

# **People and cranes is a performative response to the social and political issues created by Manchester's rapid growth.**

**Meet The Neighbours  
The Weekend**

Saturday 9 November 2019  
Manchester City Centre  
and Sachas Hotel

meetthenighbours.net

**People  
and  
cranes**

QUARANTINE

## **Schedule**

### **12 noon: Excursions**

The day begins in scattered locations across the city, meeting neighbours old and new, and visiting places sometimes unseen that reveal unique perspectives on life in Manchester.

### **3pm: Encounters**

We come together for an afternoon of performative installations, future-gazing provocations and discussions that tease out the issues surrounding how Manchester is being shaped and the effect urban development is having on the people who live here.

### **6.30pm: Dinner**

and reflection on the day

### **9pm: Noisy Neighbours**

Continuing the spirit of the day, People and cranes ends with an evening of music reflecting a slice of Manchester's current live scene today.

Pearl City | NoTTwins | Sound Of Thieves | DJ Yaito



**Twenty years ago, a few thousand people lived in Manchester City Centre. Today, there are more than 65,000 – and like the cranes, it keeps going up.**

Manchester is a prime example of today's fast-changing cities – a city with an industrial heritage long in decline, that has been revived as the heart of England's Northern Powerhouse and a cultural hotspot. But as cranes populate the skyline, there's been a visible rise in the number of homeless people sleeping rough on the streets below. The urban landscape is swelling and shifting to meet the needs of a booming population, but who is steering that change? And are everyone's needs being met equally?

Reflecting on the politics of development, the changing nature of neighbourliness, and how we think about and plan for the future, People and cranes creates a complex subjective mapping of the city and its inhabitants. It is an experiment in how we relate to one another, share experiences and exchange ideas.

This weekend marks the end of a three-year artistic project called Meet the Neighbours, which has been inviting artists into the heart of rapidly developing cities in the UK, France, Poland, the Netherlands and Morocco.

Curated by Quarantine and Florian Malzacher



# Encounters



## Remodelling the city

Led by urban designers Urbed, create an imagined version of a future Manchester. What should an ideal future neighbourhood be – and how should it feel?



## A reading room. Part one: The Clairvoyant

What will your life in the city be by 2029? A glimpse of the future with professional psychic Angela Welsh. Readings last for up to 10 minutes. Please make an orderly queue and take a ticket. Your number will be called.



## Lip service

A programme of 10-minute lectures from the sofa, followed by short Q&A. Check the adjacent programme for times and speakers – or sign up to deliver your own...



## The central debate

A round-table public conversation about the complex and contested issues arising from the rapid development of the city. Changing topics published at the table. Take a seat to join the conversation or listen from the sidelines. A different host every hour.



## Walking backwards

Renny O'Shea maps the experiences that shape the identity of the city through you, the people who live and work here... Engrave your own miniature plaque to permanently mark a moment.



## So much to answer for

Not just a silent disco – a soundtrack for Manchester. Listen hard and dance like nobody is watching...



## A little give and take

Kam Patel and her mum Jyoti teach Gujarati cooking in Sachas' kitchen. Explore how recipes change through migration and how new cuisines help shape a sense of place.



## Future builders

A pile of bricks. A city to be built. A child's eye view on what might be possible. All ages welcome.



## The writing's on the wall: a precarious occupation

The incongruity of tents in the room references the freedom of outdoor camping and festivals and perhaps also the tent cities occupied by refugees and the recent homeless camp outside Manchester Town Hall. Take a moment to sit inside. Maybe write some thoughts on the walls of your temporary refuge.



## How to stand your ground

Artist Jez Dolan has transported soil from Bridgewater Community Garden – recently saved from development. He invites you to make wildflower bombs. One for the garden, one for your neighbour?



## United City?

Referee Peggy Manning (The Public Meeting) poses tricky questions around external investment in the city's football teams and their links to property development.



## A reading room. Part two: Between the lines?

Take a seat and a book and a moment with some texts that talk about urban change and the future we're building.



