

Here, there and everywhere

*flash buskers, market stories, dancing in libraries,
digital graffiti, inflatable play spaces, community choirs,
experiments in electronica, breakdance battles, momentous
projections, street corner poetry, carnival costumes, films
about you and me, synchronised mermaids, creative
grandparents, go-kart celebrations, playing out stories,
organ music, hand painted stages, theatre on a bicycle,
one hundred years of film, outdoor theatre, hair raising
photography, bringing home the happy*



Momentous / Betty Lawless

See what's out there



**Leeds
inspired**

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For two years Leeds Inspired has been working with communities, arts organisations and artists to create, enjoy and share culture in the city.

During that time we've funded over 150 projects and events that have transformed spaces, told stories and inspired new pieces of work to happen. The next few pages reflect on the projects that Leeds City Council has supported through Leeds Inspired and give a taste of what to expect from us in 2014.

Yorkshire Life Aquatic / Betty Lawless



In the past year our *Main Grants* projects have included a performance of Full Contact about the origins of Rugby League by Balbir Singh Dance Company; the Saturday Girl photography exhibition of young women from Leeds; and Singing On The Edge community choir.

In the lead up to the Tour De France *keep an eye out for...* Bicyclism: a peoples history of cycling in Leeds; a brand new Schultz organ commission by Lebanese-French composer Naji Hakim at St Bartholemew's church in July; and author Tom Palmer cycling to every Leeds library with his newly commissioned children's story.

Vend Art / Betty Lawless



Saturday Girl / Casey Orr

We've seen some great community and artist development work happening with the help of our *Small Grants*. Playbods worked together with Age UK Leeds in the summer to run creative play sessions for children and grandparents; carnival artist Hughbon Condor designed stunning costumes for Leeds West Indian Carnival; and a performance by Yorkshire Life Aquatic made a splash at Bramley Baths.

During 2014 *keep an eye out for...* the Sikh Elders Punjabi Folk Songs project; films about mental health produced by Arts And Minds; and Live At Leeds Unconference events for Leeds' musicians.

All our grants recipients share information about who has taken part in their projects and events to help us look at the *impact of Leeds Inspired funding* in the city and our most recent data refers to 2012- 2013. During this time 419,000 people took part in Leeds Inspired funded projects and events across Leeds. More than 1000 people contributed to the smooth running of these projects through volunteering and placement opportunities. Leeds Inspired funded activity saw over 1152 days employment generated in the creative sector. Grants recipients used their Leeds Inspired funding as cash match to lever in a further £420,000 to the city from other sources. We'll have information available about our 2013/14 funded projects later in the year.

We Love To Share

Over on www.leedsinspired.co.uk we delight in telling as many people as humanly possible about all the brilliant events happening across the city. Since 2012 we've worked closely with event organisers to promote over 6000 events and projects on the Leeds Inspired website. We love to highlight independent events alongside the more established to show the full picture of things to do in Leeds. Our event listings have been available for other blogs, websites and developers to use through the Leeds Inspired API (open data feed) since May 2013. Later this year we'll be making the site friendlier to use on your mobile and make it even easier to discover what's happening in Leeds.

Leeds Inspired website



Spit Nolan

Interplay took the story of go-kart champion Spit Nolan and brought it to life through performances, kart building workshops and a family go-kart race in Gotts Park, Armley. Thousands of people came to the big community event on a glorious sunny Saturday to witness the nail biting race, dance to some retro music and drink many of cups of tea. Spit Nolan was accompanied by The Playing Out exhibition at Armley Mills that retold street games stories from generations of families in the area and a collection of games from different decades.



Image Betty Lawless

Word On The Street

In October Morley Literature Festival brought poetry into the streets, shops, and public buildings of Morley with Word On The Street. Over 2000 people took part in family workshops, word trails, open mic performances and crowd sourced poetry. Many of the poems were inspired by the landscape and history of Morley and featured tales of mills, mines, textiles and journeys. Word On The Street also worked with Light Night to bring its interactive Fridge Poetry to shoppers in Trinity Leeds.

Image Betty Lawless



Burmantofts Stories and The Market

Transform Festival at West Yorkshire Playhouse worked with communities close to the Playhouse to produce two new pieces of work. The emotive 'Burmantofts Stories' was devised and performed by residents from the area who shared their experiences of living in Leeds. The Market centred around the rich history and folklore of generations of stallholders. It was performed by a professional and community cast for three nights in Kirkgate Market.



Image Betty Lawless

See What's Out There 2014

After the success of our first illustrators commission we're over the moon to be working with four new Leeds based artists who'll be creating artwork responding to our See What's Out There strapline. We'll be launching all four posters in April during the lead up to the Tour De France. Over forty artist portfolios were submitted and the final illustrators were selected by a panel including Leeds Print Festival. Our artists are Anna Peaker, Caroline Pratt, Dan Dowker and Rachel Davey.

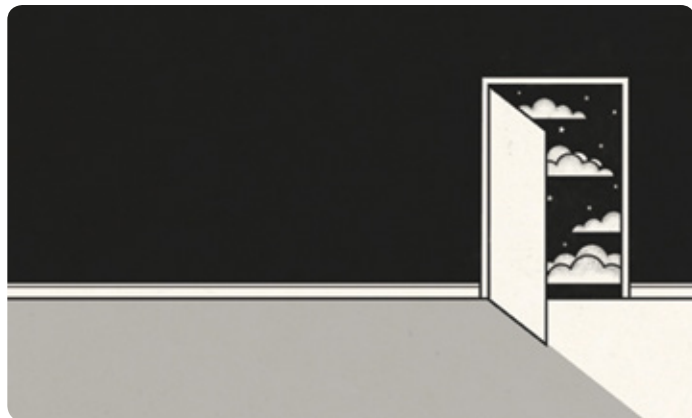


Image: Anna Peaker

Momentous

Projection artists Illuminos were commissioned to transform the front of Leeds Civic Hall into a working Potts clock complete with cogs, gears, chimes, pulleys and automata figures. The projection was created from video footage of over 1200 Leeds people filmed in the summer. Momentous ran for three nights in October, forming the centrepiece for Light Night. Over 20,000 people came to see the projection light up Civic Hall and wait for the quarterly hour chimes. Our audience was truly intergenerational from babies to grandparents and everybody in the middle!



Momentous / Betty Lawless

Leeds Inspired Here, There And Everywhere

Leeds Inspired funded projects have featured across a range of print and digital media including: Art Daily, Artist Newsletter, Arts Professional, Axis Web, BBC Look North, BBC Radio Leeds, Calendar, CBeebies, Creative Review, The City Talking, The Culture Vulture, East Leeds FM, The Guardian, Huffington Post, The Independent, Its Nice That, Library As Incubator, The Metro, Mumsnet, New Statesman, The One Show, Reddit, The Stage, The Standard, The Times, Yorkshire Evening Post, Yorkshire Post and The Wharfe Valley Times.

THE WHITE WHALE

A modern retelling of Herman Melville's Moby Dick will be premiered in Leeds for a two week run in September 2014. The outdoor evening show is commissioned by Leeds Inspired and will be created by Leeds theatre company Slung Low. The White Whale will take its audience on a dark, fire-lit, water bound adventure. Tickets to the event are free, suitable for adults and young people aged 8+ and will be available through Leeds City Council box office in the Summer.



Image: Mezz Davies / Lee Goater

The Leeds Inspired Team is Abby Dix-Mason / Jane Earnshaw / Sarah Howells.
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