



ART IN MANUFACTURING



SUPERSLOWWAY

**A National Festival of Making
and Super Slow Way Project**

Welcome

Art in Manufacturing, a collaboration between the National Festival of Making and Super Slow Way pairs artists and makers with manufacturers and domestic artisans; giving artists access to specialist machinery and heritage craft techniques to create work together that now appears across Blackburn.

The programme is made possible by the manufacturing communities for which Lancashire is known, from space age nanotechnologies to those where the human hand is still king. Workforces have innate creativity and the relationships formed are integral to the making process, with reciprocal ideas, solutions and inspirations being shared from the workforce to artist and vice versa.

The continuum of history runs powerfully through the process and the results; Martyn Ware will open the doors to Northern Soul venue; Tony's Ballroom, where he'll tell a people's history through an immersive three-dimensional soundscape, while a huge, now redundant, industrial machine invented in Darwen in 1838 will land in the street as part of Sarah Hardacre's work, *Grace*. In Art in Manufacturing, heritage is expressed in contemporary and relevant forms through the imagination of contemporary artists, the best storytellers of all.

Following on from 2017's film commission, 'Front Room Factories', this year we revisited the Lancashire community with theatre producer and artist, Dawinder Bansal. Dawinder has recruited domestic makers to open their doors and share their traditions to present *The Making of a South Asian Wedding*. Front Rooms, kitchen tables and, in a great gesture of hospitality and generosity, South Asian weddings have been attended by Dawinder in the weeks leading to the Festival. Her belief in the power of making centres on its ability to unite people through shared experience; this a celebration of British Asian culture and of all making cultures.

For one weekend in Blackburn, we can enjoy the fruits of shared connections and artistic opportunity through these joyful and ingenious artworks. Taking inspiration from our industrious forebears, we hope Art in Manufacturing has a deeper impact than the experience of one weekend; helping to shape our future cultural capacity through the exploration of our glorious heritage and continuing to *make* opportunities for our creative instincts to play out.

Contents

- 4 SARAH HARDACRE + SURFACE PRINT
- 6 MARTYN WARE + SILENTNIGHT, WEC GROUP, CHERRYTREE BAKERY, GRAHAM & BROWN & DARWEN TERRACOTTA
- 8 HANNAH FOX + CARDBOARD BOX COMPANY
- 10 DAWINDER BANSAL + HOME BASED MAKERS OF LANCASHIRE
- 12 NICOLA ELLIS + RITHERDON
- 14 LIZ WEST + GRAHAM AND BROWN
- 16 DAVID MURPHY + WEC GROUP

Throughout the summer, **Creative Lancashire** present a series of events that explore the practice of artists and manufacturers from Season One & Two of Art in Manufacturing. Find out more about the *Conversations in Creativity* programme and other talks and events at festivalofmaking.co.uk/conference

Art in Manufacturing is made possible with funding from Arts Council England, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council and Heritage Lottery Fund.

With thanks to the manufacturing workforces of Lancashire for their commitment, creativity and ambition to collaboratively make sculpture, film, performance, soundscapes and installations with internationally celebrated artists, at The National Festival of Making.



SUPERSLOWWAY

HEMINGWAY
DESIGN

DECO
PUBLIQUE

Perspective source.

Design by SourceCreative.co.uk



Supporting public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Funding raised by
The National Lottery
and awarded by the Heritage Lottery Fund



Find out more at FestivalofMaking.co.uk

The Museum of Wallpaper

SURFACE PRINT
MAKERS OF FINE GRADE WALLPAPERS

ARTIST

Sarah Hardacre

MANUFACTURER

Surface Print

LOCATION

20 Town Hall Street &
King William Street

DAYS/TIME

Sat & Sun
11am–6pm

A TITANIC PIECE
OF MACHINERY IS
TRANSFIGURED
WHILST INDUSTRIAL
HISTORIES ARE
INTERWOVEN
IN HARDACRE'S
AMBITIOUS WORK.

