

HOUSE OF CARDS ARTS FESTIVAL FILLS BIG TOP WITH ART, FASHION AND DRAMA

THE END OF TERM WAS CELEBRATED WITH A FEAST OF FOUNDATION ART, FASHION AND DRAMA IN A BIG TOP ON JESUS GREEN, ON THE BANKS OF THE RIVER CAM, IN JUNE. THIS WAS THE SECOND ARTS FESTIVAL ENCOMPASSING VISUAL AS WELL AS PERFORMING ARTS SINCE THE SCHOOL'S NAME CHANGE LAST YEAR.

Themed *House of Cards*, the festival kicked off in sweltering heat on Saturday 17 June with the Art Exhibition Private View. Guests stayed on and were joined by more for the glitzy and glam Fashion Show – in collaboration with celebrity designer Julien Macdonald – that followed.

The exhibition continued throughout the weekend as temperatures, and World Cup football frenzy, soared. Even Shakespeare succumbed! Football references abounded in a hugely successful, contemporary styled production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor* on Monday and Tuesday.

All Foundation and pre-foundation students participated – as artists, designers and actors, models, ushers, T-shirt vendors, film makers and photographers. A number of CATS students also jumped in to help.

Festival events were attended by an estimated 800 guests who were “bowed over by the energy, spectacle and sheer professionalism of the events,” quoting a first timer. Regular guests commenting on the standard of work said “it just gets better and better every year”.

The fashion show and exhibition were charitable events. At the time of going to print £2300 had been raised in aid of the independent humanitarian medical aid agency Médecins Sans Frontières UK.



- 1 *House of Cards* poster design was by Graphics tutor John Blackman.
- 2 Brice Stratford and Gabriella Rankin had the audience in stitches as Falstaff and Mistress Quickly in *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (page 2).
- 3 Kohji Yanagi and models.
- 4 Kateryna Mariash shows off Christa Barraquias' red carpet design.
- 5 "Sophisticated, chic and very red carpet" is how Julien Macdonald described the red carpet design that earned Kohji Yanagi work experience in the celebrity designer's London studio, Model Eliza Fisherman.
- 6 Aysima Sanli's collection was titled *Las Vegas*.
- 7 Sarah Son's quirky collection was titled *Magic*.
- 8 Christa Barraquias receives a well deserved round of applause for being awarded Student of the Year.

RADA TAKES TWO



NOT ONE, BUT TWO DRAMA STUDENTS HAVE WON PLACES ON THE SOUGHT-AFTER ACTING DEGREE COURSE AT THE PRESTIGIOUS ROYAL ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ART (RADA) IN LONDON.

Emily Houghton (left) and Carlyss Peer are two of only 32 successful students, out of more than 2000 applicants to RADA. A total of 16 female and 16 male students have been accepted.

But theirs are not the only results worth some song and dance. Class mates Isabel Quinzanos and Lola Frears have been accepted at the Drama Centre, Central St Martins, and Brice Stratford has won a place at the Academy for Live and Recorded Arts (ALRA). Elizabeth Fenwick will be joining the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama (RSAMD) and Mona Shapiro, Rose Bruford College.

Justine De Penning will continue her studies at CAL Arts in the USA while both Gabby Rankin and Alex Klineberg will be joining

The International Theatre School Jacques Lecoq in Paris.

"We are extremely proud," says Head of Performance, Jean Stewart. "This is quite extraordinary! As far as we know, it has never happened that two students from the same School get in to RADA. Our students have all worked extremely hard and also had a lot of fun along the way. They truly deserve these magnificent rewards."

"We are thrilled for our students," says founder and director of the School, Elizabeth Armstrong. "The drama course sets out to help students realise their ambitions in a highly competitive industry. They apply for entry to a variety of courses and careers worldwide and our successes this year are tremendous."

Big Top Art

FOR A COUPLE OF DAYS LEADING UP TO THE PRIVATE VIEW IT SEEMED THE ENTIRE SCHOOL – STUDENTS, TUTORS, ART WORK AND MATERIAL – WAS TRANSPORTED TO THE BIG TOP ON JESUS GREEN.

The tremendous space provided by the circus-style tent allowed the 46 participating students plenty of creative scope in displaying their work. The end result was a friendly exhibition space and a professionally presented event.

Exhibitions included Graphic Design, Illustration, Photography, Fine Art, Ceramics, Product Design, Spatial Design and Architecture. Exhibition boards were organised in the round with the central spiral serving as a mini theatre showing Art Video and Film students' work.

