*
Thursday 18 July, 7–9pm.
Zilkha Auditorium (£8/6 conc.)
What does 'Utopia' mean for politics, art and architecture today? A series of statements by contemporary thinkers including **Richard Noble**, Editor of *Utopias* (Documents of Contemporary Art series) and **Paul Shephard**, Author of *How to Like Everything* - *A Utopia*. Followed by debate.

Rabih Mroué: The Pixilated Revolution *Lecture Performance*
Friday 19 July, Artist Talk: 3pm, Performance: 7pm.
Zilkha Auditorium (£16/12 for both events or £8/6 each)
Lebanese artist, actor and playwright **Rabih Mroué** stages his non-academic lecture, addressing the use of mobile phone cameras to capture first-hand accounts of the Syrian revolution. Preceded by artist talk.
Co-produced by: Berlin Documentary Forum – HKW/ Berlin, DOCUMENTA 13, Kassel, The 2010 Spalding Gray Award (Performing Space 122 in New York, The Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburg, On the Boards in Seattle and the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis).



Heather & Ivan Morison: To Make a Tree *Talk*
Thursday 25 July, 7–8.30pm.
Zilkha Auditorium (£8/6 conc.)
Artists in Residence **Heather & Ivan Morison** speak about the role of the tree and the forest in their work - as a material for building or space for shelter and discuss their engagement with tree fanatics in the search for rare species.

August



Reclaim the Mural: Utopian Legacies in London *Discussion*
Thursday 1 August, 7–8.30pm.
Zilkha Auditorium (£8/6 conc.)
Launching new publication *Reclaim the Mural*, writer **Owen Hatherley**, muralist **Brian Barnes**, artists **Emma Hart** and **Dean Kenning** and curator **Marijke Steedman** discuss the London Mural Movement and what became of the political impulse to move art away from galleries and into the urban everyday.

The Spirit of Utopia BSL *Gallery Talk*
👉 Thursday 8 August, 7–8pm.
👉 Meeting point: Foyer (Free)
Guide **Martin Glover** leads a tour for deaf visitors with audio interpretation.

Brian Holmes: Big Ideas
Thursday 8 August, 7.30–8.45pm.
Zilkha Auditorium (£8/6 conc.)
Writer, activist and cultural critic **Brian Holmes** presents a keynote lecture, 'After the Stark Utopia: Political Economies of the Future', taking the work of artist Claire Pentecost as a point of departure.
Supported by: Stanley Picker Trust.

Talks / Events



The Spirit of Utopia Audio *Description Workshops*
👉 Wednesdays 14 August & 4 September, 11.30am–12.45pm.
Meeting point: Foyer (Free)
Explore current exhibition with guide **Sarah Barrett**. For blind and partially sighted visitors.

The Manual for Useful Art *Launch*
Friday 23 August, 3–4.30pm.
Creative Studio (Free)
Students from Liverpool John Moores University's MA Fine Art present an ongoing inquiry into the nature of Use, Use Value and Useful Art.

Produced as part of 'The Autonomy Project', in association with Van Abbemuseum, Grizedale Arts and academic partners the Dutch Art Institute, the University of Hildesheim and Liverpool John Moores University.



Wayward Plants: On Biodynamics and Science Fiction *Discussion*
Thursday 29 August, 7–8.30pm.
Creative Studio (£8/6 conc.)
Landscape collective **Wayward Plants** host an evening of exploration and demonstration with author **Ken Macleod** and scientist **Brenda Parker**, looking at the links between improbable botany, lunar gardening and science fiction.

Navigating Ecological Times *Study Day*
Friday 30 August, 3–6pm
Zilkha Auditorium (£10/8 conc.)
How can artists act as guides for society in dealing with profound changes signalled by ecological crises? An afternoon of presentations and discussion on sustainability, art practice and the challenges of green curating, led by **Maja** and **Reuben Fowkes**.

September



Guy Brett: Exhibition Histories *Conversation*
Thursday 19 September, 7pm.
Zilkha Auditorium (£8/6 conc.)
In the latest event reflecting on exhibitions through the personal accounts of the curators responsible for them, **Guy Brett**, curator, critic and lecturer, addresses questions about the seminal 1969 exhibition *Hélio Oiticica: Whitechapel Experience* with Archive Curator **Nayia Yiakoumaki**.
Organised with Afterall

Open House London *Tour*
Saturday 21 September, 3–4pm.
Meeting point: Foyer (Free)
Artist **Matthew de Kersaint Giraudeau** gives an introduction to the Gallery's architectural and exhibition history. Part of *Open House London*.

Salon: The Future of Theory
Thursday 26 September, 7pm.
Study Studio (£8/6 conc.)
Includes glass of wine)
Join Curator **Kirsty Ogg**, Media Archaeologist at Winchester School of Art **Jussi Parikka** and Head of Central Saint Martins **Jeremy Till** for the first in a series of debates on the future of 'theory' in art and design education.

Organised with the Institute for Modern and Contemporary Culture, Westminster and University for the Creative Arts.

Throughout the Summer



Zena Edwards *Readings*
For the first presentation of *Soul Manufacturing Corporation* outside the US, artist **Theaster Gates** invites poet and performer **Zena Edwards** to give a series of weekly readings by his pottery workshop, within *The Spirit of Utopia*. Sharing writings on craft that evoke questions around production and labour, Edwards performs the readings as "gifts to the makers". See website for performance dates.

Claire Pentecost: Soil - e.g. 2012, installation view of DOCUMENTA 13, 2012, courtesy the artist. Peter Liversidge: Proposal No. 32 - Eyes Closed from Proposals for Borzello, 2007, view of performances for the Centre of Art, Santa Mónica, Barcelona, photograph courtesy the artist / Ingelby Gallery, Edinburgh. Midsummer Showstorm, Jupiter Artland, 2009.

Heather and Ivan Morison: I am so sorry, Goodbye 2008. Commissioned for Tatton Park Biennial. Reclaim the Mural: Brian Barnes: Mural: Down, 1981, photograph: Lara Uerandi, 2012.