THE PROJECT

Five tonnes of industrial machinery appears in the centre of Blackburn as part of Sarah Hardacre's ambitious project. The disused Surface Print wallpaper machine - invented in Darwen in 1838 - has been repurposed as sculpture by the artist with the addition of a symbolic yellow pigment. Grace - so called after the wife of Charles Potter, one of the pioneers of the original Surface Print machine - is a startling feat of reappropriation, rich in historical reference and suggestion, investigating domestication, power and a gendered world via Charlotte Perkins Gilman's groundbreaking text 'The Yellow Wallpaper' and Lancashire's proud manufacturing heritage.

This dialogue is continued in her exhibition, The Museum of Wallpaper through archival images, objects and performance. The two form a fascinating journey into the industrial and social histories of Surface Printing and manufacture of wallpaper.

MANUFACTURER

Surface Print are known as the industry leaders for manufacturing the highest quality, innovative wallpapers. The fourth-generation family-run company form a proud part of Lancashire's storied heritage of wallpaper printing and have, over the past three decades produced wallpapers for a host of influential & well-known brands. Building on the success of Surface Print, Managing Director James Watson and his sister, Abigail Watson, launched their own brand of luxury wallpapers, 1838 Wallcoverings. *The factory blends traditional knowledge and craftsmanship with cutting edge design and innovation to create high end, luxury wallcoverings.*

1838wallcoverings.com & surfaceprint.com

ARTIST

Sarah Hardacre is a visual artist and printmaker and is currently Fine Art Facilitator on the BA(hons) Fine Art course at University Centre Blackburn College. With a portfolio that spans collage, silkscreen print, large-scale installations, murals, performance and projections, Sarah's work investigates the development of the Welfare State and the histories of the Working Class and Women's Rights movements. Her work is regularly exhibited internationally and is included in the public collections of the British Museum and British Council and private collections worldwide including Damien Hirst's Murderme collection in London.

Church of Rare Souls

ARTIST

Martyn Ware &
Illustrious Company

MANUFACTURER

Selected
Manufacturers

LOCATION

Tony's Empress Ballroom
10C Town Hall Street

DAYS/TIME

Sat & Sun, 11am–6pm
(30-minute session,
book at the venue)

AN EXCLUSIVE
INVITATION TO
COMMUNE WITH THE
SONGS AND STORIES
OF WARE'S HAUNTING
SOUNDSCAPE IN THE
DECAYING SPLENDOUR
TONY'S EMPRESS
BALLROOM.



CAFE & BAR PRICES		
BUM	ER	£2.10
LAG		£2.30
BREEZER		2.00
PI		2.00
P	EW	2.00
N	W E	2.00
TU	EIS R	.00
B C		2.00
DOV	R	1.50
LIBER		1.50
I NES		1.00
LOW J		2.00

THE PROJECT

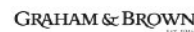
'Don't touch a thing.' So Martyn Ware instructed our producers when he first stepped into the abandoned grandeur of Tony's Empress Ballroom. The legendary home of Northern Soul all-nighters has lain nearly untouched since its closure in the 1990s, preserving the creaking dance floors and lipstick-marked glasses of those heady nights.

Northern Soul classics from the Ballroom's heyday whisper through Ware's immersive three dimensional soundscape, intertwined with human voices and industrial sounds taken from the factory floor. Driving towards a sonic conclusion, the haunting piece comments on the 'work hard, play hard' cultures of Northern towns where work ruled the week and dancing ruled the weekend.

Join Ware & Illustrious Company and commune with the Rare Souls to the sounds and stories of the workers, before the ballroom comes unexpectedly to life...

MANUFACTURER

With thanks to the manufacturers and workforces at:



ARTIST

Martyn Ware is the founder of both the Human League and Heaven 17. He has featured as record producer and artist on recordings totalling over 50 million sales worldwide - producing Tina Turner, Terence Trent D'Arby, Chaka Khan, Erasure, Marc Almond and Mavis Staples.

