



GUSTAV KLIMT

PAINTING,
DESIGN
& MODERN
LIFE
IN VIENNA
1900

30 MAY - 31 AUGUST 2008

Crowds flock to Klimt



The landmark Gustav Klimt exhibition was one of the runaway success stories of the year.

The UK's first exhibition of the celebrated artist in more than 30 years attracted a record-breaking 200,000 people to Tate Liverpool between May and August. And by November, the gallery had announced that it had welcomed its millionth visitor for the first time in a calendar year since it opened in 1988.

The exhibition, focusing on the life and art of Klimt - one of the world's most influential and revered artists - was a major coup for Liverpool's Capital of Culture year. Klimt is seen as an artistic 'A-lister' and an icon-maker of our modern age.

The exhibition explored his role as the founder and leader of the Viennese

Secession, a progressive group of artists and artisans. The work and philosophy of the Secession embraced art, architecture, fashion, dazzling decorative objects and furniture in their search for identity.

Major pieces from all stages of Klimt's career were shown, from his sun-flecked landscape squares, to his daring erotic sketches and one-off sculpture.

Visitors flocked to the gallery, which had to open its doors on Mondays and introduce late night opening throughout August to cope with unprecedented demand.

Those lucky enough to see the exhibition may be among the last on these shores, as art experts say it is unlikely such a large-scale exhibition of the artist's increasingly valuable and fragile works will ever be possible in the UK again.

Art attack

The fifth Liverpool Biennial helped put art at the heart of '08 with its biggest and most ambitious programme yet.

Celebrating the 10th anniversary of its foundation by James Moores, and Liverpool's year as European Capital of Culture, the 2008 festival brought a plethora of thought-provoking, challenging and ambitious art to public spaces, community venues and galleries across the city.

Between September and November, local people and visitors were captivated by more than 40 new commissions by leading and emerging international artists. Highlights included Tracey Emin's neon love message at the Anglican Cathedral, Yoko Ono's sky-ladders installation, Ai Weiwei's 100-foot-wide spider's web across Exchange Flags and Diller Scofidio + Renfro's 'Joyful Trees' which transformed a city brownfield site into a beautiful wooded space complete with rotating trees!

With the theme 'MADE UP', the 2008 Biennial highlighted the emotional charge within artistic imagination and our fascination with 'making things up'.

The 2008 incarnation of the UK's largest festival of visual contemporary arts also boasted its first visitors centre, further enhanced its 'community lights' programme and commissioned the creation of three community pavilions as performance spaces in Garston, Vauxhall and Edge Hill.



Liverpool's time to shine

Terence Davies' moving and poignant homage to Liverpool for '08 brought the city's people, history and culture to an international audience.

'Of Time and the City', the acclaimed film maker's first feature film in eight years, was hailed as a great work of cinema at Cannes and was shown at art-house screens all over the country.

Made on a budget of £250,000, Davies' melancholy visual poem shared his deeply personal musings on his relationship with Liverpool, the city where he was born and where he spent his first 28 years.

Atmospheric archive material along with new footage captured a sense of the city today as well as its influences on him growing up in the late 40's and early 50's.

Accompanied by Davies's narration, which sees him using his own life's journey to create a love song and a eulogy to Liverpool, the film has proved to be both a personal and universal portrait of an iconic city.



Each time I have visited Liverpool throughout 2008, I have experienced a fantastic atmosphere in the city and a buzz amongst the people. But as a son of the city, I could be called biased! So, I have been overjoyed to hear from many friends and strangers who have visited Liverpool for the first time this year to experience Capital of Culture first hand. Many arrived, bringing with them a lot of preconceived unfavourable ideas about the city and scousers! But all left praising the beauty and the wonders of the city and the incredible amount it had to offer - in terms of culture, food, shopping and entertainment. For me this is an important part of the legacy which will stay with the city after the Capital of Culture has moved on. Congratulations to everyone in the city for making sure that Liverpool has done itself proud this year.