## Ladies of the press

Ladies of the Press will document and report on everything they see – finishing with the publication of a magazine created live during the afternoon. Join them to add your own contribution.



# Excursions

## 1 The longest-serving resident

A visit to the flat of Peggy Kynaston, who has lived in Manchester City Centre for the past 39 years – longer than anyone else we've met.

## 2 Manchester's newest Factory

A hard-hat visit to the building site where the new Factory arts centre is being constructed with Capital Director Emma King.

## 3 New Islington

A visit to the Urban Splash development that is transforming New Islington, with Marketing Director Orla McGrath.

## 4 Ancoats Dispensary

A visit to a Victorian hospital with Linda Carver, who has been leading the campaign against its demolition.

## 5 A place of asylum

A tour through Manchester with asylum seekers Barly Koyangbwa and Évelyne Mbuluku sharing their experiences of how to survive in this city without money or leave to remain.

## 6 Strangeways

A walk around the perimeter of Strangeways Prison with Simon Ruding, Director of TIPP (Theatre in Prison and Probation), looking at the complex juxtaposition of wealth, development, crime and poverty in the area.

## 7 Bees on the roof

A visit to the beehives that live on top of Manchester Cathedral with Cath Charnock, resident beekeeper – and the 50,000 resident bees.

## 8 Friendly Anglers

A trip to meet Mike Duddy, Chairman of Salford Friendly Anglers to talk about fishing, the politics of the waterways and what is happening to the River Irwell in these times of change.

## 9 Accessing the city

A walk with Mark Todd, Senior Consultant at Access All Areas, looking at how access needs are designed in and out of cities.

## 10 Public space

A walk with Morag Rose from the Loiterers Resistance Movement looking at the politics of occupying public space, especially as a woman.

## 11 52 Oldham Street

A trip to meet Mark Gaffney from Coffee4Craig, a charity that holds a daily drop-in service for homeless people.

## 12 Coming out?

A visit to Manchester's gay village with Andy Westle exploring queer identity through a daytime night out.

## 13 Sound of the city

A walk around the Northern Quarter with Graham Massey from 808 State revealing the city's musical heritage.



**Dr Ransford A. Acheampong** is Presidential Academic Fellow in Future Cities at the Manchester Urban Institute and the Department of Planning and Environmental Management, University of Manchester. He researches about transport and mobility in cities, with particular interest in how new and emerging transport technologies and services, such as autonomous vehicles, car-sharing and Mobility-as-a-Service will impact cities, people and the environment.

**Aditya Chakraborty** is senior economics commentator for the Guardian, where he writes a regular column and reports from around Britain and the world. In December 2017, he won the British Journalism Award for Comment Journalist of the year. His work has also won a Social Policy Association award, a Harold Wincott prize for Business Journalism and he has been a finalist for an Orwell Prize for journalism. Before joining the Guardian in 2007 he worked for the BBC. He is a regular broadcaster, appearing on *Newsnight* and *Question Time*.

**Rachael Gibbons** studied Politics at University and quickly realised that her energy was best placed in the social change sector. She spent three years working at RECLAIM, a youth leadership and social change organisation working with working class young people and now works for Tenants Union UK, supporting tenants of social and private housing to campaign on renters' rights.

**The Ladies of the Press\*** are a multidisciplinary artist duo that re-imagines the role of the publisher and publicist into a theatrical persona. The duo – Ana Čavić and Renée O'Drobinak – uses publishing as a medium, making publishing a performance: the work is participatory and interactive, exploring notions of 'the press' with the end product in book form, printed ephemera and performing to camera for live broadcast. Notable past commissions include: BMW Tate Live, Camden Borough Council, Sexology Season at The Whitworth Manchester, Sluice Biennial and Magazine.

## Quarantine

Quarantine is an ensemble of artists and producers who have been making work in Manchester and Salford for 21 years. United by an interest in what it means to be alive right now, they have achieved international acclaim for work that is intellectually rigorous, radical in form, and unique in character. Past works include the epic quartet of live performance and film *Summer*, *Autumn*, *Winter*, *Spring*, and the ongoing, monthly curvy and conversation event *No Such Thing*, which has been shortlisted for Best Event at Manchester Culture Awards 2019.

