

## Portavilion Symposium

### Parked Art: Designing Art for Common Space

Friday 18 July, 2008 9.30 am - 4pm.

Design Museum, Shad Thames, London, SE1 2YD

Tickets £10 (£5 concession) lunch not included. Tickets include entry to the Design Museum.

Booking essential at [www.designmuseum.org](http://www.designmuseum.org) 020 7940 8783

This interdisciplinary event links two major cultural activities: UP Projects' **Portavilion**, a public art initiative that presents a series temporary artists' structures in Central London's Parks from June to October 2008 and **The Art of Common Space**, produced by Gunpowder Park, which aims to generate new thinking and influence the development of our common spaces through creative exploration.

**Parked Art** is a one day discussion forum exploring the possibilities for temporary public art projects, the relationship between art and architecture, and the social and environmental value that art can create for public spaces. It will generate inclusive dialogue and discussion from an interdisciplinary audience who share the responsibilities for shaping our public realm as physical and social spaces. Speakers and audience will include artists; curators and commissioners; local authority officers from parks & green spaces, culture & arts, and planning & regeneration; biodiversity specialists and ecologists; anthropologists; students; funders; the press & media.

**Parked Art** will be chaired by **Fred Manson** OBE, Associate Director of Thomas Heatherwick Studio, and an expert in urban regeneration known for his rigorous and challenging views on the cultural, social and economic impact art can bring to public spaces. **Emma Underhill**, UP Projects Director and Curator of Portavilion, **Amanda Smethurst**, Arts Service Manager Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and **Nick Biddle**, Head of Regents Park will introduce the vision, themes and realities of delivering the Portavilion project; **Louise Trodden**, Head of Art in the Open, represents London's advocacy body for art in the public realm; artist and architect collective **Public Works** will present their practice; and **Jes Fernie**, writer and curator speaks on artists interventions in the public realm.

**Tony Beckwith**, Creative Development Director for Gunpowder Park leads the afternoon session to focus on The Art of Common Space as a new concept for creative exploration. Tony will question the present and future delivery of our open spaces, through positioning creative practitioners and interdisciplinary working practices at local and county level. **Tracey McNulty**, Arts and Culture Development for Barking and Dagenham will share her complex responsibilities for arts and cultural strategies in one of the most challenging and ambitious regeneration initiatives and brownfield developments in London. Performer and poet **Mark Gwynne Jones**, will be attending, sourcing material for his new Art of Common Space commission to devise a performance based dialogue in response to the Portavilion projects on Saturday 6th September.

During the lunch break, join **C-12 Dance Theatre** for a free performance in and around Toby Paterson's "Powder Blue Orthogonal Pavilion" in Potters Fields Park (next to City Hall). Tickets to Parked Art also include entry to the Design Museum and current exhibitions Richard Rogers + Architects and Tim Walker.

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

[www.gunpowderpark.org](http://www.gunpowderpark.org)

## Notes to Editors:

**Parked Art** is produced by UP Projects in partnership with the Design Museum, The Art of Common Space, a Gunpowder Park project and is hosted by London Parks and Green Spaces Forum at City Hall.

**Portavilion** is a portable public art project that will occupy a trail of high profile parks across Central London throughout the summer 2008. A group of highly acclaimed international artists including **Dan Graham in Holland Park**, **Toby Paterson in Potters Fields Park** and **Annika Eriksson in Regents Park** will present their own temporary 'pavilion' specially created for a park environment as a celebration of London's most treasured public spaces. **Portavilion** is one of the most ambitious contemporary art projects to take place in London's public realm. Its multiple sites will form a trail across a range of Central London boroughs, which can be navigated by bike, on foot or public transport. Portavilion is an UP Projects production curated by Emma Underhill [www.portavilion.com](http://www.portavilion.com)

**The Art of Common Space** is producing new work by artists Simon Faithfull, Usman Haque and Rob Davis, Pilot Publishing and Proboscis to explore the common space in our 21<sup>st</sup> century multicultural society through experimental site specific projects at Gunpowder Park and in collaboration with New York based organisations CivWorld and Demos, The Art of Common Space is producing a series of dialogues with international cultural, political and religious leaders. [www.gunpowderpark.org](http://www.gunpowderpark.org)