



Press Release

13 September 2017

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Leeds Arts University celebrates comic art with Thought Bubble 2017

Leeds Arts University is opening up its Vernon Street building on Saturday 23rd September to celebrate Thought Bubble moving to the centre of Leeds. The University will be offering a programme of fringe activities for young people between 7 to 18 year olds, and an opportunity to view an exhibition of new work by illustrator, poet and graphic artist Matthew the Horse.

Activities at Leeds Arts University are being run by the Young Creatives and BA (Hons) Illustration teams, and include the chance to create a comic character, design a storyboard, take part in 3D model making, smartphone animation and the opportunity to contribute to what could be the largest page of a comic in Leeds! All activities are free to attend but must be pre booked. Visit www.leeds-art.ac.uk/thought-bubble-workshops to find out more.

Forward Always: Seasonal Observations Through Image and Word is an exhibition of new work by artist Matthew the Horse. Matt Hodson, aka Matthew the Horse, is Senior Lecturer in Illustration at Leeds Arts University, currently studying towards an MA in Creative Practice. This body of work comprises 12 large-scale, screen printed fabric banners and a self-published book of poetry. Though the banners and poetry book can be seen as separate outcomes, they are connected by the same underlying principle: that their content emerged

from an ongoing exploration of open mode, uninhibited play and improvisation. The exhibition is open from Friday 15 September until 27 October 2017.

Thought Bubble is an international comic art festival, taking place across Leeds from 18-24 September 2017. The festival attracts comic arts professionals and fans from across the world, and comprises a wide range of events including free art & writing based workshops for young people & adults, talks & masterclasses lead by industry professionals, free exhibitions and a two-day comic art convention held on 23 and 24 September in Leeds City Centre. Leeds Arts University is a sponsor and partner of Thought Bubble Festival, with staff and students participating in a number of events happening throughout week. For more information visit www.thoughtbubblefestival.com.

Editor's Notes

For more information and images please contact Sophie Miller Wallace, PR & Communications Officer at sophie.millerwallace@leeds-art.ac.uk or 0113 202 8044/07841 747403.

Image: Matthew the Horse, Moonface, 2017. Screen Print. Medium weight calico. 85 x 85 cm. Photo Robert Chilton.

Events:

Matthew the Horse. Forward Always: Seasonal Observations Through Image and Word
Opening night (including poetry reading): Thursday 14 September 5-7pm
Refreshments provided.
Vernon Street Gallery, Leeds Arts University, Leeds, LS2 9AQ

Thought Bubble Young Creative Workshops
Saturday 23 September, 10am - 12:30pm and 1pm- 3:30pm
Booking required. Please visit leeds-art.ac.uk/thought-bubble-workshops
Vernon Street Gallery, Leeds Arts University, Leeds, LS2 9AQ

Leeds Arts University

Founded in 1846 as the Leeds Government School of Art and Design, Leeds Arts University has contributed significantly to the development of art education in Britain and across the world. In 2016 the University was granted Taught Degree Awarding Powers, and in 2017 was awarded full university status. Leeds Arts University has an impressive history of notable past students, Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth were students in 1919 and 1920. In later years Damien Hirst, Marcus Harvey, Eric Bainbridge, Clio Barnard and Georgina Starr all studied at the University, known then as the Jacob Kramer College. The University's recent graduates continue to win prestigious international awards year on year and enjoy successful careers in the creative industries. Leeds Arts University has been recognised for its industry standard facilities at the Whatuni awards (winners in 2014 and 2016, runner up 2017) and has recently been ranked the highest arts university in the UK and the highest ranked university in Yorkshire for student satisfaction in the National Student Survey 2017.

www.leeds-art.ac.uk