Quarantine are Associate Company at HOME and Associate Artists at Live at LICA.

## Florian Malzacher

Florian Malzacher is a performing arts curator, dramaturge and writer. He was co-curator of steirischer herbst festival (Austria) from 2006-12 as well as Artistic Director of Impulse Theater Festival (Germany) from 2013-17. His curatorial work includes the congress *Artist Organisations International* (HAU Berlin, 2015) and the performance series *Sense of Possibility* (St. Petersburg, 2017). His latest publications include 'Not Just a Mirror: Looking for the Political Theatre of Today' (2015); 'Empty Stages, Crowded Flats. Performativity as Curatorial Strategy' (2017); and 'The Life and Work of Nature Theater of Oklahoma' (2019).

[www.qtine.com](http://www.qtine.com) | @QtineMcr | Facebook/QtineMcr

**Andreas Lang** is co-founder of public works, a non-profit critical design practice that occupies the terrain between art, architecture and research. public works aims to re-work spatial, social and economic opportunities towards citizen-driven development and improved civic life. Andreas Lang has taught Architecture since 2001 at institutions including the Architectural Association, Sheffield University, Royal College of Art and Umeå School of Architecture in Sweden. He currently is Course Leader of the MARCH Architecture at Central Saint Martins College of Art and Design.

**Dr Sibylle Peters** is a researcher, artist and theatre director, based in Hamburg. She is co-founder and Artistic Director of FUNDUS THEATER / Theatre of Research in Hamburg. She is co-founder and -speaker of the PhD programmes Assemblies and Participation and Performing Citizenship and was head of the Heterotopia Graduate Program at Folkwang University of the Arts. She devises projects of participatory art-based research such as *Animals of Manchester (including humanz)*, Manchester International Festival 2019, a project of Theatre of Research and Live Art Development Agency.

**Sarah Vanhee** is a Belgian artist, performer and author. Her interdisciplinary work travels between civil spaces and the art world. She has worked in open fields, prisons, private living rooms, theatres, and in corporate meeting rooms. Her recent works include *collected screams* (lecture-performance), *Unforetold* (stage performance), *The Making of Justice* (film), *Oblivion* (stage performance), *Untitled* (meetings in private houses), *Lecture For Every One* (series of intrusions), *The C-Project* (artist novel and work in public space).

Concept and co-curator – Richard Gregory

Concept and co-curator – Florian Malzacher

Excursions co-curator – Sarah Hunter

Encounters co-curator – Kate Daley

Dramaturg – Renny O'Shea

Designer – Simon Banham

Producer – Ali Dunican

Production managers – Greg Akehurst & Andrew Crofts

Technician – Ben Thompson

Video editor – Lisa Mattocks

Communications – Sue Fletcher, Frances Richens

Keynote speaker – Sarah Vanhee

Reflection – Andreas Lang

Ladies of the Press\* – Ana Čavić and Renée O'Drobinak

Excursions hosts: Yatie Aziz; Bentley Crudginton; Kate Daley; Jez Dolan; Ben Dunn; Sarah Hunter; Florian Malzacher; Peggy Manning; Renny O'Shea; Vicky Payne; Jyoti Patel; Kamini Patel; Angela Welsh

Video provocations: Dr Ransford A. Acheampong; Aditya Chakraborty; Rachael Gibbons; Sibylle Peters

Excursion hosts: Linda Carver; Cath Charnock; Mike Duddy; Mark Gaffney; Emma King; Barly Koyangbwa & Evelyne Mbuluku; Peggy Kynaston; Graham Massey; Orla McGrath; Morag Rose; Simon Rudding; Mark Todd; Andrew Westle

Guides: Helen Bambrough; Juliet Davies; Vincent Dugdale; Michael Holland; Jim Horan; Joan Horan; Sarah Knowles; James Monaghan; Josh Partington; Leentje Van de Cruys; Jez Ward; Niki Woods; Miriam Wild; Anne Worthington

Design – Studio Dotto