

BALTIC hits the road with Travelling Gallery to visit communities far and wide as it marks 20th anniversary year

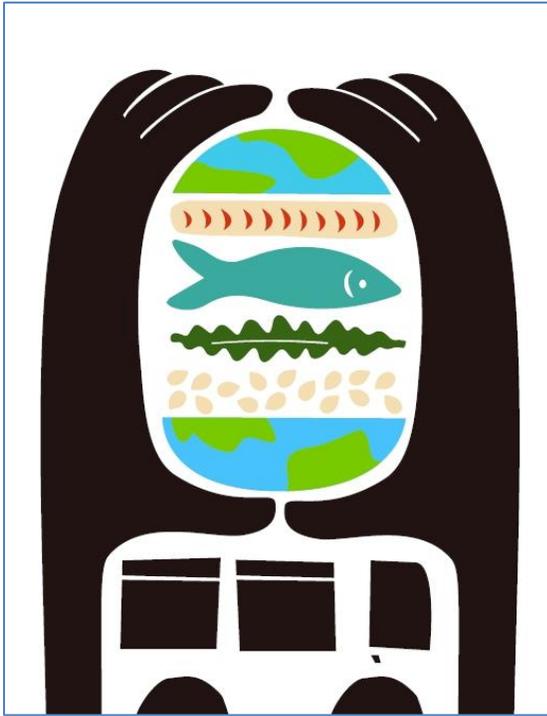


As part of a series of projects marking its twentieth anniversary year, BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead will take a new exhibition to communities across the North East of England in Travelling Gallery, a custom-built mobile art gallery.

Beginning **26 February 2022 in Bensham, Gateshead**, the tour will pack up the whole BALTIC experience; an exhibition, informative talks, artist-led workshops, fun and friendly conversation and free hospitality; and de-camp to locations across the North East region, from Birtley to Blyth, Chopwell to Consett and Alnwick to Ashington.

The mobile exhibition, ***What's for Tea?*** will be housed inside a custom-built mobile art gallery as BALTIC partners with the Scotland-based organisation **Travelling Gallery** to journey to communities far and wide. It will return to base for BALTIC's 20th Birthday Celebration Weekend as the bus parks up outside the gallery on Baltic Square on **Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 July 2022.**

On Saturdays in February through to June, between 12noon-4pm the bus will be stationed at a different community centre, civic project, hospital, garden or car park to host a free programme of artist-led workshops, foraging walks and exhibition tours with



BALTIC's friendly Crew team. There will be free food and drinks, echoing the complimentary / donations-welcome offer in 'Front Room' in the building at BALTIC Gateshead. The activities will be suitable for families, children and young people and all are welcome to turn up, whether the bus is visiting nearby or for anyone who wishes to travel to where it visits.

The exhibition title comes from the age-old question which Northern residents get quizzed on daily by friends, family and partners, "What's for tea?", referring to their main/evening meal of the day.

What's for Tea? will reference BALTIC's building history as a working flour mill, opened

in 1950 by Rank Hovis. It will explore food production and consumption; what we eat, how much we eat and how our eating habits could help combat the climate emergency.

Works by **Isabella Carreras**, **Kara Chin**, Turner Prize-nominated duo **Cooking Sections**, artist collective **Future Farmers**, **Asunción Molinos Gordo**, **Julia Heslop**, **David Lisser** and **Sarah Qaed** will explore sustainable food production and community initiatives through film, installation, sculpture, print and the written word.

Information on the artists' work

Originally a working flour mill opened in 1950 by Rank Hovis, BALTIC's history as a key part of one of Britain's largest milling and bakery companies is explored by Newcastle-based artist **Julia Heslop's** new commission. Heslop's work invites participants to travel back in time by choosing from a selection of grains to be hand-milled into flour. Joseph Rank encouraged research into crustacea farming, seed and cereal production and wheat hybrids. He also pioneered protein production from starch and established a joint venture with Marlow Foods which created the meat substitute product **Quorn**.

David Lisser's work addresses the fine line between appetite Vs disgust when presented with familiarity in both digitally constructed realities and mimicked meat



products. How does particular CGI manipulation in food photography and advertising have a direct impact on the final product of processed food?

Cooking Sections will continue their Turner Prize-nominated project, ***Becoming CLIMAVORE*** that invites people to consider how adapting eating habits has the potential to directly contribute to combatting the climate emergency. In November 2021 BALTIC replaced salmon dishes from its menu with seaweed and shellfish varieties that positively impact increasingly fragile sea ecologies. In *What's for Tea?*, Cooking Sections will continue to connect with local heritage stories which represent and reflect the contemporary aims and benefits behind becoming a CLIMAVORE.



