

MK Gallery

News Release

Guests celebrate the start of MK Gallery's expansion

MK Gallery held an event to mark the start of its major capital expansion on Saturday 21 October. Guests included Sir Nicholas Serota CH, Chair of Arts Council England; Peter Horrocks CBE, Vice Chancellor of The Open University; Tom Emerson, Co-Director of 6a architects; Jack Kirkland, Main Board Director of Bowmer & Kirkland; artists Gareth Jones and Nils Norman; and many past and present trustees and supporters of MK Gallery. Whilst construction takes place MK Gallery continues to deliver an exciting programme of activities including City Club. Gareth Jones and Nils Norman are the creators of City Club, a project developed by MK Gallery in collaboration with artists and arts organisations across Milton Keynes. Find out more at www.mkgallery.org and www.cityclubmk.org



MK Gallery expansion celebration, 21 October 2017. From left to right: Tom Emerson, 6a architects, Co-Director; Will Cousins, MK Gallery, Chair of the Board; Sir Nicholas Serota CH, Arts Council England, Chair of the Board; Jack Kirkland, Bowmer & Kirkland, Main Board Director; Anthony Spira, MK Gallery, Director. Photo: Jane Russell.



MK Gallery expansion celebration, 21 October 2017. From left to right: Anthony Spira, MK Gallery, Director; Judith Barker, SEMLEP,

Programme and Assurance Manager; Dr. Ann Limb CBE DL. SEMLEP, Chair of the Board; Sir Nicholas Serota CH, Arts Council England, Chair of the Board; Councillor Liz Gifford, Milton Keynes Council, Cabinet member responsible for Place; Ian Revell, Milton Keynes Community Foundation, CEO.



Guests celebrate the start of MK Gallery expansion works, 21 October 2017. Photo: Jane Russell.



MK Gallery expansion celebration, 21 October 2017. From left to right: Nils Norman, City Club Lead Artist; Jack Kirkland; Bowmer & Kirkland, Main Board Director; Tom Emerson, 6 architects, Co-Director; Sir Nicholas Serota CH, Arts Council England, Chair of the Board; Anthony Spira, MK Gallery, Director; Gareth Jones, City Club Lead Artist. Photo: Jane Russell.

Notes to Editors

MK Gallery

MK Gallery presents free, changing exhibitions of world class art. Renowned for its exhibitions of international contemporary art, the gallery's programme is diversifying to include historical shows alongside the contemporary.

MK Gallery was founded in Central Milton Keynes in 1999 as part of a major theatre and gallery complex. While the theatre has become one of the most successful outside of London, the gallery

opened with a solo show by Gilbert & George and has presented a very broad range of exhibitions, from Archigram to Gilberto Zorio via Michael Craig-Martin, Nasreen Mohamedi, Piranesi and Andy Warhol. The gallery frequently tours its exhibitions to international partners across the world, is a regular publisher, and producer of a dynamic and diverse public programme, working closely with local schools and community groups.

MK Gallery is part of the Arts Council's National Portfolio and a member of the Plus Tate network.

MK Gallery, 900 Midsummer Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 3QA. www.mkgallery.org

MK Gallery Supporters

MK Gallery receives core funding from Milton Keynes Council and Arts Council England.



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



MK Gallery Expansion Funders

Arts Council England, The Anson Charitable Trust, The Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation, The Carrington Charitable Trust, Charles Wolfson Charitable Trust, David Lock Associates, Derek Walker Fund supporters, The Finnis Scott Foundation, Garfield Weston Foundation, The Headley Trust, J Paul Getty Jnr Charitable Trust, Milton Keynes Council, MK Community Foundation, Reuben Foundation, The Sackler Trust, Sir Siegmund Warburg's Voluntary Settlement, South East Midlands Local Enterprise Partnership (SEMLEP), Sylvia Waddilove Foundation UK, The Wolfson Foundation, those that wish to remain anonymous, and with the kind support of Milton Keynes Development Partnership.

City Club

City Club is a programme of new art, performances, family activities, happenings and talks inspired by the original cultural plans for Milton Keynes and delivered by MK Gallery in partnership with artists and arts organisations across Milton Keynes. The idea for City Club originated with artists Gareth Jones and Nils Norman as an ambitious project to re-imagine the public spaces surrounding the expanded MK Gallery with alternative models of contemporary visual art. Gareth Jones and Nil Norman's concept will be realised when work is completed on MK Gallery's capital expansion.

www.cityclubmk.org

6a architects

6a architects was founded by Tom Emerson and Stephanie Macdonald in 2001. They are best known for their contemporary art galleries, educational buildings, artists' studios and residential projects, often in sensitive historic environments.

The 40-strong practice recently completed a new 68-room hall of residence for Churchill College, Cambridge (2016), which was awarded a RIBA Regional East Award in 2017. A new studio complex for photographer Juergen Teller (2016) was winner of both a RIBA Regional London award and RIBA London Building of the Year in 2017. Recent arts projects include a collaboration with artist Gabriel Orozco on his new sculpture garden at South London Gallery (2016), a new contemporary art gallery for Sadie Coles HQ in Mayfair (2015), a cast iron shop front for fashion designer Paul Smith (2014) and refurbishment of the textile and fashion galleries at the Victoria & Albert Museum (V&A) in 2013.

6a architects rose to prominence with the completion of two critically acclaimed public art galleries, Raven Row (2009), which won a RIBA Award in 2011, and the expanded South London Gallery (2010). The practice is currently working on significant arts, education and residential projects around the world and has won major national and international competitions and been recognized with several prestigious awards, including consecutive nominations for the European Union Prize for

Contemporary Architecture – Mies Van der Rohe Award (2011, 2013 & 2015). In 2012, it was awarded the Schelling Medal for Architecture. <http://www.6a.co.uk>

Bowmer & Kirkland

Established in 1923, Bowmer & Kirkland (B&K) has grown to become one of the UK's most successful privately-owned construction, engineering and development groups.

With headquarters in Derbyshire and regional offices in Manchester, London, Sunderland and Glasgow – they offer a nationwide service with a regional focus. There are 25 companies within the Group specialising in construction, construction related activities.

B&K is a private company, with family values and has a simple philosophy – to provide clients with the highest levels of client satisfaction possible. Turnover last year was £935 million and Bowmer & Kirkland featured at number 62 on the Top Track 100 of Britain's private companies.

They directly employ 1400 people and thousands more indirectly and gained Investors in People accreditation in 2001, re-accredited in 2004, 2007 and 2011 and 2014 demonstrating a commitment to staff and clients.

Jackson Coles

Established in 1982 with offices in Milton Keynes and London, Jackson Coles have experience of a wide range of commercial and industrial projects with a particular emphasis on galleries including the RIBA Stirling Prize winning Newport Street Gallery.

Press Information

For interviews, information or images please contact Aimee Holmes, Communications and Marketing Manager, MK Gallery. Tel: 01908 558302 / E: aholmes@mkgallery.org

Ends / Date of issue 23 October 2017