

MK Gallery

News Release

Future City

6 December 2013 – 5 January 2014

Preview and Christmas Party

5 December / 6-10pm

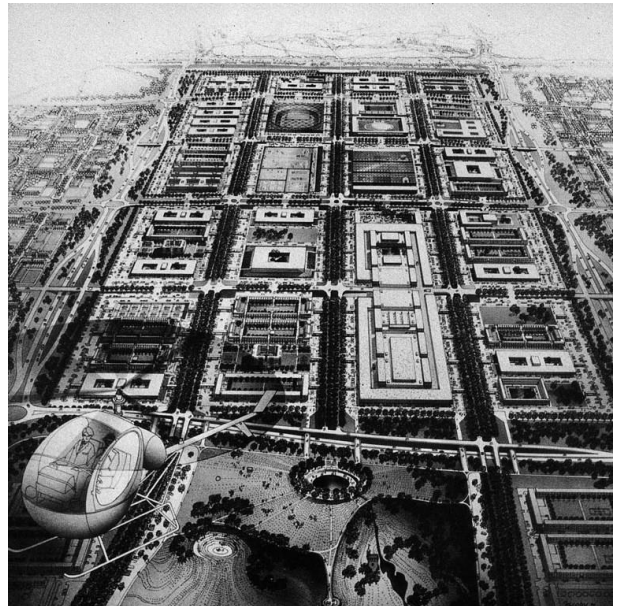
Talk: why we Came to Milton Keynes

12 December / 6.30pm

Talk: what Does our Future Look Like?

19 December / 6.30pm

All welcome. Free but booking required.



This December, MK Gallery presents *Future City*, an exhibition and events programme that looks back at the utopian origins of Milton Keynes in order to consider aspects of its future, providing a backdrop for MK Gallery's exciting expansion plans.

The exhibition includes a range of inspiring material from the early days of Milton Keynes, including paintings, drawings and models by artists Boyd & Evans, Stephen Gregory and Helmut Jacoby. This accompanies an insight into the work of architectural practice 6a who have been appointed to design the Gallery's expansion, with source material from the studio and elements related to previous projects. Alongside these displays is a community section and social space including iconic marketing material from early MK and new contributions from local residents including submissions by Milton Keynes school pupils in response to a 'Design your MK Gallery' brief.

The exhibition will also provide context for some major wide-ranging, experimental and provocative discussions around Milton Keynes city centre, past, present and future.

Speaking about the project, Anthony Spira, Director of MK Gallery said:

"It is an honour to bring together such inspiring material and people who are crucial to the past, present and future success of Milton Keynes. We are delighted that the Gallery can play a role in this exciting development and that our expansion can make a real difference to the city centre."

Key Exhibition Events

*All events are free but must be pre-booked via Eventbrite

Preview & Christmas Party

Thursday 5 December / 6pm-10pm // Free* / All welcome
7pm Welcome speeches by:

- Anthony Spira, Director, MK Gallery
- Cate Caniffe, Arts Council England Director South
- Councillor David Hopkins, MK Council.

Followed by free seasonal food and paybar. Book [HERE](#)

Talk: why we came to Milton Keynes

Thursday 12 December / 6.30pm / Doors open 6pm / Free*

A series of short talks by key figures recalling the energy and excitement of early Milton Keynes. Speakers include:

- David Lock (Chair), Town Planner
- Ken Baker, Architect
- Lizzie Bancroft, Head Teacher of Loughton Manor First School
- Boyd & Evans, Artists
- Malcolm Brighton, Entrepreneur (formerly MK Development Corporation)
- Robert de Grey, Architect
- Neil Higson, Landscape Architect
- Bob Hill, (formerly MK Development Corporation)
- Peter Howard, Architect
- Roger Kitchen, Arts, heritage and community development consultant
- Roy Nevitt, Founding Director, Stantonbury Campus Drama
- Iain Smith, Architect
- Derek Walker, Architect

The event concludes with drinks and canapés. Book [HERE](#)

Talk: what Does our Future Look Like?

Thursday 19 December / 6.30pm / Doors open 6pm / Free

A series of short talks envisaging the future of Milton Keynes by people in positions of responsibility. Speakers include:

- Cllr Debbie Brock, (Conservative), Milton Keynes Council
- Theo Chalmers, Chairman, Urban Eden
- John Duggan, Chairman, Milton Keynes Development Partnership
- Tom Emerson, Architect, 6a
- David Foster, Chief Executive, the Parks Trust
- David Hill, Chief Executive, Milton Keynes Council
- Cllr Linda Inoki, CMK Town Council & Chair, Xplain
- Gerd Kortuem, Professor of Computing, Open University
- Cllr Rebecca Kurth (Chair), CMK Town Council
- Mary Malcolm, Deputy Vice Chancellor, University of Bedfordshire
- Cllr Pete Marland, Labour Group Leader, Milton Keynes Council
- Cllr Douglas McCall, Liberal Democrat Group Leader, Milton Keynes Council
- Stuart Turner, Architect
- Julia Upton, Chief Executive, Milton Keynes Community Foundation.
- Pete Winkelman, Chairman, Milton Keynes Dons

The event concludes with drinks and canapés. Book [HERE](#)

Notes to Editors

MK Gallery Expansion

MK Gallery has appointed 6a architects to work on its ambitious plans for expansion. The planned development, due to open in 2017, coinciding with the 50th anniversary year of Milton Keynes, include doubling the current exhibition space and providing purpose-built event, community and learning facilities, independent cinema, café and bookshop, on the current site in Theatre District, Milton Keynes. This will enable the gallery to enhance the scale and ambition of its world class contemporary arts programme and to attract and serve an even wider range of visitors with a broader cultural offer. More details [HERE](#).

Image

Helmut Jacoby, *Milton Keynes City Centre, Completion 1990*, (Published 1974)

Project Credits

Generously supported by founding Corporate Patrons David Lock Associates.



Developed in collaboration with the Fred Roche Foundation. With thanks to the Milton Keynes City Discovery Centre.



MK Gallery Supporters

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



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
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MK Gallery

MK Gallery, 900 Midsummer Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, MK9 3QA.
Admission is free. Details at www.mkgallery.org

Press information

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Ends / 20 November 2013