David Yip, Actor

Full steam ahead

Monet, Van Gogh, Pissaro and Hopper were among the artists on show in the stunning exhibition 'Art in The Age of Steam'

The exhibition, at the Walker Art Gallery from April to August, explored the impact of the railway on the great artists of the 19th and 20th centuries.

Featuring more than 100 paintings, photographs, prints and drawings - transported from some of the world's greatest art collections - it brought together a dazzling display of masterpieces covering the years 1830 to 1960.

It was the most wide-ranging exhibition yet to look at how artists responded to the extraordinary impact that steam trains had on landscape and society.

Launched by actor and train enthusiast Michael Palin, the exhibition also featured the works of Manet, Augustus Egg and James Tissot. By the time the exhibition closed, it had attracted more than 100,000 visitors.



MORGAN ASHURST KICK-STARTS £485M UPGRADE OF SCHOOLS IN LIVERPOOL



• An artist's impression of the new Alsop High School

Liverpool construction company Morgan Ashurst is celebrating a great start to 2009 as it starts to build the first new school in a £485 million upgrade of schools across the city.

The firm has been appointed by Liverpool City Council to build the new £19 million Alsop High School at Walton and carry out preparatory works for the £40 million upgrade of Cardinal Heenan all-boys and Broughton Hall all-girls Catholic School. It will mean thousands of young people will be able to learn in bright, open and colourful teaching areas – with access to state-of-the-art equipment.

The work has been awarded under the Building Schools for the Future (BSF)

programme – a multi-billion pound government scheme to rebuild or upgrade every secondary school in England.

“We are extremely proud to have been appointed by Liverpool City Council to lead construction of the most prestigious education building programme in the city’s history,” says Morgan Ashurst managing director in the North West, Danny Murray. “We have extensive experience in this sector but it is particularly rewarding to deliver

buildings which will benefit whole communities.”

Councillor Keith Turner, Liverpool City Council’s executive member for children’s services, said: “We are delighted to be working with Morgan Ashurst on these important projects which will benefit generations of young people in Liverpool.”



OUR PROJECTS

Alsop High School

Morgan Ashurst will create a 5,500 sq m new teaching and activity block which will include a dance studio, areas for dining and socialising, classrooms with retractable walls and bright, open atrium areas. It will also refurbish the existing 1926 Grade II listed building to improve teaching facilities for maths and science, as well as provide landscaped areas and remove redundant mobile classrooms.

Cardinal Heenan and Broughton Schools

Morgan Ashurst is also building a new three-storey teaching block at Cardinal Heenan all-boys Catholic school, which at 8,000 sq m, is larger than Liverpool FC’s pitch at Anfield. Most of the existing building – a former orphanage – will be demolished due to its poor state of repair.

Meanwhile, at Broughton Hall all-girls Catholic School, Morgan Ashurst will deliver a three-storey 5,000 sq m teaching block. Its former main teaching block and science department will also be demolished. The two schools will be linked via a three-storey building, which will accommodate the sixth form learning hub.

Building great relationships

More than 70 per cent of Morgan Ashurst’s business comes from repeat clients – the majority of which are public sector organisations. This has allowed the company to develop a strong portfolio of work in the public sector, which is beneficial in the current economic climate.

“By communicating with our clients from the start of a project, we can deliver buildings and facilities tailored to meet their needs, while exceeding the expectations of end users,” explains Morgan Ashurst managing director in the North West Danny Murray. “This is particularly satisfying in schools where children are rewarded with much more inspiring learning environments.”

Morgan Ashurst is one of the biggest education builders in the UK. The firm undertakes a wide range of building contracts from £50,000 projects to highly complex £300 million schemes for the education, health, commercial, leisure, defence and retail sectors. It is part of top-performing UK construction and regeneration group, Morgan Sindall plc.

MORGAN Ashurst

Contact Us

If you would like to discuss a construction project, please call Morgan Ashurst business development director [Colin Fearn](#).

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