

**NEWS RELEASE 24.6.2021**

**LIVERPOOL BIENNIAL ANNOUNCES NEW TRUSTEES AND DATES FOR 2023 12TH EDITION AS IT CELEBRATES FINAL WEEK OF *THE STOMACH AND THE PORT***

As it celebrates the highlights of the final week of its current edition, *The Stomach and the Port*, Liverpool Biennial is delighted to announce five new Trustees joining its Board, chaired by Kathleen Soriano and supported by Director Dr Sam Lackey, and to confirm that the next edition will take place from June to September 2023.

The new Trustees of the non-executive Board of Liverpool Biennial are **Rick Behari**, Director of Communications, Sky; **Reema Khan**, Advancement Director, The Business School (formerly Cass); **Hetain Patel**, Artist; **Scott Smith**, Head of Digital at National Museums Liverpool; and **Ying Tan**, Senior Programme Manager, Art Fund.

Kathleen Soriano, Chair, Liverpool Biennial, said: “This is an exciting moment for Liverpool Biennial as we move towards the future. We are delighted to welcome such a dynamic group of talented professionals to join our Board, each of whom brings with them an exceptional set of skills, experience, and knowledge. With their support, coupled with the vision of our new Director Dr Sam Lackey, we can build on the enormous success and innovative spirit of our 2021 edition, and cement the Biennial’s position as the UK’s leading festival of contemporary art.”

*The Stomach and the Port* formally comes to an end this Sunday, on 27 June. However, the online portal [liverpoolbiennial2021.com](http://liverpoolbiennial2021.com) remains live, with catch-up recordings and resources from this edition’s programme. Visitors to Liverpool will also still be able to see the work of B.O.S.S and Zheng Bo at FACT (on display until 29 August), alongside the work of Jadé Fadojutimi, Laura Huertas Milán, Daniel Steegmann Mangrané, Roland Persson, Kathleen Ryan and André Romão at Bluecoat (on display until 5 September).

Curated by Manuela Moscoso, *The Stomach and the Port* asked the questions: what is a body? what does it mean to be human? Set against the backdrop of Liverpool’s colonial history as a port city, 50 artists and collectives from 30 countries across the world were invited to respond to the conceptual framework, exploring the ideas of kinship, porosity and the bodily experience. Featuring 150 works of art, including 47 new commissions, *The Stomach and the Port* has overcome the challenges of the pandemic to present 9 exhibitions acrossLiverpool, taking over the iconic Lewis’s Building, Dr Martin Luther King Jr Building, the Lush Building, Liverpool Central Library and Cotton Exchange, and partnering with renowned art galleries Tate Liverpool, FACT, Open Eye and Bluecoat, alongside 7 outdoor sculptures and installations, and 5 sonic and digital commissions.

For the first time, the Biennial also produced a rich, multi-layered digital channel, underpinning *The Stomach and the Port* with a dynamic, online programme of over 140 commissions, events and resources. Comprising live performances, artist interviews, curatorial videos, virtual reality exhibition tours, artist-led discussions and workshops, a film programme and podcasts, the Biennial Online Portal has continued to evolve and deliver multimedia content, along with a vibrant selection of online resources for children and young people, bridging audience engagement from local communities across Liverpool to around the globe.

The participating artists have included: Larry Achiampong, Black Obsidian Sound System (B.O.S.S), Erick Beltrán, Diego Bianchi, Alice Channer, Judy Chicago, Ithell Colquhuoun, Christopher Cozier, Yael Davids, Ines Doujak & John Barker, Dr. Lakra, Jadé Fadojutimi, Jes Fan, Lamin Fofana, Ebony G. Patterson, Sonia Gomes, Ane Graff, Ayesha Hameed, Camille Henrot, Nicholas Hlobo, Laura Huertas Millán, Sohrab Hura, Invernomuto & Jim C. Nedd, Rashid Johnson, KeKeÇa, Jutta Koether, SERAFINE1369, Ligia Lewis, Linder, Luo Jr-shin, Jorgge Menna Barreto, Haroon Mirza, Neo Muyanga, Pedro Neves Marques, Roland Persson, Anu Põder, Reto Pulfer, André Romão, Kathleen Ryan, Zineb Sedira, Xaviera Simmons, Teresa Solar, Daniel Steegmann Mangrané, Jenna Sutela, Martine Syms, UBERMORGEN, Leonardo Impett and Joasia Krysa, Luisa Ungar, Alberta Whittle, Zheng Bo, David Zink Yi.

Manuela Moscoso, Curator, Liverpool Biennial 2021, said: “The Stomach and the Port draws its title from an understanding of bodies as fluid, porous and interdepended organisms – continuously shaping and shaped by their environments. The biennial has reflected on systems of exchange, how borders are not only geographic but also political and subjective constructs. Developed over several years, this Biennial hasgathered practices that are deeply engaged with different forms of existence, challenging the rigid categories that have embedded our bodies in concrete historical, linguistic and cultural contexts. Rooted in decolonising our experience of the world, the artists have collaboratively presented a re-calibration of the senses and a catalyst for change”.