Since founding Illustrious Company with fellow synth pioneer Vince Clarke in 1990, Ware has developed and consulted on sound installation for a vast variety of projects and clients including the Venice Biennale and The National Portrait Gallery, London.

illustriouscompany.co.uk

The Cardboard Cinema



ARTIST

Hannah Fox

MANUFACTURER

Cardboard Box Company

LOCATION

The Cathedral Crypt,
Blackburn Cathedral

DAYS/TIME

Sat & Sun
11am–6pm



DEEP IN THE DEPTHS OF THE CRYPT OUR ARTIST BRINGS THE GOLDEN AGE OF CINEMA BACK TO LIFE IN LAVISH CARDBOARD DETAIL.



THE PROJECT

Collect your cardboard ticket from our cardboard-clad usherette, fill your cardboard popcorn cone and enter Hannah Fox's world, where a delicate handmade animation flickers in the warmth of a fully realised Cardboard Cinema.

Harking back to the splendid and whimsical wonders of a bygone era - Blackburn once housed an impressive fifteen cinemas - Hannah Fox and the Cardboard Box Company have recrafted a cinema straight out of the golden age. Their installation is suffused with charming detail and dreamy otherworldliness, both intimately immersive and wonderfully playful - it's a cinematic experience like no other.

MANUFACTURER

Cardboard Box Company return to the project after last year's incredible Chromatogram installation. Shortlisted for the Telegraph's SME of the Year award, the firm designs, prints and manufactures corrugated board for industrial and retail packaging solutions. Their state-of-the-art plant has seen fast growth in recent years through an incredible story of investment and invention. Whilst creating more than 25,000 solutions for customers, they remain an inventive, creative and people-centric company, committed to the local area.

thecardboardbox.co.uk

ARTIST

A freelance visual artist who delights in transforming the familiar, Hannah Fox produces imaginative, atmospheric and playful installations, large-scale projections and performances worldwide. After coming of age on the road with the celebrated arts company Welfare State International she worked as a designer, performer and core member of the radical Dutch Theatre Collective Dogtroep before setting up her own studio in rural Cumbria.

hannahonthehill.co.uk



The Making of a South Asian Wedding

ARTIST

Dawinder Bansal

MANUFACTURER

Home Based Makers
of Lancashire

LOCATION

Blackburn Market,
Church Street

DAYS/TIME

Sat & Sun
11am–6pm

THE PROJECT

Dawinder wants to take you back the 80s, when people had time for each other and time to make. Step into the home of a South Asian family in Britain where people are busy getting ready for something - a wedding! And it's a big one: uncles and aunts are cooking celebration samosas, friends and neighbours are throwing a Mehndi party, the whole community has turned out, making everything imaginable - sweets, decorations, garlands and music. Share the skills and the experience of the big day with a genuine 1980s celebration of culture, making and connection.

Dawinder embedded herself in the local community to unearth the finest artisan makers in Blackburn, collaborating with Masterchef's Moonira Hinglotwala, local pie-queen (and festival favourite) Zainab Bilal and scores of others in a spectacular celebration of British Asian culture. They come together in a fully realised 1980s living room and wedding reception hall in an astonishing explosion of sights, flavours, crafts and home-baked humanity. This is a festival experience you need to be part of.

IMMERSE
YOURSELF IN THE
SIGHTS, SCENTS
AND SKILLS OF THE
MAGICAL WEDDING
CELEBRATIONS
OF DAWINDER
BANSAL'S
CHILDHOOD.

