

A person is shown in profile, wearing large, black VR goggles. The lenses of the goggles are glowing yellow and display a 3D digital model of a mechanical spring. To the left of the person, a larger, physical-looking 3D model of a similar spring mechanism is visible. The spring is red and coiled around a central blue and yellow shaft. The background is a soft, out-of-focus blue.

hightide

OCTOBER 2006

SCARBOROUGH'S ESSENTIAL GUIDE

SOUND & VISION

Scarborough goes digital

**PLUS: music arts theatre comedy
film poetry exhibitions food & drink**

www.hightidemagazine.com

Welcome to Scarborough's arts and culture monthly. We aim to bring you the best of what's on and where it's on – and much more besides.

Every autumn Scarborough puts away the sunblocker and deckchairs, waves goodbye to the coach parties and gets down to the serious business of having a good time.

To coincide with our first issue, October 2006 brings Digital Scarborough, complete with a galaxy of arty fringe events; the annual Silent Film Festival with live music; a major new exhibition at the art gallery; the return of the Other Side comedy club; National Poetry Day; a fascinating season of solo events and a new Ayckbourn play at the SJT; a couple of unmissable films at the library; together with the usual plethora of high quality live music ranging from classical to blues to techno, with everything in between. What's not to like?

Our cover story this month brings you the sound and vision of digital art. Don't miss this extravaganza for the senses - full details of events inside.

Read High Tide online, or download the magazine as a pdf by clicking the button. Subscribe to our weekly emailing service and you'll get a list of upcoming events dropping into your mailbox each Thursday. You can use the same service to publicise your own event to hundreds of subscribers in Scarborough and beyond.

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Photo show for art gallery

The latest in a series of temporary shows in the upstairs rooms of the art gallery starts this month.

The shows have been a welcome shot in the arm for Scarborough culture over the last few years. Britain is, after all, one of the world centres of contemporary art, with its artists eagerly sought by galleries all over the world.

It's good news then that three nationally acclaimed artists living in or near Scarborough - David Chalmers, Julia Gatie and Jane Poulton - are coming together for a major new exhibition at Scarborough Art Gallery, starting on 7 October.

All three use photography to explore unfamiliar places and themes.

David Chalmers' black and white prints use the subtle light of dawn and dusk to illuminate the coastline; Julia Gatie's lipstick-kissed tissues offer a striking narrative of an abusive relationship, while Jane Poulton's collections of objects resonate with stories of people she has known.

An unfamiliar place shows from 7 October.

Crescent Arts' digital photography show features work by New York-based Rory Donaldson. His new work *The Beds Project* explores love and loss under the shadow of HIV/AIDS.

As well as depicting the gay men loving and coping with HIV/AIDS, the work is a tribute to friends who took part in the project over a decade ago and are sadly no longer with us.



Water over the bridge: Photographer Mark Denton's stunning Yorkshire coast landscapes are collected in his new book, launched on 27 September. Mark specialises in panoramic shots with vivid colours that bring out the sumptuous natural landscape and give a new angle on familiar places. *The Yorkshire coast* is available in bookshops, price £14.99

Big names for book fest

Scarborough is to have its own fully-fledged literature festival, organised by staff at the Central Library. The festival, titled *The Long Weekend*, will run from 20 to 22 April 2007.

Several celebrated authors have already been booked for the event, including best-selling crime writers Val McDermid and Stella Duffy, and memoirist Horatio Clare. The full

programme is being confirmed.

Organiser Sandra Turner told *High Tide*: 'We are all very excited about the prospect of a genuine literature festival in Scarborough. We have spent the past year visiting festivals around the country to see what works, and what doesn't. We aim to put on a festival of the highest quality, and with a distinctive Scarborough flavour.'

No hiding place in French thriller

The Film Society kicks off its October list with *Hidden* (Caché), which got a five-star accolade from *The Guardian*.

The thriller concerns the seemingly perfect family life of a media couple that is disrupted by the mysterious delivery of

videotapes inciting that someone is watching their house.

But who is doing the watching, and why?

This smart thriller touches on guilt, racism and French history.

Hidden shows at the Library on Friday 6 October.

HIGH FIVES

This month a selection of some interesting, weird and wonderful events ... check out **Rory Donaldson** at Crescent Arts, **Hey Gringo** at the SJT, **Belleville Rendezvous Re-animated** at Westwood, **Captain Pedro** at the SJT, and **Steve Brookstein** at the Futurist.