Sam Lackey, Director of Liverpool Biennial, said: “It has been an extraordinary achievement to produce this Biennial in the midst of a global pandemic and in so doing, to bring the vitality of contemporary art back to the city of Liverpool. We are eternally grateful to our artists, our funders and the Biennial team, and in particular to the steadfast ambition of our curator Manuela Moscoso. Evolving in a time of restriction has led to great innovation. This Biennial has been significant, even transformational, through the hybridity of its programme, enabling audiences from all over the world to enjoy the artists’ work. The bar is set high for how we move forwards, and I am excited to be working with our new Trustees in building on this innovative model for the 12th edition in summer 2023.”

Further information, images and biographies are available [here](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/ctr5jcskzpry5nc/AAARyK6ypviFqunhHBZncZ6Sa?dl=0) .

**The Stomach and the Port**

**Dates*:***  ***The Stomach and the Port* runs until 27 June 2021 (with Tate Liverpool until 20 June, FACT until 29 August, Bluecoat until 5 September)**

**Opening Times:** **Wednesday to Sunday 11am – 6pm (with the exception of Bluecoat closing at 5pm and Central Library open Wednesday to Friday 10am – 3pm)**

**Booking:**  **Booking is strongly recommended at the majority of venues; for further information visit:** [**liverpoolbiennial2021.com/visit/bookings/tickets**](https://liverpoolbiennial2021.com/visit/bookings/tickets/)

**Admission: Free Entry**

To receive weekly updates about the Public and Learning Programme and for priority access to event bookings, sign up to the weekly Biennial [newsletter](https://biennial.com/get-involved/sign-up). For more information and to make an online booking, visit [liverpoolbiennial2021.com](https://liverpoolbiennial2021.com/).

**Notes to Editors**

**Social Media**

Join the discussion online at:

Facebook /liverpoolbiennial

Instagram @liverpoolbiennial

[Twitter](http://www.twitter.com) @biennial

**Press Enquiries**

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**About Liverpool Biennial**

Liverpool Biennial is the largest and longest-running festival of contemporary visual art in the UK. Since its inception in 1998, the Biennial has become renowned in the international contemporary art world, bringing together a wide array of international voices and artistic practices. Taking place every two years, Liverpool Biennial activates public institutions, historical sites and extraordinary locations across Liverpool, ensuring major commissions in the public realm. Pioneering an innovative approach underpinned by a year-round programme of research, education, residencies, projects and commissions, each biennial edition introduces renewed thinking and scale of production. Having commissioned over 380 new artworks and presented work by over 530 celebrated artists from around the world, the Biennial is built on a longstanding commitment to connecting international artist with local practitioners, communities and the general public. Previous permanent public artworks commissioned by Liverpool Biennial in the city include Nathan Coley’s *From Here* (2020); Ugo Rondinone’s *Liverpool Mountain* (2018); Betty Woodman’s *Liverpool Fountain* (2016); Peter Blake’s *Everybody Razzle Dazzle* (2015); Koo Jeong’s A x Wheelscape *Evertro* (2015); Jaume Plensa’s *Dream* (2009); and Antony Gormley’s *Another Place* (2005) on Crosby Beach. Liverpool Biennial is supported by Arts Council England, Liverpool City Council and founding supporter James Moores. A full list of supporters and partners for the 11th edition is located at the end of this press release.

For more information visit: [www.biennial.com](http://www.biennial.com/).

**About the Liverpool Biennial Board of Trustees**

The Liverpool Biennial Board of Trustees includes Kathleen Soriano (Chair); Natasha Bintley; Chris Evans; Jonathan Falkingham; Ian McCarthy; John Shield; Anna Valle; and Tony Wilson.

For more information visit: [www.biennial.com/about/board-of-trustees](http://www.biennial.com/about/board-of-trustees) .

**The new Trustees include:**

Rick Behari is a senior communications director who has managed PR and communications for some of the UK’s leading media brands including the BBC, Fremantle Media, and Sky. He has extensive experience of crisis management, campaign delivery, media, and talent relations. His current role at Sky as Director of Communications, Content and Brand involves overseeing all communications activity for Sky Arts, including the channel’s recent successful free-to-air launch.

Reema Khan has spent the majority of the past 20 years working in the Arts and Heritage sector in the field of membership, communications, and fundraising. She has worked at English Heritage, Historic Royal Palaces, Royal Academy of Arts and currently is now working within Higher Education at The Business School (formerly Cass), City University as Advancement Director. Reema was previously trustee of the arts publishing charity Bookworks and chaired their Fundraising Committee. Reema is Deputy Chair of Governors at City of London Academy, Islington, a trustee at The Campaign to Protect Rural England and is currently studying a part time MSc in Leadership. Reema lives in London.