MAKERS

Weddings are a celebration of people coming together - it's the union of families, friends and community. With thanks to the making talent of Lancashire:

- Moonira Hinglotwala - BBC Masterchef Finalist 2018
- Gita Mistry - Winner, BBC Best Cook 2009
- Riff Howarth - Professional make-up artist
- Nadeem Yaseen - Poshak, est. 1965
- Bilal Ibrahim Patel - Designer and owner of Zefaith Haute Couture
- Lata Kotecha - Wedding decorations maker
- Ashok Chudasama - Wedding photographer
- Gossip Beauty Salon
- Halima Hussain
- Aashiyana Arts
- Gita Mistry
- Award winning Dhamak Punjabana Di Dance Group

ARTIST

Passionate about telling hidden stories to amaze, entertain, inspire and provoke audiences, Dawinder Bansal is an award-winning theatre producer and artist with a track-record of skilfully weaving cultural heritage and contemporary stories into successful performances. Her production for the Southbank Centre, Mother Tongues from Farther Lands, was a finalist for Best Stage Production 2017 in ITV's Asian Media Awards.

dawinderbansal.com

Chemistry and Magic Straight Down the Line

ARTIST

Nicola Ellis

MANUFACTURER

Ritherdon

LOCATION

The Gatehouse,
Market Street Lane
(corner of Radio Lancashire)

DAYS/TIME

Sat & Sun
11am–6pm

THE PROJECT

Ritherdon's 20th Century production of magic tricks is shrouded in secrecy. The mysterious relationship between company founder Percy Ritherdon and Chung Ling Soo, the American illusionist whose fatal encounter with a magic bullet trick so shocked 1918 Britain, has found reflection in Nicola Ellis' deep residency with the company. Like the Chung Ling Soo, the artist has subverted factory processes for the production of something bespoke, producing a series of powder-coated 'paintings' aping the presence of the fabricators hand, while leaving the final mark of creation to the automated machines of manufacturing.

A vanishing act also features, as the left-behind shapes present in sheets of metal after factory cutting take their place in Ellis' sculptural ambitions, creating a solid structure that gives flesh to the negative space. As scraps of metal are temporarily lifted from the Ritherdon site, they will be returned to Ritherdon to re-join their predetermined journey.

POWDER-COATED INDUSTRIAL PAINTINGS AND THE STORY OF A VAUDEVILLE MAGICIAN FEATURE IN A SCULPTURAL INSTALLATION THAT RESPONDS TO THE UNIQUE ECOSYSTEM OF RITHERDON.



ARTIST

Nicola Ellis is interested in the material properties, function and circulation of metals and their impact on human culture.

Her work draws on the visual language of industry operations, fabrication and profiling processes. The parameters for sculpture, installation and drawings include relationships between people, businesses and places of production.

The sculpture and installations often feature scrap material and industrial detritus, referencing the tradition of mid-twentieth century abstract metal sculpture. Breaking from this tradition, Ellis orchestrates situations for improvised and impermanent works. Materials are often loaned from places of industry local to an exhibition site; treating steel as a kind of currency in its own right. Each work is not only a response to its material properties and site but it also functions as a reflection of material and industry within local, national and international systems of value.

nicolaellis.com

MANUFACTURER

Established by Percy Ritherdon in 1895 to take advantage of the Edwardian bicycle boom, Ritherdon & Company has survived two World Wars and the Great Depression thanks to three resilient generations of the famous family. One-hundred storied years on and the firm still continue to produce a variety of products for a variety of industries; from meter boxes and meter box repair units for the Housing industry, to passive safe products, feeder pillars and electrical enclosures for the Highways industry. A combination of a passion for innovation and close working relationships ensures the continual development and expansion our product ranges.

ritherdon.co.uk

Photography - Daniel Allison

Find out more at FestivalofMaking.co.uk

A Subjective Mix

ARTIST

Liz West

MANUFACTURER

Graham and Brown

LOCATION

Cotton Exchange,
King William Street

DAYS/TIME

Sat & Sun
11am–6pm

IN THE FADED SPLENDOUR OF BLACKBURN'S COTTON EXCHANGE, AMID THE LIGHT POURING IN FROM THE STAINED GLASS WINDOWS, A 3.5 METRE HIGH, OCTAGONAL STRUCTURE TRICKS THE EYE IN THE LATEST WORK BY RENOWNED MANIPULATOR OF COLOUR AND LIGHT, LIZ WEST.