Details are as accurate as we can get - check our website for updates. Ongoing shows are listed first.

9 Sep to 30 Nov The Poetry of Winter

Blandscliff Gallery Tues to Sun
1pm to 6 pm Free
01723 367252

7 Oct to 24 Dec An Unfamiliar Place

Work by David Chalmers, Julia Gatie and Jane Poulton
Art Gallery
Tues to Sun 10 am to 5 pm £2
www.scarboroughmuseums.org.uk

10 Oct to 16 Dec Rory Donaldson: Generation of Love (The Beds Project)

Crescent Arts Tues to Sat
10 am to 5 pm Free
www.crescentarts.co.uk

10 Oct to 14 Oct Digital Visions

Crescent Arts
10 am to 5 pm Free
www.crescentarts.co.uk

28 September The Garden

SJT 7:45 pm £9
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

29 September Defying Hitler

SJT 7:45 pm £9 01723 370541
or sjt.co.uk

30 September An Evening with Ella; Ruby Wood

SJT 7:45 pm £9
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

30 September Defying Hitler

SJT 2:45 pm £9
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

1 October Wishbone Ash

Vivaz 8:00 pm
www.vivaz.co.uk

1 October Body of Experience

SJT 7:45 pm £9
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

2 October Comedy Club: Ian Cognito, Henrik Elmer

Bradley Court Hotel 7:30 pm
£7 - £4 0845 838 1558

2 October Dylan Thomas; Return Journey

SJT 7:45 pm £9
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

3 October Stony Jazz

Scholars 8:45 pm Free
www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk

3 October Toothless

SJT 7:45 pm £9
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

3 October Hey Gringo! Through Peru

SJT 7:45 pm £9
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

5 October Steve Brookstein

Futurist 8:00 pm £16.50 -
£14.50 www.futuristtheatre.co.uk

5 October Dinosaur footprints: lecture by Martin Whyte

University 7:30 pm Free
01723 232572

5 October I Miss Communism

SJT 7:45 pm £9
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

5 October Poetry lunch

SJT 1:10 pm £3
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

6 October Film Society: Hidden (Caché) Library 7:45 pm £4

Digital art comes to Scarborough this month in an extravaganza featuring all kinds of mind-teasing. **Silicon beach, anyone?**

Sound & vision



Screen dreams: Members of 5-Meo-DMT at work on their latest work the Silicon Beach Experiment, which will mix live and digital music with film footage shot locally

Cover pic: Emma-Jane Smith-Howe from Hull University's HIVE project demonstrates the 3-D workwall

Digital Scarborough, the annual event to promote digital industries, has moved to the heart of town for 2006, centring on the Stephen Joseph Theatre and the St Nicholas Hotel.

For a stunning demo of digital technology's visual possibilities, look out for HIVE, creators of virtual 3-D environments. Fly over Scarborough, enter a monkey's skull and see how architects create a virtual shopping centre.

Synthesis

In the midst of all this technical wizardry we wanted to know more about digital art - what it is, and how the artists who work in digital media see their work.

There is a series of fringe events surrounding Digital Scarborough, but the artistic centrepiece is performance of the Silicon Beach Experiment by a group of artists

called 5-Meo-DMT. We asked Joe Gilmore, one of the three artists involved (the others are Jim Brouwer and George Rogers) to tell us more.

For one part of the show, local classical musicians will give a live performance; and the digital sound artists will use computers to transform, synthesise and mix the sound in real time.

The musicians will also respond to the sounds being created. This gives the immediacy and surprise of a live performance, but with a vast range of sounds at their disposal.

Performance

The other work will create, through computers, a live soundtrack to film footage shot in Scarborough in the 1960s. Jim said: 'We have re-edited this film using similar processes that we

use to create the sound, such as looping and layering, to create an entirely new work. We are interested in the contrast between analog and digital and also how to bridge this gap, or merge the two.' The artists are keen to stress that this is a performance, not a ready-made installation.

'It is an audiovisual performance and our music is improvised. We might decide on a style or loose overall structure or divide the performance into sections but

" We use computer processes, looping and layering, to create an entirely new work."

apart from that the music is mixed and transformed in real time. Every sound is played in response to the whole as it develops.'

This sounds daunting for the artists, but they relish it; 'It is much more exciting than knowing exactly what is going to happen. There's an element of surprise, and the performers hear the music with the audience as it is created.'

Moving image

The group has, in the past, connected sound and vision in live performance. Information about the sounds they are producing can be used to control visual data in real time, so that sound affects the moving image.