Throughout lockdown many self-soothed with baking, growing plants, cooking and crafts. While these are activities associated with self-care, nostalgia and slowness, they were rejuvenated out of forced circumstances. **Kara Chin's** work *Bread, Hands, House*, explores this new-found reconnection with baking.

Asunción Molinos Gordo's work *Answer Phone* will see visitors aboard the bus and enter into a subversive roleplay in a seemingly never-ending process of answer phone referrals. Spotlighting the unseen admin of small and medium scale farmers, the work considers how contemporary agricultural policies affect farmer's production and craft. Alongside this will be gardening and foraging workshops as BALTIC connects to local farming, foraging and fishing communities.

Artist **Isabella Carreras** worked with participants of BALTIC's ongoing *Art Lab* community project during the various lockdowns on Zoom. They played games, made art and tried new activities around cooking, recipes, play and activism. For this mobile exhibition they will be offering co-designed costumes to accompany games, foraging walks and outdoor exploring that visitors to the bus will be invited to take part in.

Future Farmers will present an amalgamation of heritage grain stories, maps and seed vessels, created in collaboration with Sunderland-based glass artist Kalki Mansel and California based writer Elia Vargas. This will explore contemporary and historical farming methods and stories, gathered from their ambitious cross-continental project *Seed Journey* (2016-17).

NOTES TO EDITORS

Press Contact: Craig Astley craiga@balticmill.com

What's for Tea? Bus Tour Dates

Sat 26 Feb > The Comfrey Project, Windmill Hills Centre, Bensham, Gateshead
Sat 5 March > Pennywell Community Centre, Portsmouth Rd, Sunderland
Sat 12 March > Sunderland Training Education Farm, Keelman's Ln, Sunderland
Sat 19 March > The Forage Community CoffeeHouse, Westerhope Rd, Washington
Sat 26 March > Scotswood Garden, Yewcroft Ave, Newcastle upon Tyne
Sat 2 April > The NewBridge Project, Shieldfield Centre, via Stoddart St), Newcastle
Sat 30 April > Alnwick Community Centre Howling Lane, Alnwick, Northumberland
Sat 7 May > Real Deal within Ashington Life Centre, Station Rd, Birtley
Sat 14 May > Blyth, Northumberland. Venue TBC
Sat 21 May > Citizens House, Station Rd, Consett
Sat 28 May > The Winlaton Centre, North St, Winlaton
Sat 4 June > Birtley Community Centre Ravensworth Road
Sat 11 June > Friends of Chopwell Park Pavilion, Gateshead

Sat 16 / Sun 17 July > BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art, Gateshead Quayside
Visit www.baltic.art/whatsfortea for further venue details.

About BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art

BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art creates and produces exhibitions, events and learning opportunities which explore the role of artists from across the world. Located on Gateshead quayside, BALTIC has 2,600 square metres of exhibition space making it the UK's largest gallery dedicated to the art and artists of today and tomorrow.

BALTIC welcomes visitors free of charge, all year round to experience art, talks, performance and activities in a fully accessible building. Over 8 million have walked through its doors since opening in 2002. Beyond its bricks, BALTIC connects and exchange with communities, individuals and groups exploring creativity, social connections and wider understanding of the world. In 2022, BALTIC will present a series of projects, celebrations and events to mark its twentieth anniversary.

www.baltic.art
[#balticgateshead](https://twitter.com/balticgateshead)



[balticgateshead](https://www.instagram.com/balticgateshead)



Supported by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



About Travelling Gallery

Travelling Gallery is a contemporary art gallery in a bus, a national service with the exceptional ability to reach communities and people across Scotland. Travelling Gallery recognises that art can change lives and we create fair conditions and remove barriers to allow access and engagement to audiences in their own familiar surroundings.

The gallery space offers an open and welcoming environment for people of all ages, background, and abilities to discover and enjoy contemporary art. Over the past forty years, Travelling Gallery has brought innovative exhibitions to every part of Scotland reaching hundreds of thousands of visitors and school pupils. Travelling Gallery is a 'not for profit' organisation, regularly funded by Creative Scotland and supported by the City of Edinburgh.

 [travellinggallery](http://www.travellinggallery.com)

• EDINBURGH •
THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

www.travellinggallery.com

@travgallery (facebook and twitter)

@travellinggallery (instagram)