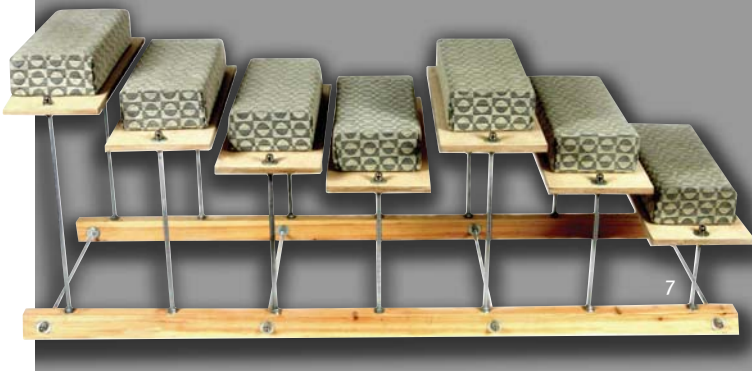
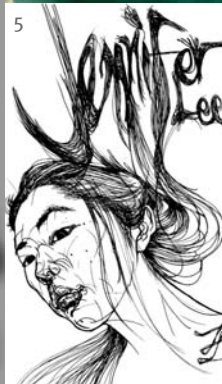
"This June has seen the completion of one of the most successful foundation years of recent times, culminating in this exhibition," says Graphics Tutor John Blackman.

John coordinated the event and was also responsible for the poster, programme and T-shirt design which formed the basis of a very successful marketing campaign.

"It reflected a very high standard of ability and application across all disciplines. Our students have made excellent use of the course, producing work well beyond foundation standard. We are expecting them to excel on their degree courses and to forge exciting careers in the years to come."

Art and design students' destinations once again include prestigious institutions such as Hertfordshire University, Surrey Institute of Art & Design, University of the Arts London and The Slade at University College London.

Clockwise from the top: 1. *Fears* by Natalie Bone (History of Art, University College London) is acrylic, silk, knitted wool, acrylic ink, cotton and tea towel on canvas; 2. *Network* by Katja Eckelmann (Photography); 3. *Wheathe your room with flowers* by Asami Murakami (Graphic design); 4. *Roots and wings of life* (oil on panel by Eunyoung Lee (Fine Art); 5. sketch by Jennifer Lee (Graphics & Illustration, Fashion Institute of Technology, New York); 6. *Lizard Woman* by Alice Marshall (Character creation and soft effects, University of Hertfordshire); 7. Victoria Merritt's xylophone chair (below) was titled *Chaise Moi...chez moi*.



Students excel with very Merry Wives

THE ARTS FESTIVAL WAS BROUGHT TO A CLOSE WITH AN OUTSTANDING PRODUCTION OF SHAKESPEARE'S *THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR*, EMPHASISING THE COMFORTABLE WAY VISUAL AND PERFORMING ARTS DISCIPLINES SIT ALONGSIDE EACH OTHER AT THE SCHOOL.

One of Shakespeare's lesser known plays, *Merry Wives* is also his only play to deal exclusively with life in Elizabethan England. The current wave of national identity fuelled by World Cup football provided an excellent environment for the students' contemporary take on it. *Merry Wives* was directed by Jean Stewart, Head of Performance.

Ellis continues: "Shakespeare is at the core of western theatre, and thus, rightly, an essential element in all good British theatre training. It requires the actors to show us roistering braggarts, dissolute aristocrats, voracious housewives and scurrilous servants."

"The drama students' response had clearly been *Bring it on!* No role was understated, no foible or eccentricity left unexplored. Shakespeare's words were delivered clearly and confidently, the characters were all clearly defined, and there were hugely enjoyable song and dance items. One was left with the impression of a group of talented young people who had seized an opportunity to share something special, and the audience responded accordingly."

Working with different casts each night encouraged risk-taking and flexibility of performance. Driven by the unlikely theatre space – a catwalk and a big Big Top – the cast successfully experimented with extravagant performance and the Commedia Dell'Arte style.

Movement and choreography were directed by tutors Bernie Wilfred and Mila Bogen while Rebecca Cuthbertson was responsible for

students Alice Marshall and Shoko Ichikawa. Costumes were produced by Pui Chu Lam, Meer Yuan and Michelle Ng.

Close to 300 guests attended the two performances.

Turn to the front page to read about the extraordinary successes of Drama students this year.



Carlyss Peer and Alex Klineberg

"In selecting *Merry Wives*, a rich and quite complex comedy, Jean set the drama foundation students a considerable challenge", comments RADA Consultant Ellis Jones. "The students responded with enthusiasm and panache, using the demands of the production to exhibit the training they have absorbed during their year on the course."



Lizzie Fenwick as Sir Hugh Evans and Oliver Locke as Page



Emily Houghton and Hilary Townsend

voice and text coaching. Music and singing coaching was by Bruce Knight.

