

THE URBAN WEEKENDER

From interactive digital artworks to late nights at the gallery, from the future of urban music to the hotly anticipated new novel from one of America's best known writers, from unmissable performance art to tours of the underground art scene; this is your indispensable guide to the long weekend in Manchester.

The
MANCHESTER
weekender
1—3 OCTOBER 2010

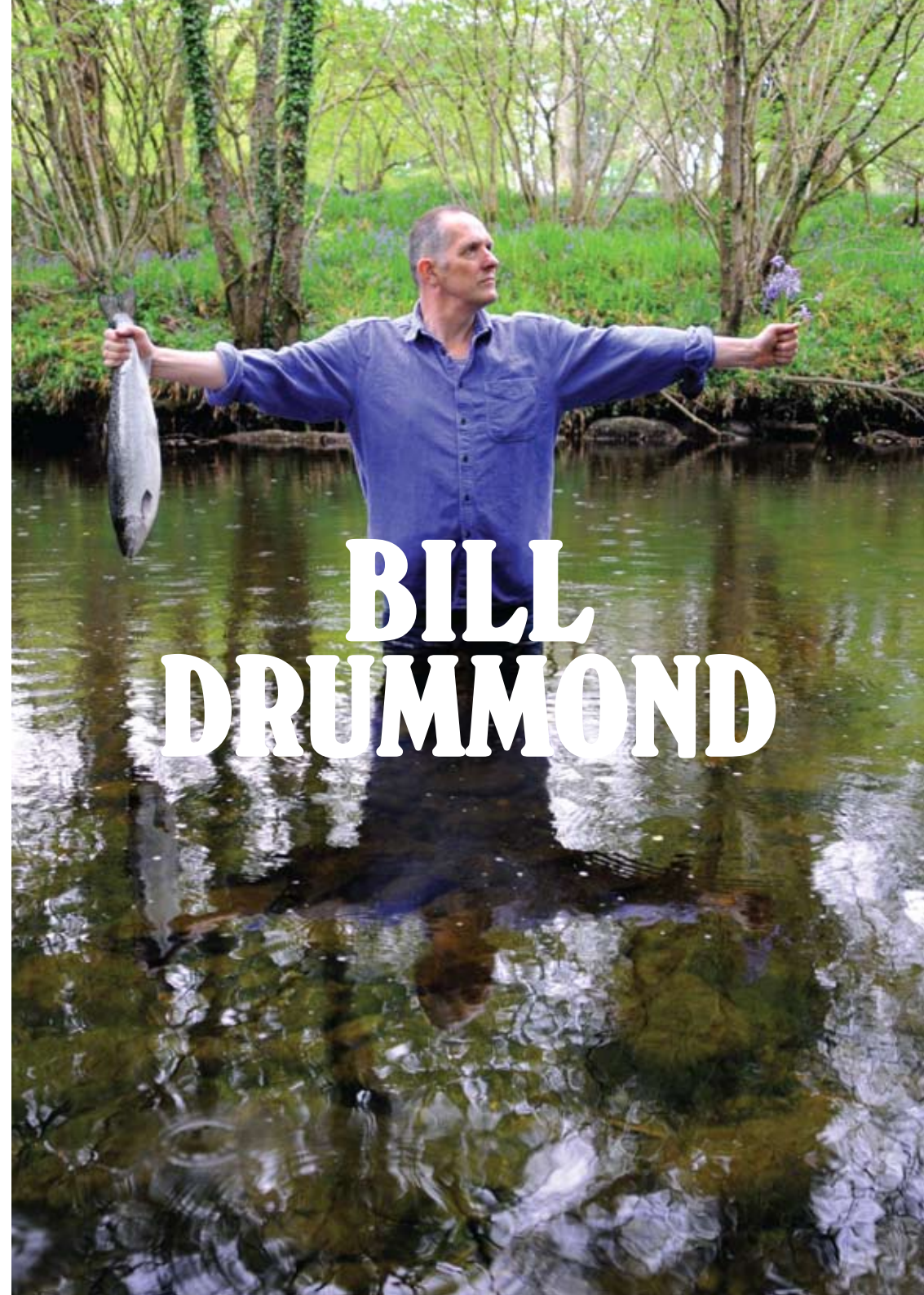


UNMISSABLE

FRI 1 OCTOBER

The weekend starts here, with a programme of performance art, after-hours electronica and nothing less than the future sounds of urban music. Leave the working week behind and get into the city for the **Abandon Normal Devices (AND) Festival**, an event described by *The Guardian* as 'a boldly freewheeling art and film festival'. AND launches with a series of special late night events right across the city – our pick is **Lawrence Malstaf's** unmissable and claustrophobic performance, *Shrink*. Inside the exuberant Neo-Classical setting of the Freemason's Hall, the artist is wrapped between two large transparent plastic sheets. As the performance begins, a device gradually sucks air out from between the sheets – leaving Malstaf inside, vacuum-packed and suspended in mid-air. Galleries throughout Manchester will be open on Friday night to celebrate AND – we recommend you head to **Manchester Art Gallery** for an after-hours visit to *Recorders*, the new solo show