The technical aspects of their work can seem mind-boggling but, if other artists who have shown in Scarborough are anything to go by, the work of digital artists can be extraordinarily beautiful and moving.

The Silicon Beach Experiment featuring 5-Meo-DMT is at the McCarthy cinema, SJT, 7:00 pm, 13 October
See listings for more Digital Scarborough and DS fringe events

6 October

Believe

SJT 7:45 pm £9
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

7 October

Sessions

Vivaz 11:00 pm £6
www.vivaz.co.uk

7 October

Mortal Ladies Possessed

SJT 7:45 pm £9
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

9 October

Captain Pedro and the
three wishes by Claudia
Nye & Testing God -
Programme 1: Killing the
Creator by David MaloneSJT 7:45 pm £3.50 - £3
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

10 October

Mardi Gras Trio

Scholars 8:45 pm Free
www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk

10 to 12 October

The Note 'C' by
Chris EckersleySouth Bay Underground Car Park
12 noon to 5 pm Free
www.digitalscarborough.org

11 October

Belleville Rendezvous
Re-animated by Animat
and Winter North AtlanticWestwood Arts 7:30 pm
£3:50 - £3 www.digitalscarborough.org

12 October

Northern
Broadsides: VacuumSJT 7:45 pm £12.50 - £10
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

12 October to 11

November
If I Were You

SJT 7:45 pm £16.50 - £11

13 October

Silicon Beach Experiment
featuring 5-Meo-DMTSJT 7:00 pm £7 - £5
www.digitalscarborough.org

14 October

Hexstatic, DJ Kista, DJ
Tooley Westwood Car Park7:00 pm £10 - £7.50
Mojo's and
www.digitalscarborough.org

Caribbean style: Among the attractions at this year's Musicport world music festival is Cuban band Vocal Sampling. The musicians use the human voice to "sample" the sounds of trombones, saxophones, trumpets and the complexity of a full Latin percussion section

Also featured is an extraordinary line-up of Buena Vista Social Club stalwarts, together with an 11 piece band direct from Havana; plus the mighty Trojan Sound System and Apache Indian & The Reggae Revolution

16 October

Comedy Club: Rob
Rouse, Andrew LawrenceBradley Court Hotel 7:30 pm
£7 - £4 0845 838 1558

17 October

Thom Whitworth

Scholars 8:45 pm Free
www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk

18 October

Silent Film Festival:
Return of the Sheikh

Library 7:45 pm £4 on the door

19 October

Silent Film Festival:
Safety LastSJT 7:45 pm £5, £4
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

20 October

Silent Film Festival:
Ben-HurSJT 7:45 pm £5, £4
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk20 to 22 October
MusicportWhitby Pavilion
www.musicport.fsnet.co.uk or
0845 3732760

21 October

Silent Film Festival: The
General and BerlinSJT 7:45 pm £5, £4
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

22 October

4-Mality

SJT 7:30 pm £14.50 - £11
01723 370541 or sjt.co.uk

24 October

Just East of Jazz

Scholars 8:45 pm £6 - £5
www.scarboroughjazz.co.uk

27 October

Area 51

Vivaz 10:00 pm £5

28 October

David Essex

Futurist 7:30 pm £16 - £14
www.futuristtheatre.co.uk

30 October

Comedy club: Jo Caulfield

Bradley Court Hotel 7:30 pm
£7 - £4 0845 838 1558

31 October

Pat McCarthy

Scholars 8:45 pm Free



Poet Jackie Kay

By rights poetry should have died out centuries ago. An artform that allowed oral societies to dramatise, memorise and relate their founding myths and legends, poems might seem out of place in modern society.

But poetry has entered the human psyche so that every age and every place has need of poets and poetry. Scarborough is no exception.

The theme of National Poetry Day is identity. The English language has been so wonderfully grasped, wrestled with and moulded by the

A question of identity

Scarborough Poetry Workshop are presenting some of their work on National Poetry Day – 5 October

different peoples of these islands that it is impossible to imagine modern poetry without the special qualities brought by Irish poets like Louis MacNeice, Tom Paulin and Seamus Heaney, the Welsh Dylan Thomas and R S Thomas, and the Scots Hugh MacDiarmid and Edwin Muir.

Recent immigration has brought a whole perspective through the work of Linton Kwesi Johnson and Benjamin Zephaniah, who picked up on the thrilling live performances of the punk poets of the 1970s.

