

NEWS RELEASE: Friday 11th July 2014



Design shines at Gayfield Garden Party



Whatever the weather brings to Edinburgh this summer, Gayfield Creative Spaces is hosting a Garden Party exhibition of leading Scottish and Dutch design. Deckchairs by Timorous Beasties join key works by Piet Hein Eek, Laura Spring and Geoffrey Mann for a celebration of European style.

Gayfield's new gallery space Depot will transform this summer into the imagined setting of a garden party but one with a contemporary design twist. Dutch design flair comes in the guise of furniture by Piet Hein Eek and Scottish designers Timorous Beasties have created the ultimate deckchair.

Visitors to the exhibition have the opportunity to interact with the space and relax in the Timorous Beasties' deckchairs or by the Piet Hein Eek picnic setting: upcycled hampers by textile designer Laura Spring and work by Edinburgh-based artist Geoffrey Mann complete the party.

Pieces featured in the exhibition are also available to buy. A percentage from each sale made will go to three local good causes associated with creativity: Artlink, The Art Room and The Yard, further engaging the design and well-being agenda at Gayfield Creative Spaces.

Garden Party marks Piet Hein Eek's first-ever show in Scotland and Timorous Beasties' first exhibition appearance in Edinburgh. Each designer involved with Garden Party is also contributing to a wider discussion on design as a speaker at Gayfield's series of six Twilight Talks in August and September.

Gayfield's Creative Director Dr John Ennis said, "It's a privilege to host such a set of top-notch designers at Gayfield known for their commitment to quality, innovative design and production techniques and mindful use of resources. I hope this will prove a fruitful link with The Netherlands, another European design nation.'

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS

Press preview on Friday 1st August 2014:

There will be a press-only preview of Garden Party and Gayfield's two other summer exhibitions, India Street and Fragments, on Friday 1st August 2014 from 4-6pm. This will be followed by a private view from 6-9pm which the media are also welcome to attend.

The designers:

Piet Hein Eek is a Dutch designer from Eindhoven renowned for his beautifully hand-crafted furniture made from reclaimed wood. www.pietheineek.nl

Geoffrey Mann is a Scottish artist and design lecturer whose fascination with transposing the ephemeral nature of time and motion has created a studio practice that challenges the existing divides between art, craft and design. Represented by Joanna Bird. www.geoffreymann.com

Laura Spring produces screen-printed bags and accessories in bright block colours and thematic editions under her own name. She works from her North Glasgow studio and stocks stores around the UK. www.lauraspring.co.uk

Timorous Beasties was established in Glasgow in 1990 by Alistair McAuley and Paul Simmons, who met while studying textile design at Glasgow School of Art. Today, the studio is a diverse operation and has emerged as a multi-award-winning, internationally acclaimed icon. www.timorousbeasties.com

The good causes:

Artlink is an arts and disability organisation which aims to increase opportunities to take part in the arts for those who experience disadvantage or disability through partnerships with artists, venues and organisations. www.artlinkedinburgh.co.uk

The Art Room offers art as therapy to children and young people to raise their self-esteem, self-confidence and independence. Later in 2014 the first Scottish Art Room will open at the Wester Hailes Education Centre. www.theartroom.org.uk

The Yard is a purpose-built indoor and outdoor adventure playground in Edinburgh for children and young people with disabilities which values independence and celebrates the capabilities and achievements of each individual child. www.theyardscotland.org.uk

Available for interview:

Creative Director of Gayfield Creative Spaces Dr John Ennis.

Opening dates and times:

Garden Party runs from Saturday 2nd August to Thursday 11th September 2014. Opening times are Thursday to Sunday, 11am to 6pm. Admission is free.

The **Twilight Talks** series takes place every Thursday from 7th August to 11th September from 6pm to 8pm at various venues. Free tickets can be secured via the Twilight Talks Eventbrite link at www.gayfield.co.uk

Twilight Talks are sponsored by Gayfield Creative Spaces with support from Creative Scotland.

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