



Date: 16th November 2009. For Immediate Release.

### **URBAN**

**Exhibition runs until 16<sup>th</sup> Dec, The Vitrium, Merchant Taylors' Girls School.**

Merchant Taylors' are delighted to announce their latest Vitreum Arts Centre exhibition entitled URBAN. The exhibition represents a joint venture for Merchants' with Liverpool's leading art consultancy & gallery, dot-art, which acts for a large number of the region's artists. Lucy Byrne, the founder of dot-art, shares the commitment to excellence and success that is synonymous with the Merchant Taylors' philosophy.

This month there will be three distinguished, Liverpool-based artists displaying their art at the Vitreum, with each of their works reflecting differing and enthralling aspects of the 'urban' theme. The new exhibition comes as a gritty departure from the scenic landscapes of Elspeth Hamilton who exhibited earlier in the year and, most recently, the sinuous and organic sculptures of Susan Meyerhoff Sharples who, in her own words said her hybrid forms suggested a glimpse of evolutionary fantasy.

The current artists include printmaker Jane Adams, whose collection looks at some of the wonderful features of Liverpool's architecture, particularly those which are disappearing or are significant to the lives of ordinary people. She says: "My inspiration comes from my journeys through the city. It is the architecture, humble or grand, and its obvious connection to the past, which ignites my curiosity. Our personal histories are anchored in our geography and a snapshot of a particular place can spark strong memories and emotions."

Also featured is Nicole Renée, a self-taught painter and photographer whose work is inspired by anything broken, chipped, rusted, and cracked, especially old English walls. She often uses natural materials, such as sand, dirt, and rust, in the creation of her paintings.

The third visiting artist Stephen Collett is now winding up a busy 2009 which has seen him exhibit his work in London, Paris, Berlin, Philadelphia, New York and Shanghai. About his work, 'Cities II', he said: "I have focused on the movement of light through an urban landscape encapsulating the mood of a city; this was achieved by using a loose brush to infer contrast rather than a laborious attention to detail."



The exhibition marks the end of a year which has seen the brand new space at Merchant Taylors' Girls' School utilised as an exciting and expanding internal resource for the students, with dance, poetry and music performances, as well as witnessed seven local artists, some of international acclaim, display their work. Artists have held workshops and talks to further extend the students' learning.

Mr Gill, Director of Art, said: "The studio gallery provides a unique opportunity for our students to be inspired by the work of contemporary artists, across a range of media including 2D painting, sculpture, installations or video performance." Last month, as a consequence of the growing reputation of the Arts Centre, the Schools also announced the affiliation of City of Culture Cityscape artist Ben Johnson, who visited the Girls' School in 2007, as Sponsor and Patron of the Vitreum.

The URBAN exhibition is running at Merchant Taylors' Girls' School Vitreum Arts Centre on Liverpool Road until 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009. For further information please contact the School on 0151 932 2414.

-ENDS -

**For more details, please contact:**

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**Notes to editors.**

dot-art is a Liverpool based art gallery and consultants which exists to make affordable original art accessible to all and help artists promote and sell their work.

We offer a comprehensive, flexible and affordable service to our corporate clients, from consultancy and sourcing to framing and hanging. Work can be acquired on a purchase, commission or rental basis, and can be built into wider marketing, branding or CSR objectives using a variety of bespoke approaches, including exhibitions, artist talks, promotional launches or events and staff workshops.

dot-art functions in a unique fashion, operating a membership system which gives artists a range of benefits including their own web page, exhibition and promotional opportunities, access to sales and rental avenues, as well as help and advice, networking events and discounts on art supplies and framing.

See [www.dot-art.com](http://www.dot-art.com) for more information.