by **Rafael Lozano-Hemmer**, one of the world's most exciting electronic artists. Here, the gallery hosts an evening of live electronica by Marconi Union alongside what's being billed as 'interactive activity' from Lewis Sykes in its glass-roofed atrium. Friday also sees the launch of **Un-convention**, one of the UK's most eclectic independent music industry events that contains much for those who just love (rather than work in) new music. Employing such unconventional spaces as a barge, Salford Lads' Club and a church, and featuring the likes of Bill Drummond, Jarvis Cocker, Jon McClure, Brian Travers and Kevin Cummins – all doing 'interesting things in the most unexplored places in the city' – Un-convention is a hot ticket. Oh yes, and there's a travelling circus, music photography projected onto buildings, Colombian Hip Hop, Jah Wobble, the BBC Philharmonic and a brass band as well. All of this can be yours from as little as £24. Finally, end your evening at **Contact's Future Sounds of the UK**, a three-way sound clash between some of the UK's most influential artists from across a range of genres (Drum & Bass, Grime, Garage and Dubstep). Featuring performances from B2B DRS, Zed Bias, Fallacy and the Murkage Cartel, and hosted by Broke N English.



AT A GLANCE

Shrink, Friday 1 Oct, 5pm-6.30pm.
The Freemason's Hall, 36 Bridge Street
M3 3BT. Free (ticket required). Note that
this is a special preview version of the
performance. Part of the AND Festival.

Recorders: Evening Opening,
Friday 1 Oct, 6.30pm-9pm. Manchester
Art Gallery, Mosley Street M2 3JL. Free.

Un-convention, 1-3 Oct, venues across
Salford. £24 for music and special event
pass|£40 for full event pass.

Future Sounds of the UK, Friday 1 Oct,
10pm-late. Contact, Oxford Road M15 6JA.
£8|£5. Part of The Black Sounds Series.



EXPERIMENTAL THEATRE

SAT 2 OCTOBER (DAY)

After a late night we thought we'd ease you into the day with a morning of leisurely cultural activity, beginning with **The Land Between Us** at **The Whitworth Art Gallery**. This show opens with a dramatic work by Olafur Eliasson (best known for his sun-like installation at Tate Modern's Turbine Hall) – a real forest, recreated inside the gallery. Elsewhere, a narrow walkway is stacked high with watercolours by JMW Turner, while other historic works are supplemented by their contemporary counterparts – by the likes of Black Audio Film Collective and Rachel Whiteread. This is no standard landscape show, then, but a sensory, imaginative exhibition that does what the Whitworth does best: treads the fine line between the historic and the contemporary. If the Whitworth whets your appetite for visual art, book onto the **Contemporary Cartography Tours** that

Image: Mik Grant 2008

start from here on Saturday. **Contemporary Cartography //01** is a pocket map that provides an overview of the creative ecology of the city (via its contemporary galleries and underground art spaces) and, to celebrate its launch, the artists' collective **Contents May Vary** leads a special two-wheeled tour, cycling across Manchester to International 3, Bureau, Kraak Gallery, Rogue Studios and **Castlefield Gallery**. Manchester-based artist Louise Woodcock and founder of Kraak Gallery will lead a separate walking tour north of the Irwell that explores the studio spaces, workshops and venues of Salford, from Manchester Modernist Society to Studio One69a. While you're at Castlefield Gallery, stop off to see **Feral Trade Café**, an artistic import-export business where artist Kate Rich trades food and drink sourced through her own social network (and also serves up 'ferally' traded drinks and snacks alongside delivery notes collected by the artist). Close by you'll also find **greenroom**, which over the weekend hosts **emergency**, its annual and extraordinary micro-festival of experimental theatre and live art: 40-plus performances of the bizarre and the beautiful that fill every nook and cranny, and then burst out and spill over onto the street – and all for free.

AT A GLANCE

The Land Between Us, until 23 Jan 2011, 10am-5pm (12pm-4pm Sun). The Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road M15 6ER. Free.

