

## PRESS RELEASE

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September  
For immediate release



# New Art Exchange celebrates the launch of two seminal exhibitions

New Art Exchange in Hyson Green, Nottingham celebrated the opening of two new exhibitions on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2009 which both reflect and question identity and heritage - 'Port Knocker Dreams: Recent work by Donald Locke' and 'To Dance Like Your Dad' by Hetain Patel.

Traditionally exploring Modernism and folk art, Donald Locke's intimate knowledge of Western, Caribbean and Southern American culture has made him an influential figure for people of all ages and backgrounds. As his first solo show in the UK since the 1970's, New Art Exchange is now proudly presenting up to 50 sculptures and paintings made during the past decade.

Hetain Patel's video installation 'To Dance Like Your Dad' was also officially opened on Friday and plays with the concept of cultural assimilation through imitation. The piece, commissioned by New Art Exchange, and produced in association with nottdance09, looks at Hetain's attempt to understand an Indian mindset. Being British born he looks at the possibility of trying to understand an ethnic mindset, or at least the mindset of the Indian immigrants that make up his immediate legacy.

Skinder Hundal, Chief Executive of New Art Exchange, said: *"It is an honour to be able to present the first UK show of Donald's work in over 30 years as he truly holds an important place in British Art. I hope that through our exhibition, Donald's work will become known by a whole new audience, both young and old. With a really positive turn out at the launch and a fantastic initial response to both Donald and Hetain's work, I hope more visitors make the trip to Hyson Green to see important exhibitions that Nottingham should be immensely proud of hosting."*

Both exhibitions are on at New Art Exchange, Nottingham, To Dance Like Your Dad until 31<sup>st</sup> October and Pork Knocker Dreams until 19<sup>th</sup> December 2009. Open Monday to Friday 10am - 7pm and Saturday 10am - 5pm, admission is free.

- Ends -

## PRESS RELEASE

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September  
For immediate release

**For further PRESS information please contact: Raam Tarat, *Marketing and Communication Manager***

**T: 0115 924 8630, M: 07944271979, E: [raam.tarat@thenewartexchange.org.uk](mailto:raam.tarat@thenewartexchange.org.uk)**

### Notes to Editors:

#### **Pork Knocker Dreams**

- Pork Knocker Dreams, Recent work by Donald Locke has been curated by Indra Khanna, and produced in partnership with New Art Exchange
- The exhibition will be running from Saturday 26 September - Saturday 19 December 2009
- Admission to the exhibition is FREE
- Born in Guyana, Locke is currently resident in the USA. This is Locke's first exhibition in the UK in over 30 years
- After its tenure at New Art Exchange, Pork Knocker Dreams will exhibit at Wolverhampton Art Gallery in 2010
- For more information on the exhibition visit the NAE website: [www.thenewartexchange.org.uk](http://www.thenewartexchange.org.uk)

#### **Education**

There will be a full education and events programme accompanying the exhibition. Some of the programme is listed below, for full details please contact [education@thenewartexchange.org.uk](mailto:education@thenewartexchange.org.uk) or check the New Art Exchange Website for up to date information.

#### **Events**

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| • Saturday 24 October    | <b>Gallery Tour with Hew Locke</b>   |
| • Mon 2 - Wed 4 November | <b>Madge Spencer - Pottery Workshops</b>   |
| • Friday 13 November     | <b>Keith Waithe workshop</b>   |
| • Friday 13 November     | <b>Keith Waithe Performance</b> with <i>Jo Jo Yates</i> (Ghanaian Cora and singer) and <i>Sandra Agard</i> (storyteller) |
| • Thursday 10 December   | <b>Sprinkling of Demerera</b> Soulful Rock Acoustic set from Midlands-based Guyanese artist <i>Cassava</i>               |

#### **Hetaim Patel**

In 2004, having graduated just a year earlier, Hetaim Patel received the decibel award from Arts Council England, East Midlands. Since then, his photography, video and live works have been exhibited nationally and internationally.

Hetaim's work examines various sensory forms of language, communication and cultural identity. Often using his own body as a site for these discussions, he strives to find a connection with his heritage through the exploration of physics, rituals and Indian classical music. Employing techniques ranging from

## PRESS RELEASE

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> September  
For immediate release

fashion photography to tabla drumming, he is interested in processes. This he believes is often where work becomes less culture specific and more about the general communication between bodies.

Having just completed a two-year residency at Lakeside Arts Centre Nottingham, and continuing to tour his Sine Language exhibition nationally with beatboxer Jason Singh, Hetain is currently working on a number of new collaborations with dancers, musicians and electrical engineers.

*Artist information from Artist Network Database*

### New Art Exchange

- **New Art Exchange was awarded £5million** of funding from Arts Council England, Nottingham City Council, the Greater Nottingham Partnership, East Midlands Development Agency, Radford and Hyson Green New Deal for Communities, and European Regional Development Funding, and took 18 months to build. The organisation was a big winner in Arts Council England's the January 2008 review of national arts funding gaining a 58% increase in its annual funding grant. The award was made in recognition of the organisation's vital role in supporting visual and performing arts.
- **The building designed by architects Hawkins\ Brown** boasts 5 -storey building provides 1360 sqm space dedicated to visual arts with; galleries, workshop/performance/rehearsal space, artists in residence facilities, and a cafe. Distinguished from the red clay buildings of the neighbourhood by its black brick façade and arrangement of frameless windows ranging in size (from 0.16 sqm to 4.84sqm), offers incidental and unexpected views into and out of the building.
- **Mission:** *The New Art Exchange ambition is to become a national centre of excellence promoting contemporary arts development within the cultural and creative industries, to deliver an innovative and exciting programme of activity to promote, support and advocate contemporary multi-cultural arts development in visual and performing arts and new media. To be a cultural centre led by African, African Caribbean and South Asian arts practice. To serve an international community from roots firmly embedded in the local area.*