



## Press Release

Date: Wednesday 5 February 2014

### Leeds College of Art make connections with South Leeds Communities and The Tetley through social design.

Tetley Feast is an exhibition of collaborative projects between students and community organisations.

The one-day participatory exhibition is free and open to all members of the public. There are two sessions taking place on Wednesday 12 February 2014, 1-3.30pm and 5-8pm. Refreshments are provided.

The Tetley Feast is a collaborative project between Leeds College of Art's BA (Hons) Visual Communication programme, The Tetley, and community organisations from South Leeds and Richmond Hill, including: Vera Media, Hamara, Slate, Health for All, Richmond Hill Primary School & The Hunslet Club. It is a community engaged project focusing on participatory and social design. The Tetley Feast culminates at The Tetley on 12th February where work which was produced throughout the duration of the project will be exhibited.

The project explores different ways of **visually representing groups to a wider audience** through documentary film, photography, creative workshops and multidisciplinary art practices. The students are responding to needs and working with the groups to design visual work to be displayed in a one-day community celebration at the Tetley. The event is inspired by the Hunslet Feast, a community festival that ran for over 100 years. The project has been supported by the Tetley and their staff as a way of getting to know the South Leeds Community.

*Graham Tansley, BA (Hons) Visual Communication Programme Leader, says, 'The BA (Hons) Visual Communication programme at Leeds College of Art is committed to making the world a better place. We feel that it is of great benefit to our students to be out working with communities in South Leeds understanding their cultures and needs, and coming together at the Tetley to share and creatively celebrate their communities.'*

The BA (Hons) Visual Communication programme supports students to engage with different audiences and encourages projects that develop students ability to be responsive designers, creative practitioners and socially responsible. The programme also supports local community organisations by linking them with students that can offer diverse and creative ways of celebrating their community. The students have been shadowing project leaders as well

running workshops, teaching skills and building relationships through social and visual design. The programme's ethos is to 'make the world a better place' and it does that through collaboration and project work.

**Kathryn Welford from The Tetley said:** *"The Tetley Feast is a fantastic opportunity for us to get to know our neighbours, find out more about organisations such as Hamara, Health for All, Vera Media and local schools. We see this project, conceived and delivered by the staff and students at Leeds College of Art, as a creative way of starting a conversation, and pointing the way forward to how The Tetley can potentially collaborate with and be of mutual benefit to groups and communities in South Leeds."*

**Pat McGeever from Health for All says:** *"Health for all got involved in this exciting project because we had a sense of the incredible skills and quality of work the students were capable of and we haven't been disappointed, the groups have loved having such dynamic professional young people helping them make their voices heard so a big thank you."*

**Francis Bailey, BA (Hons) Visual Communication student working with SLATE social enterprise says:** *'Whilst their tea room looks amazing we're developing the visual communication elements of the tearoom. It is a vibrant community hub and we want to truly reflect that in what we do. Look out for our event at the Tetley Feast, it's going to be brilliant!'*

The Tetley Feast is a one-day participatory exhibition charting the progress of each organisations time working alongside the students, the event is on 12 February 2014.

Between 1.30-3.00pm with a second showing between 5.00-8.00pm. All the groups who took part will be in attendance along with the students exhibiting an exciting breadth of their collaborative work.





## Editor's Notes

### Leeds College of Art

Founded in 1846, Leeds College of Art is an innovative institution that has changed the way art qualifications are taught and structured in Britain today.

We combine academic and vocational excellence in all our undergraduate programmes. Our focus is to put student's talents to practical use, so their creativity is channelled towards a successful career or postgraduate study.

Our students and staff create a unique community of vibrant, ambitious and deeply creative artists and designers. We are based in Leeds, an internationally acclaimed centre for teaching and learning in addition to being a leading hub for creative and digital industries.

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