Women now share centre stage in British poetry. National Poetry Day featured poet is Jackie Kay. A native of Edinburgh, with a Scottish mother and a Nigerian father, Jackie was adopted by a white couple at birth and brought up in Glasgow. One of Britain's most popular poets, her latest collection is *Life Mask* (2005).

Visit www.poetrysociety.org.uk for more information, or see listings for Poetry Workshop.

FOOD & DRINK - CAFE CULTURE

Mojo's

Slide in along one of Mojo's benches with a strawberry milkshake, and feel yourself slipping back in time. Share a plate of nachos and you start to think this is the sweetest little idea since some unknown genius invented the twelve bar blues. Did we forget to say there's a galaxy of CDs and vinyl in the same store? And the coolest T-shirts in town? And coffee, and every burger known to humanity, and soup and flapjacks and . . . what are you waiting for?

Mojo's, Northway, Scarborough
10 am to 5:30 pm Tues to Sat

Scalby Mills

This has to be the best pub view in the area: squint a little and you could be looking at Monaco. What, you don't go to the pub for the views? This time you will. Get yourself a pint - there's a choice of real ales as well as the usual draught and lager - then sit in the end window and feast on the sweeping castle headland, lined with five storey terraces, and the rock-strewn banks cascading a hundred metres to the North Bay.

At night it's a twinkling jumble of lights with the endless backdrop of sound from the sea. Good craik, as

the Irish say, good ale, and you can take a walk on the beach beforehand to add virtue to pleasure.

Scalby Mills Hotel,
Scalby Mills Road, Scarborough, 01723 500499

Tuscany Too

There always seems to be more room on South Cliff, and more time too. The spaces are more open, things move along at their own pace. The perfect place, then, for a restaurant with an authentic Italian feel.

Tuscany Too certainly has the best looking exterior of any Scarborough eaterie, its gorgeous curved window framed in black wood and red brick. Step inside and you could be in Verona or Milan. The food is proper Italian fare, the salads are good and the specials are strong on fish. Keeps that nice Italian custom of offering cheap pasta dishes alongside more expensive creations. Good atmosphere and fine espresso; relax, this is Europe! It's best to book for weekends and holidays.

Tuscany Too
6 Filey Road
01723 355900

It's 1926. He looks into the cameras and the world wobbles on its axis. **Valentino is in town**

Rudi can't fail

By August he is dead and half the population is in mourning. Movies have their first great legend, and film is confirmed as the most powerful art form of the twentieth century.

Reel forward 80 years and Rudi's last and biggest film, *Son of the Sheikh*, is opening the fourth Scarborough Silent Film Festival.

Four nights later the festival closes with arguably the finest silent film ever made, Buster Keaton's *The General*. In between there are classic films starring Harold Lloyd and Ramon Navarro, and a rare showing of Berlin, the first great film documentary.

Classics

Why the sudden interest in films from the silent era? The reason, according to film buff Tony Davison, is that more films and better quality prints are becoming available all the time.

Tony has been showing films in and around Scarborough for 50 years and his enthusiasm is undimmed. 'Until recently, if you wanted to see a classic film like Chaplin's *The Goldrush* you had to send away for 12 reels of 8mm film. Videotape started to change that, but DVDs have given fantastic quality, along with availability.'

Films seen only by dedicated enthusiasts have been dug out, cleaned off and digitally re-mastered. When a 1927

film called *Sunrise* was re-issued by the British Film Institute two years ago, it caused a sensation, with reviewers hailing it as one of the greatest films ever made. It was shown in the 2004 Scarborough Silent Film Festival.

Last year the festival showed the re-issued version of Carl Dreyer's 1927 *Passion of Joan of Arc*; another unforgettable experience.

Ben-Hur

This year there's the chance to see well-known films *The General*, *Ben-Hur* and *Safety Last* on the big screen.

Because, as Tony Davison says, 'Seeing a film should be an event; the cinema itself is part

of the experience. Watching a film at home gives about a tenth of the impact of going to the movies.'

Stephen Wood from the festival's host venue SJT agrees: 'As everyone in Scarborough knows, the SJT was built inside the shell of the old Odeon cinema. We were careful to recreate the atmosphere of the original building and the McCarthy cinema is a perfect setting for classic movies.'

So book early – and don't forget Rudi too.



Bright spark: Highlight of the festival will be Saturday's showing of Buster Keaton's great film *The General* with Terry Ladlow giving live keyboard accompaniment