Contemporary Cartography Bicycle Tour, Sat 2 Oct, 11am-2pm. Meet at The Whitworth Art Gallery, as above. Free but places limited to 15 & booking required. Please bring your own bike!

Contemporary Cartography River Irwell Tour, Sat 2 Oct, 3pm-6pm. Meet at the People's History Museum, Left Bank, Spinningfields M3 3ER. Free but places limited to 15 & booking required.

Feral Trade Café, until 10 Oct, 1pm-6pm Weds-Sun. Castlefield Gallery, 2 Hewitt Street, Manchester M15 4GB. Free.

emergency, Saturday 2 Oct, 12pm-12am. greenroom, 54-56 Whitworth Street West M1 5WW and the International Anthony Burgess Foundation, The Engine House, Chorlton Mill, 3 Cambridge Street M1 5BY. Free.

SAT 2 OCTOBER (EVE)

Evening brings us back to **AND**, this time to an exhibition at **Cornerhouse**. Just as it was once mandatory to undertake bible study in Britain, Marxism was once a part of the curriculum in Soviet Russia, Yugoslavia and East Germany. In a show that fuses past and present, artist Phil Collins finds out what happened to the Marxist teachers of the former Eastern Bloc – and links Manchester's socialist past to its educational present. (History buffs will know that Marx wrote the Communist Manifesto here in Chetham's Library, while the city was also the birthplace of Chartism, universal suffrage and the Trade Union movement.) Phil Collins' **marxism today**, then, is nothing if not timely: as the UK still struggles with the redistribution of wealth, Collins sets out to see how far our political geography has shifted. The galleries at Cornerhouse are open until 8pm, giving you enough time to eat (in its café-bar), see the show and then make your way to **Krysko & Kashiwagi**.

Image Naomi Kashiwagi

Part performance art and part club night, this one-off gig takes place in the redbrick setting of the Whitworth Art Gallery. In it, DJ Matthew Krysko (The Warehouse Project/Tribal Gathering) and performance artist Naomi Kashiwagi use the gallery as the backdrop for a collaborative work that combines electronic music with wind-up gramophones, and 70-year-old shellac records with the latest in digital DJ technology. Heading back down Oxford Road you'll find an event on at **Contact**. First up, in **Mixed Movement: The Digital Duets** four dancers in Manchester jam in real time across digital space with four dancers in New York – celebrating the diversity of black dance from Afro-Caribbean, Jazz and House to Hip Hop. Then it's on to The Dancehouse for the UK debut of **Midnight Mass** by drag queen Peaches Christ. Featuring her new film *All About Evil*, *Midnight Mass* is a late night screening that wallows in sex, blood and scatological references – it's all about bad cinema, bad behaviour and (EEK) audience participation. Includes an outrageous shorts programme that features *Season of the Troll* and *Jizzmopper: A Love Story*. Still going? Check out **Dance Africa & Rememba Fela**, a night dedicated to the legend of Fela Anikulapo Kuti and today's Afro-influenced dance music (featuring Afro-beat specialist Rich Medina, Ifran Rainy and The Afronaut).

“IT'S ALL ABOUT
BAD CINEMA, BAD
BEHAVIOUR AND
(EEK) AUDIENCE
PARTICIPATION.”



AT A GLANCE

marxism today: Phil Collins, until 9 Jan 2011, 12pm-8pm (12pm-6pm Sun). Cornerhouse, 70 Oxford Street M1 5NH. Free. Part of the AND Festival.

Krysko & Kashiwagi, Saturday 2 Oct, 7pm-10pm. The Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road M15 6ER. Free.

Mixed Movement: The Digital Duets, Saturday 2 Oct, 8pm-9.45pm. Contact, Oxford Road M15 6JA. £5. Part of The Black Sounds Series.

Midnight Mass, Saturday 2 Oct, 9pm-1am. The Dancehouse, 10 Oxford Road M1 5QA. £15/£12.50. Part of the AND Festival.

Dance Africa & Rememba Fela, Saturday 2 Oct, 10pm-4am. Contact. Part of The Black Sounds Series.