The contemporary style was largely reflected in the magnificent set of costumes designed and produced by Art & Design



Brice Stratford as Falstaff

Fashion fit for the red carpet

One could not have asked for a more fitting finale to a fabulously glamorous event than the Julien Macdonald Academy Awards Collection at this year's Fashion Show. Eight 'red carpet' dresses, designed to a brief by the celebrity designer himself, had the audience erupt in overwhelming applause eight times.

Celebrations reached a high when, directly after the show, Kohji Yanagi was awarded a

Julien Macdonald work placement and Christa Barraquias was awarded CSVPA Student of the Year. But the eight individual collections were what the real sweat and tears were spent on these past couple of months.

"The students each design and make a collection of nine outfits," said Head of Fashion, Jane Herzog, and Textiles Tutor, Anna Crutchley. "They start their research during the Easter holidays, and then have seven weeks in the studio before the collection has to be completed, on deadline."

"For the students this is a steep learning curve, as this is their first major experience of

pattern cutting and sewing, let alone designing a collection of garments all along one theme. They choose and organise their own models and fittings. They choreograph and rehearse their own catwalk presentation. Time management, teamwork, a sense of humour, patience and attention to detail, are all essential."

The Julien Macdonald design brief was for a dress or suit "fitting for the Academy Awards". No stranger to the red carpet himself, Macdonald's high octane, glamorous gowns have seduced international stars including Nicole Kidman and Catherine Zeta Jones.

Scores of people worked extremely hard behind the scenes to add to the success of the events. Not only was she instrumental in supporting students with design and garment construction, but Jane also directed the show, assisted by Anna and Rachel Wood. Chris Maughan and theatre arts students Alice Marshall and Shoko Ichikawa did the make-up while April Patching was responsible for hair. Charlotte Martin assisted with stage management and made the announcements.

A group of CATS and CSVPA students acted as ushers and vendors, Maureen Copping attended the door and Tom and Ann Sutton and John Armstrong tended the bar.

Our Celebrity Designers



OLIVER LOOKE & SHOKO ICHIKAWA

Name: Jane Yile Huang
Collection: Illusion
Destination: Kingston University



ALEXANDRA MARTA



ROSE CUNLIFF

Name: Judy Lee
Collection: Casino
Destination: London College of Fashion



ANASTASIA KIM



SHIWA UJIMA

Name: Aysima Sanli
Collection: Las Vegas
Destination: University of Hertfordshire



KATIA ECKELMANN



FRIEND OF DESIGNER

Name: Esther Groeneveld
Collection: Enchanted Earth
Destination: Istituto Marangoni, Milan



ESTHER



FRIEND OF DESIGNER

Name: Kohji Yanagi
Collection: Cards
Destination: University of Hertfordshire



ELVA FISHERMAN



VICTORIA HERBERT

Name: Arisa Fukumoto
Collection: Alice in Wonderland
Destination: University of Hertfordshire



Ekaterina Martsseva



FRIEND OF DESIGNER

Name: Sarah Son
Collection: Magic
Destination: University of Hertfordshire



VICTORIA WALLACE



ANNA HERZOG

Name: Christa Barraquias
Collection: Cirque du Soleil
Destination: University of Hertfordshire



KATEYAMA MASHI



JUSTINE DE HENNING

Name: Alice Marshall; Shoko Ichikawa; Pui Chu Lam; Meer Yuan; Michelle Ng. Collection: *The Merry Wives of Windsor*.



ALEX KLIMBERG

Local Film Festival shows students' work

A FILM BY ART VIDEO STUDENT TARAS YANOVSKIY, *DUDUK*, WAS SHOWN AT THE CAMBRIDGE FILM FESTIVAL'S *I MADE THIS* SECTION IN JULY. THE FILM WAS INCLUDED TO INFORM AND ENCOURAGE EVEN YOUNGER FILMMAKERS ABOUT DIGITAL POSSIBILITIES.

The Magic Box Film Festival was formulated three years ago by Matt Harris to help students in the East Anglia region get their work exhibited in competition with peers from other schools and colleges. Each year CSVPA is recognised as a serious participant and provider of quality short films. This year was no exception with CSVPA students taking second place and getting special recognition from the jury.

The festival, hosted at Cambridge Arts Picture House and supported by Cambridge Film Consortium, included sixteen films from schools such as Hills Road, Long Road, CCSS and CSVPA. The diversity in genre and creativity reflected the originality and imagination of its youthful creators. The judging panel of industry professionals commented on the difficulty of adjudicating work of such high standards and noted that with each passing year contributions seem to be getting more and more sophisticated.

First prize went to Long Road for the extremely funny and excellently produced *100 Million*,

an entertaining music video mimicking, with tongue-in-cheek depiction, the *cheeky-chav-from-the-council-estate-next-door* culture.

