

Press release For immediate publication

Post Brexit Preston: The Caravan Gallery Preston Pride of Place Project: *Imagination & Inquiry* Seminar and Book Launch

The Harris Museum, Art Gallery & Library is hosting a unique event exploring Preston's city and its people now and in the future on Wednesday 22nd November from 5.30 – 7.30pm. Tickets are free but must be booked in advance at www.harrismuseum.eventbrite.co.uk or at the Museum shop.

The University of Central Lancashire (UCLan) will welcome people to a seminar as part of its Imagination & Inquiry series, on how artists can contribute to a sense of place and identity and what post-Brexit Preston will look like. The seminar will take place in the Harris' current Streets of Change exhibition which explores how the city has changed since the time of Victorian artist Edwin Beattie.

On the same evening The Caravan Gallery will launch their colourful and entertaining new book on the Preston Pride of Place Project, when they occupied an empty shop in Preston city centre and used their photographs to encourage visitors to add their thoughts, opinions and observations. The result was a refreshingly honest and thought-provoking exhibition about Preston in all its multifaceted glory. Stories, memories and experiences are recorded in the new book which is available on the night at the special price of £6.00.

There will also be the opportunity to take part in a discussion

on art and place with contributions from The Caravan
Gallery, the In Situ art collective, and Community Gateway.

For people unable to attend the event in the evening there is a chance to meet Jan Williams and Chris Teasdale from The Caravan Gallery in the gallery from 3.30pm.

Notes for the Editor

Admission: Free. Tickets must be pre-booked and are available from <u>Harris Eventbrite</u>. For any enquiries contact the Museum Shop.

The A5 book has 120 pages and is in full colour. RRP price is £7.50 with a special launch day price of £6.00.

The Preston Pride of Place Project

The Preston Pride of Place Project was an alternative visitor information centre where people could share stories images, words and opinions about the city and contribute to an ever growing exhibition about Preston. The Caravan Gallery is collaboration between artists and photographers Jan Williams and Chris Teasdale to document the reality and surreality of the way we live today.

- Paul Kelly is the Community Empowerment Manager from Community Gateway
- Paul Hartley is a founding director of In-Situ, a socially engaged art organisation based in Pendle, East Lancashire.
- William Titley is a member of In-Situ and Senior Lecturer, Course Leader- MA Fine Art: UCLan
- Dr Julian Manley is a Research Fellow at UCLan and a member of the Psychosocial Research Unit

All media enquiries to:

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Web: http://www.harrismuseum.org.uk

FB: www.facebook.com/HarrisMuseumandArtGallery

Web: www.uclan.ac.uk/pru

FB: https://www.facebook.com/uclan.pru

Venue: Harris Museum, Art Gallery and Library, Market Square, Preston in the Discover Preston Gallery PR1 2PP (Preston's Market Quarter, 5 minute walk from Preston train Station)

The Harris Museum, Art Gallery & Library, Preston is one of the leading museums in the North West and features contemporary art, fine art, decorative art and historic collections of national significance.

Located in the heart of Preston in a stunning Grade 1 listed building, it hosts a wide range of exhibitions and events and is fast gaining a reputation for its innovative and ambitious contemporary art programme. The Harris is a major tourist attraction, welcoming over 300,000 visitors per year.

Preston

Located in the heart of Lancashire and the North West and with over 1,000 years of history Preston is a city that has much to offer. To find out more information about Preston please visit www.prestonguildcity.co.uk