

DUNDEE CITY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Arts and Heritage Committee - 20 August 2001

REPORT ON: Here + Now: Scottish Art 1990-2001

REPORT BY: Director of Arts and Heritage

REPORT NO: 473-2001

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Committee about the exhibition 'Here + Now: Scottish Art 1990-2001' and its supporting programme.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the Committee approves the content of the report.

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

3.1 The cost of the exhibition and supporting programme is £48,500. A grant of £20,000 has been awarded by the Scottish Arts Council. The Hope Scott Trust has awarded £2,000 towards the cost of the publication. The exhibition partners will be making financial contributions of:- £13,500 from Dundee Contemporary Arts Ltd; £5,000 from Aberdeen City Council and £1,500 from Peacock Printmakers in Aberdeen. Generator Artists Workshop, Dundee, will support the exhibition in kind. £5,000 can be met from the Arts and Heritage Revenue budget for 2001-2002. An estimated income of £1,500 will also be generated from sales of the catalogue and events.

Scotsman Publications has agreed to sponsor the exhibition in kind for up to £50,000 worth of free advertising and editorial across the Scotsman stable of newspapers.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

The project supports the principles:-

4.1 'Opportunities for culture, leisure and recreation are readily available to all', and

4.2 'Access to the skills, knowledge and information needed to enable everyone to play a full part in society'.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The project enhances the position of cultural and heritage resources for all age groups.

5.2 The project provides opportunities for people of all ages regardless of ability, social background, race, sex or disadvantage.

6.0 MAIN TEXT

- 6.1 The forthcoming show, 'Here and Now', Scottish Art 1990-2001, is the fourth and final exhibition in the series tracing the dynamic history of Scottish art since 1945. The series is a partnership between Dundee City Council Arts and Heritage Department, Dundee Contemporary Arts Ltd and Aberdeen Art Galleries. For the fourth exhibition the partnership has been widened to include Peacock Printmakers Studio and Generator Artists Workshop. The exhibition runs simultaneously at all 5 venues from 15 September - 4 November 2001.
- 6.2 This unique exhibition will present selection of key works created over the past ten years by around 40-50 artists based in Scotland, who have come to national and international prominence during the period. It will present the best of Scottish art made in the past decade, a period marked by extensive and unprecedented internal interest in Scottish Art. The exhibition will be the first since 1994 to offer a substantial overview of the remarkable work being made by artists working in Scotland. The exhibition includes works by local artists Matthew Dalziell, Graham Fagen, Kevin Henderson, Tracey Mackenna, Lucy McKenzie, Wendy McMurdo, Victoria Morton, Lousie Scullion and Cathy Wilkes.
- 6.3 The exhibition will represent the vast diversity of media employed by artists today, from painting and photography to video projection, installation and live events in a broad selection of intelligent, inquisitive work, much of which deals with issues of everyday life and popular culture. The exhibition will be accompanied by the publication of a new book, providing information about and illustration of work by each of the participating artists. It will also include a contextual essay about the substantial developments and achievements in art in Scotland. As no comparable publication has been realised since 1994, this book will become an invaluable document and a crucial promotional tool for the art and artists of Scotland.
- 6.4 A Programme of talks about or by artists featured in the exhibition will take place across all 5 venues during the run of the exhibition.
Two weeks of children' holiday activities will take place in October school holidays based around the exhibition and looking at issues such as colour and form. In Dundee the first week's activities will take place at Dundee Contemporary Arts with the second week's activities taking place at McManus Galleries.
- 6.5 A special launch (aimed at secondary schools) will take place on 14 September at McManus Galleries and DCA. The exhibition will tie in particularly well with the needs of the Higher Still Curriculum. Additionally, over 10 artist-led project working with members of the public and based on the exhibition will take place in Aberdeen and Dundee during the run of the exhibition.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Support Services, Director of Finance and Director of Corporate Planning have been consulted on this report and are in agreement with its contents.

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None

Director of Arts and Heritage _____ Date _____