Taras's highly innovative animation, reflecting a more mature and poetic tone, came a very close second. He carefully crafted images from sand that perpetually swirl and contort and created a montage sequence set against an exotic middle-eastern oud (a musical instrument).

Fellow student Hiroko Hamasaki's film received a special mention by the judging panel and had a large audience following. Like Taras's, his film, *Passion*, had been completed during this year's Video Art Foundation course with Tom Ingham. It merged a simple soundtrack of gentle music with soft, exquisitely drawn still frame animation.

Taras will commence a degree in Animation at The Surrey Institute of Art and Design, University College London in September, while Hiroko will continue his studies in Product Design at Central St Martin's.

Magic Box winners



Contributed by Video Art Tutor, Matt Harris.



Musical Moments

Music Foundation students marked the successful completion of their course with a lunchtime recital on 21 June.

The very varied programme began with some Irish folk tunes enthusiastically played by Daichi (Skywalker) Hatakeda. He then showed his skill as a composer with a lively percussion piece.

Shoko Komatsu demonstrated a rich and mellow tone on her saxophone with Memory from *Cats*, the musical. Shoko,

who specialised in Music Technology, Performance and Composition, was also responsible for the arrangement, in collaboration with Sum Yee (Samantha) Wong.

Samantha stunned the small audience with her closing piece, part of the Liszt Piano Sonata. She specialised in Performance and has given much pleasure to local audiences this year. Samantha holds an offer from Goldsmith's College, University of London.

Contributed by Music Tutor, Jane Chisholm.

IN THE PICTURE
SNAP SHOTS

Issam's EyeCone

If Fine Art Tutor Issam Kourbaj has his way, the spires of King's College Chapel will no longer dominate the skyline of historic Cambridge; the spire of Great St Mary's Church will.

Issam's proposed project is to recreate a planned 16th century spire for the Church, housing a camera obscura to provide visitors with panoramic views of the city's spaces and skyline.

Called the *EyeCone* project, it is based on plans by Matthew Parker, the 16th century Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge and Archbishop of Canterbury, to add a dramatic 80 foot spire to the famous 15th century church. The Camera Obscura — a device to capture, through an arrangement of lenses and mirrors, a clear image of the views all around the tower — would be placed within the hollow cone of his new spire and the image projected on a large screen within a darkened viewing-chamber. The spire would be built from lightweight modern materials rather than the original planned stone. It would be a temporary feature of the church, with the possibility of being lifted off intact and used educationally on a new site.

The artist's ambition is to see the spire up and running in time for the University's 800th



birthday celebrations in 2009. He has already gained high level support within the University as well as from the Vicar of St Mary's. Now all hinges on the need to raise funds towards the £35,000 needed to commission a full-scale feasibility study.

The artists' drawings relating to the project are currently part of an exhibition, *Lines of Enquiry*, at Cambridge's prestigious Kettle's Yard until 17 September. www.kettlesyard.co.uk/exhibitions/linesofenq.html

Courtesy of www.admin.ac.uk and www.issamkourbaj.co.uk

Arctic Adventure

Music Tutor, Jane Chisholm, ventured into the vast expanses of the Arctic Circle earlier this year in an effort to raise money for the Scott Polar Research Institute (SPRI). Here is her story.

"I have read innumerable accounts of polar exploration and now I had the chance to get a glimpse for myself of the Arctic. The bonus (or downside, depending on how you looked at it) was that the 250 km journey, through some of the most beautiful and varied scenery in Norway, was to be by traditional dog-sledge.

"Deciding I could rise to the prerequisites for the challenge — physical fitness and the ability to raise £3000 — but less confident in my aptitude for canine bonding, I signed on. From Heathrow to Gargia then, 350 km inside the Arctic Circle, where we were presented with our kit: one-piece snowsuits, voluminous but very light boots, and windproof mittens.

"The art of attaching my dogs to the sledge was a steep learning curve for me. They would wait in patient sympathy as I struggled with their harnesses and then conspire to loop the traces into fiendish knots at every opportunity.

"Gliding (often in awed silence) across frozen lakes was a fantastic experience and so was a downward run through a forest, even if I did precipitate a collision which nearly deposited our expedition leader halfway up a tree!

"Each morning Per-Thore, our expert dog-handler, stalked down the line of sledgers,



No horse power!

checking our preparation. The dogs would begin barking and yelping as he passed, knowing that they were nearing the moment to go. The noise crescendoed until, as he climbed majestically onto his sledge, the volume seemed to rival the stage appearance of a rock-star. Then silence descended as we bolted off.

"I've gained my glimpse of the Polar Regions and some of the trials that the explorers I had studied so avidly had experienced. But I like to think that they had some laughs too, such as we had in abundance."

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