THE PROJECT

Appearances are purposely deceiving as the structure, clad in bespoke wallpaper, purports to be one colour, when it is really the sum of its multi-hued parts, a fact revealed as visitors move towards and inside the piece. The standard test for superior shade discretion, the Farnsworth Munsell 100 Hue Colour Vision Test, is essential to Graham & Brown, with specialist staff requiring a superior score.

After taking the test, and achieving superior colour vision, the artist took new ideas and long-term ambitions inspired by Joseph Albers 1963 book, *Interaction of Colour*, to the drawing board and, after taking colour samples from the Cotton Exchange's windows, took five to six pens at a time in her hand and 'drew' coloured dots on white paper. Testing different build ups of different combinations of colours, West eventually hit on the colour she had in mind – a true grey, only determinable from distance. Observing the repeated octagons in the Cotton Exchange's ceiling design, the half octagons of the window bays and the octagonal shape of the foyer the shape of the final installation was determined by the building itself.



DO YOU HAVE SUPERIOR COLOUR VISION?

Test your ability and take part in a short interactive exam to understand the accuracy of your colour vision as we recreate the Farnsworth Munsell 100 Hue Color Vision Test, normally used to measure the expertise of Graham & Brown specialist staff!

MANUFACTURER

Started by two friends, Harold Graham & Henry Brown after the second world war, Graham & Brown have built up an international reputation from its manufacturing base in Blackburn, Lancashire. Selling to over seventy five countries, with divisions in France, Holland, Australia, Russia, USA, and China, they continue to innovate in design and product development and work with high profile designers and emerging design talent, with the brand recognised as a "cool brand" seven years in a row.

grahambrown.com

ARTIST

Liz West lives and works in Manchester. She graduated from BA (Hons) Fine Art Sculpture & Environmental Art at Glasgow School of Art in 2007. She regularly exhibits nationally and internationally including at: Kraftwerk, Berlin; Chester Cathedral; Bristol Biennial; Natural History Museum and Royal British Society of Sculptors. Liz was recently shortlisted for the Aesthetica Art Prize, Best Light Art at the Darc Awards and Lighting Design Awards.

liz-west.com

In Practice

WEC
GROUP

ARTIST

David Murphy

MANUFACTURER

WEC Group

LOCATION

Prism Gallery,
20 Lord Street West

DAYS/TIME

Sat & Sun
11am–6pm

SEVEN SCULPTURES
MADE IN A
COLLABORATION
WITH THE NEXT
GENERATION OF
WELDER-ENGINEERS,
DAVID MURPHY'S
WORK CAPTURES
THE ESSENCE OF
APPRENTICESHIP.



THE PROJECT

In an exploratory collaboration with artist David Murphy, seven sapling-like steel sculptures have been flame-cut, drilled, folded and welded into existence, reflecting the journey of seven apprentices at the engineering firm WEC.

The artist worked in the purpose-built training school environment to explore the discipline, repetition, potential and aspiration for mastery that has always been at the heart of apprenticeship. Using factory processes taught at the academy, sculptures were created with a determined emphasis on the use of manual processes, creating a series of sculptures evocative of the apprentices' fledgling careers in the world of manufacturing.



MANUFACTURER

Providing engineering and metalwork solutions for over 35 years, WEC Group is one of the largest engineering and fabrication companies in the UK, employing 800 staff and comprising of 15 companies operating in many industries including Aerospace & Defence, Oil & Gas, Nuclear and Automotive. The Group also runs its own in-house Training Academy in Darwen, offering world-class engineering apprenticeships that creates highly-skilled, loyal employees who stay with the company long after their apprenticeship is complete.

wec-group.com

ARTIST

David Murphy (b.1983, Newcastle upon Tyne) graduated from the Glasgow school of art in 2006. Known for his sculpture and works on paper, Murphy is the most recent recipient of the Kenneth Armitage Foundation Fellowship London (2015-17), and has exhibited widely both nationally and internationally. Recent exhibitions include: the new art centre, Salisbury, UK; Monica de Cardenas galleria, Milan, Italy and at the British council, Cairo, Egypt.

davidmurphystudio.co.uk

