

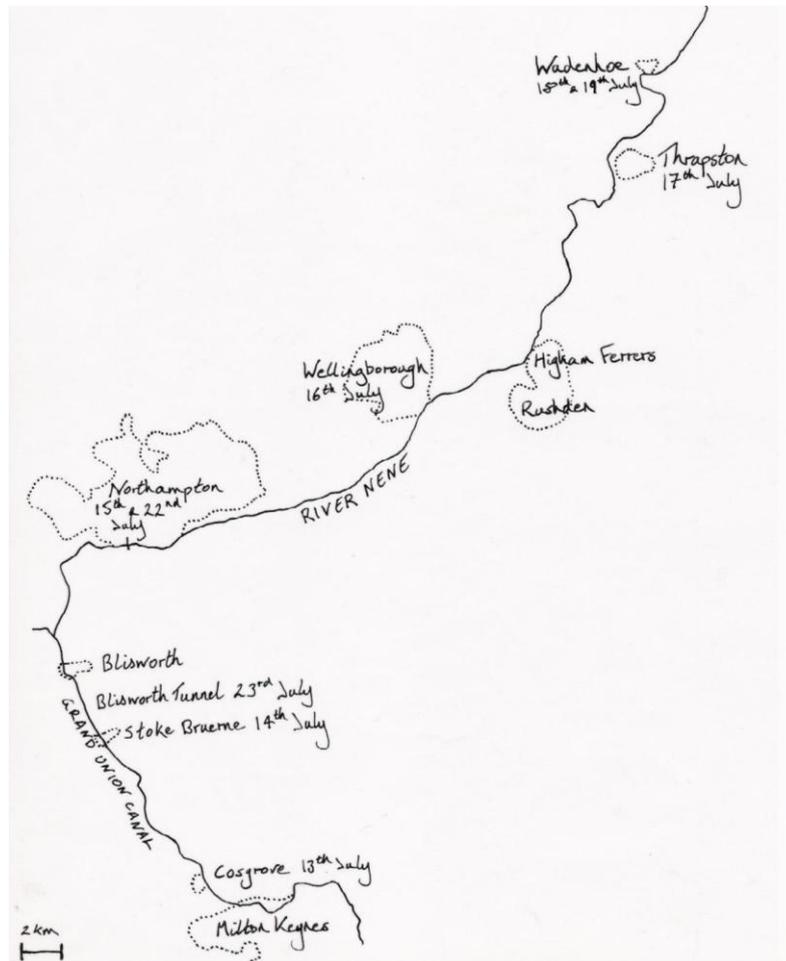
PRESS RELEASE

INTERCHANGE

from Cosgrove to
Wadenhoe and back
again

12-25 July 2011

A fortnight of artistic
activity and dialogue along
the Grand Union Canal
and River Nene in
Northamptonshire.



Route of Interchange narrow boat

Fermyrwoods Contemporary Art has invited artists **David Littler**, **Jo Roberts** and **Simon Woolham** to be based on a narrow boat to make new work and engage with communities based alongside the banks and on the water as part of **FLOW Northamptonshire**.

The artists will explore the changing rural, urban and industrial landscapes through collaborative and research based art practice and take inspiration from the culture and aesthetics traditionally associated with inland waterways such as printmaking and canal songs.

David Littler will continue his ongoing project *sampler-culture clash*, through which he collaborates with a range of people including vocal percussionists, DJs, performance poets and embroiderers to create events exploring sampling as a creative process and the connections between people, sound and textiles. The project provides an opportunity for different practitioners to mix, match and clash... a time when embroiderers can exercise their latent

writing talents and writers and musicians can sew... See David's bog for more information, www.sampler-cultureclash.blogspot.com

Jo Roberts calls herself a 'Commentariographer', a word used in 1576 to describe "someone who writes, mediates, ponders, portrays or records." She is interested in the minutiae of everyday life and how people communicate. Her observations and interactions result in drawings, maps and records. Jo will explore the effect of slow travel and record her journey through markers of time and distance. "Slow travel re-engineers time, transforming it into a commodity of abundance rather than scarcity. And [it] reshapes our relationship with places..." Nicky Gardener, *Manifesto of Slow Travel*. Follow Jo's journey via <http://www.canalworld.net>

Simon Woolham is concerned with occupied spaces and narratives that unfold in them. His biro drawings often include excerpts of dialogue and dilapidated places come to life as tree stumps or broken fences are filled with meaning through the events happening around them. Simon will create an alternative anthology of local urban myths, stories and folk songs associated with the waterways and make new drawings based on found narratives. As part of the artist collective M4SK22 - that mixes samples and software, Internet archives and drawing - Simon will collect atmospheric and incidental sounds to create a new sound track.

EDITOR'S NOTES

The artists' progress can also be followed via Twitter @fermynewoods and via the project website <http://www.flow-northamptonshire.com>

For further information and images please contact Yasmin Canvin on 01832 733009 or yasmin@fermynewoods.co.uk

Interchange has been supported by James G Boulton (Techmar Marine UK) and Wyvern Shipping, Leighton Buzzard.

FLOW Northamptonshire is a project led by Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) as part of the 2011 Cultural Olympiad *Igniting Ambition Festival*, delivered in partnership with British Waterways and Anglian Water. *Interchange* will be followed by an installation by Steve Messam on the River Nene in August, projections on water towers by Jo Fairfax in September and an installation by Charles Monkhouse on a reservoir in October. *FLOW* has been funded by Arts Council England, NCC and Legacy Trust UK.

Igniting Ambition, a Cultural Olympiad programme in the East Midlands, invests in projects and people that take the London 2012 Games as their inspiration to create once-in-a-lifetime cultural opportunities for audiences and communities. *Igniting Ambition* is funded by Legacy Trust UK, an independent charity set up to create a cultural and sporting legacy from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the European Regional Development Fund and the East Midlands Development Agency, with the support of Arts Council England and many others.