Hetain Patel is a Bolton-born, London-based visual artist and performance maker. His live performances, films, sculptures, and photographs have been shown worldwide from the Venice Biennale, Ullens Centre for Contemporary Art, Beijing and Tate Modern, London to Sadler’s Wells, where he is a New Wave Associate. Patel made his first dance company work for Candoco in 2014, which toured internationally for five years. His work exploring identity and freedom, using humour, choreography and text appears in multiple formats and media, intended to reach the widest possible audience. His voice and performance work online have been watched over 50 million times, which includes his TED talk of 2013 titled ‘Who Am I? Think Again’. Patel is represented by Chatterjee &Lal, Mumbai, is a patron of QUAD, Derby, and sits on the Artist Council for a-n. He is the winner of the Film London Jarman Award, 2019, Kino Der Kunst Festival’s Best International Film 2020, and has been selected to participate in the British Art Show 9, 2021/22**.**

Scott Smith is Head of Digital at National Museums Liverpool where he leads a department responsible for Digital and Editorial Content, Digital Experiences and Product Management. His experience includes overseeing large-scale digital projects, including website redevelopments, apps, gallery and exhibition audio-visual content, and immersive experiences across NML’s seven museums and galleries. Scott was born in Liverpool and grew up in North Wales.

Ying Tan has extensive experience working in the arts and culture sector in the UK with a particular expertise focusing on contemporary art practices within East Asia. Currently, she is Senior Programmes Manager, Collections at the Art Fund, where she leads on museum acquisitions including the development of new funding streams and commissioning projects as well as managing areas of Art Fund’s diverse portfolio of programmes. Previously, she has been Head of Public Art (interim) at Futurecity, Curator at the British Council, a visiting lecturer for Christie’s Education on the MA Art of Asia course as well as the Curating the Contemporary MA course at Goldsmiths, University of London.

**About Dr. Sam Lackey, Director of Liverpool Biennial**

Dr. Samantha Lackey initially joined Liverpool Biennial as Interim Director in late 2020 and following a wide recruitment exercise was appointed Director in April 2021. She joins the Biennial from her role as Head of Collection and Exhibitions at the Whitworth at the University of Manchester and Senior Lead on the Leadership Team. Before this she was curator at The Hepworth Wakefield (2010-16), where she delivered 40 exhibitions over 6 years, and was part of the team that opened the gallery in 2011 to critical acclaim. Her background is in academia, receiving a PhD in 2005 on the subject of surrealism, which was the context of her work as a lecturer, research fellow and her first exhibition at the Whitworth, *Subversive Spaces: Surrealism and Contemporary Art.* She has published on surrealism and contemporary art and worked on multiple group and solo exhibitions with artists including Cecily Brown, Susan Hefuna, Linder and Eva Rothschild.

**About Manuela Moscoso, Curator of Liverpool Biennial 2021**

Manuela Moscoso, originally from Ecuador, joined the Biennial in 2019 from Tamayo Museo in Mexico City, where she was the Senior Curator. She is part of Zarigüeya, a programme that activates relations between contemporary art and the pre-Columbian collection of the Museo de Arte Precolombino Casa del Alabado, Ecuador. Moscoso was the adjunct curator of the 12th Cuenca Biennial and the co-curator of the Queens International 2011 biennial. In 2012 she was appointed co-director of Capacete, a residency programme based in Brazil where she also co-ran the curatorial programme Typewriter. Moscoso has collaborated with CA2M, Di Tella, MAM Medellin, Museo de Rio, RedCat and Fundac.

**About Arts Council England**

Arts Council England is the national development agency for creativity and culture. We have set out our strategic vision in Let’s Create that by 2030 we want England to be a country in which the creativity of each of us is valued and given the chance to flourish and where everyone of us has access to a remarkable range of high-quality cultural experiences. We invest public money from Government and The National Lottery to help support the sector and to deliver this vision. For more information visit: [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/).

Following the Covid-19 crisis, the Arts Council developed a £160 million Emergency Response Package, with nearly 90% coming from the National Lottery, for organisations and individuals needing support. Arts Council England is also one of the bodies administering the Government’s unprecedented £1.57 billion Culture Recovery Fund.

Find out more at [www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/covid19).

**About Liverpool City Council**

Liverpool City Council is one of the largest local authorities in the UK serving a population of 491,500. Culture Liverpool is the city council department which aims to maintain the city’s reputation as a cultural and sporting destination, positioning Liverpool as the most exciting place in the UK in which to live, visit, work, study and invest. Through the production and delivery of events, and championing creativity via funded projects across Liverpool City Region, Culture Liverpool pushes boundaries and inspires audiences, ensuring everyone has access to arts and culture.

For more information, visit [www.cultureliverpool.co.uk](http://www.cultureliverpool.co.uk).