AND FINALLY, JONATHAN FRANZEN

SUN 3 OCTOBER

Wake up, get up and have breakfast in the Northern Quarter – we rate **Teacup on Thomas Street** (<http://teacupandcakes.com>). Open from 10am and with a mean Eggs Florentine, it's a good place to sit and take stock before heading to Manchester Digital Laboratory (Madlab) nearby for a one-off performance from **FutureEverything and Manchester Camerata**. Here, the Camerata's principal cellist Hannah Roberts and a sound artist play together live in a unique digital-meets-classical collaboration. After that, take the tram out to Salford Quays for your final afternoon (metrolink.co.uk). Here, glory in the sight of **Imperial War Museum North**; a shimmering aluminum building perched on the edge of the Manchester Ship Canal (the *Rough Guide* reckons it's one of England's top 10 buildings). It's at Salford Quays where you'll also find **The Lowry**, an award-winning arts centre where *Word* magazine's Mark Ellen will be 'in conversation' with **photographer Philip Townsend** on Sunday afternoon. Townsend's iconic photographs, on display in The Lowry's galleries, embody the spirit of the 60s – capturing on film some of the

biggest names of the era, everyone from Twiggy to The Rolling Stones. Later, stroll around the Quays (spot Media City, the digital hub that's the new Northern home of the BBC) before walking back across water to the War Museum in time for **Neil Yates: Tarnished Silver – Sketches of a Northern Town**. Resonant of the northern brass tradition, but owing much to the Gil Evans-Miles Davis collaborations of the early 60s, *Tarnished Silver* paints a lucid impression of the north, from echoes of old industry to the reincarnation of former mills into apartments. Scored for a trumpet, tenor horn, baritone horn, trombone, tuba and two flugel horns, players will be scattered throughout the main exhibition space, creating a kind of surround-sound performance quite unlike anything you've heard before (or at least since organiser Manchester Jazz Festival's last lot of events). The final act of the Weekender promises to be one of the best: **'Close Up' featuring Jonathan Franzen at The Whitworth Art Gallery**. Here, the celebrated American author reads from his latest novel, *Freedom*. An evening that's part of DJ/writer Dave Haslam's regular (and regularly sold out) 'in conversation' events, this is an exceptional opportunity to get up close to the award-winning author of *The Corrections*, as well as find out more about Franzen's hotly-anticipated new novel. The reading is followed by a Q&A – your chance to put your questions to one of America's best-known novelists.

AT A GLANCE

FutureEverything presents Manchester Camerata, Sunday 3 Oct, 12.30pm-1.30pm. Manchester Digital Laboratory (Madlab), Edge Street M4 1HN. Free.

Mark Ellen In Conversation with Philip Townsend, Sunday 3 Oct, 2pm-3.30pm. The Lowry, Pier 8, Salford Quays M50 3AZ. £5.

Neil Yates: Tarnished Silver – Sketches of a Northern Town, Sunday 3 Oct, 4pm-4.30pm. Imperial War Museum North, The Quays, Trafford Wharf Road, Manchester M17 1TZ. Free.

'Close Up' featuring Jonathan Franzen, Sunday 3 Oct, 7pm-9pm. The Whitworth Art Gallery, Oxford Road M15 6ER. £8.

The Whitworth Art Gallery



HOW TO GET HERE

Piccadilly Station is the main railway station; the Metroshuttle (gmpte.co.uk) operates a free bus service connecting this and other city railway stations (Oxford Road, Victoria, Deansgate) to the city centre. Buses run every 5-10 minutes.

The Metrolink tram (metrolink.co.uk) connects the city centre to many parts of Greater Manchester, including Salford Quays.

Visitor information: For the best deals on hotels, special offers and all tourist information, go to visitmanchester.com, email touristinformation@visitmanchester.com or call 0871 222 8223. In the city, visit the new Manchester Visitor Information Centre at Piccadilly Plaza, Portland Street M1 4BT (9.30am-5.30pm Mon-Sat, 10.30am-4.30pm Sun & Bank Hols).

Accommodation: Manchester's hotels and restaurants appeal to all tastes from traditional to glamorous, funky to boutique, and at prices to suit all pockets, whether you are looking for luxury, family value or downright budget. Book online with www.visitmanchester.com

Discover more about the Industrial Northwest at www.modernhistory.co.uk

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SUPPORTERS

The Manchester Weekender is organised by Manchester Museums Consortium and Creative Tourist, with the help and support of Cornerhouse, Imperial War Museum North, Modern History, The Lowry, Manchester Art Gallery, The Manchester Museum, MOSI, the Museum of Science & Industry, People's History Museum, Urbis, Visit Manchester and The Whitworth Art Gallery.

We would like to thank all of our partners for taking part in The Manchester Weekender:



And:
Beating Wing Orchestra
Dave Haslam

The Manchester Weekender would not be possible without the support of:



The Manchester Weekender is supported by Modern History, a showcase for the best of the region's museums, mills, railways and waterways, bringing to life the rich industrial heritage of England's Northwest, highlighting inventions, achievements and unearthing the social stories that have shaped the modern world.

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