

Cape Farewell

Press Release Update

Liverpool Cathedral and Albert Dock join Walker Art Gallery, the National Conservation Centre and Liverpool School of Art & Design for *Cape Farewell – Art and Climate Change* at the Liverpool Biennial

12 September – 26 November 2006

Heather Ackroyd & Dan Harvey, David Buckland, Peter Clegg, Gautier Deblonde, Max Eastley, Nick Edwards, Antony Gormley, Alex Hartley, Gary Hume, Ian McEwan, Michèle Noach, Rachel Whiteread

Two new venues join Cape Farewell's multi-site installation for Liverpool Biennial. The War Memorial Chapel within the cavernous interior of **Liverpool Cathedral**, enhances the ephemeral, fragile grace of choreographer Siobhan Davies' *Endangered Species*. A projection of dancer Sarah Warsop, in an unusual costume of rods created by fashion designer Jonathan Saunders, moves gracefully inside a museum display case, at first liberated but then finally extinguished by her increasingly cumbersome attire. At **Albert Dock** in Mermaid Court, between the Merseyside Maritime Museum and Tate Liverpool stands an outdoor modular exhibition telling the story of Cape Farewell through images and text and carrying current climate information. The exhibition is accompanied by a solar-powered soundscape created by Max Eastley.

Liverpool Cathedral and Albert Dock along with **National Museums Liverpool** and **Liverpool School of Art & Design 68 Hope Street Gallery** showcase the work of fourteen artists who sailed to the High Arctic to experience the effects of climate change. *Cape Farewell – The Art of Climate Change* brings together these iconic institutions for the first time, interweaving sculpture, photography, painting, video and sound within the city's historic and contemporary spaces. *Cape Farewell – Art and Climate Change* was created in partnership with the Natural History Museum in London where it was first shown from June to September this year. This exhibition has been specially recreated for its multi-site installation in Liverpool for the Liverpool Biennial.

Works situated in the new exhibition space at the National Conservation Centre include *Stranded*, Heather Ackroyd and Dan Harvey's 6-metre long Minke whale skeleton and Alex Hartley's *Nymark (Undiscovered Island)*. After retrieving a whale carcass from Skegness last year, Ackroyd & Harvey applied a special process to the clean bones that slowly produced a covering of delicate iridescent alum crystals. *Stranded* exposes the effects of climate change on sea temperatures and ocean currents and the resulting impacts on whale populations. Hartley's piece follows in the footsteps of the early explorers with a topographically inspired photographic installation of a 'new' island he discovered and named in the Arctic, an island revealed by a retreating glacier. Also shown are Gautier Deblonde's photographs of Rachel Whiteread's *Embankment*, her installation at Tate Modern's Turbine Hall that was influenced by her experience of the Arctic.

The Liverpool School of Art & Design 68 Hope Street Gallery presents Gautier Deblonde's photo-essay of the pristine white landscapes of the High Arctic from *The Svalbard Series*. David Buckland shows his video piece *The End of Ice* depicting the 28-minute long demise of an iceberg which is juxtaposed close to his photographic *Ice Texts*, poignant messages projected onto the blue of the Arctic ice. Also at 68 Hope Street are photographs of Antony Gormley and architect Peter Clegg's *Three Made Places* of an ice work created in the Arctic and the chillingly humorous, lenticular artworks of Michèle Noach. *Ice Field*, Max Eastley's soundwork of cracking, melting ice resonates through the space. On Friday 29 September *Cape Farewell Artists' Talks* at the Liverpool School of Art & Design 68 Hope Street includes artists David Buckland, Dan

Harvey and Heather Ackroyd followed by *Arctic Symphony* an evening sound event performed by Max Eastley on his arc, a single-string electro-acoustic monocord invented by himself.

Amongst the collections of the Walker Art Gallery close to Helen Chadwick's *Viral Landscapes* and work by Hermione Wiltshire and Tony Cragg is Gary Hume's painting of a hermaphrodite *Polar Bear*, a sinister reminder of the changing ecology of the Arctic. Nick Edward's three films of mythical Arctic landscapes - *80° 05'N 16°44'E*, *Ultima Thule* and *Fata Morgana* - hang next to works by Degas, Matisse and Monet.

Cape Farewell brings artists, scientists and educators together to collectively address and raise awareness about climate change. Created by artist David Buckland, Cape Farewell has led a series of expeditions into the Arctic exploring the seas that hold the key to understanding the changes in our weather patterns and climate. Their programme has included three separate journeys on the *Noorderlicht* schooner 79° North to the Svalbard archipelago with a fourth planned for 2007 as part of International Polar Year.

Burning Ice: Art and Climate Change – the publication

Published by Cape Farewell to accompany the exhibition's tour around the UK, *Burning Ice: Art and Climate Change* is a 176-page publication comprising 200 stunning colour photographs and illustrations. The book charts the experiences of artists who have voyaged with Cape Farewell including Heather Ackroyd and Dan Harvey, David Buckland, Siobhan Davies, Gautier Deblonde, Max Eastley, Antony Gormley and Rachel Whiteread and the work they have subsequently produced. Extracts from expedition journals complement writings by novelists Ian McEwan and Robert Macfarlane warning of the impacts of climate change. Priced £19.99 the publication is available from National Museums Liverpool bookshops, the Liverpool School of Art & Design 68 Hope Street Gallery and York Publishing Services Ltd on 01904 431213.

For more information and images about Cape Farewell, please contact Janette Scott, 020 7209 0610. Email janettescott@capefarewell.com (not for publication) or visit www.capefarewell.com

Notes to Editors

1. Walker Art Gallery 16 September – 26 November 2006

Open daily 10am – 5pm. Walker Art Gallery, William Brown Street, Liverpool, L3 8EL. Information 0151 478 4199.

2. National Conservation 16 September – 26 November 2006

Open Monday -Saturday 10am – 5pm and Sunday 12pm – 5pm. National Conservation Centre, Whitechapel, Liverpool, L1 6HZ. Information 0151 478 4999.

3. Liverpool School of Art & Design Liverpool John Moores University. 12 September – 6 October 2006

Open Monday – Thursday 10am-4pm, Friday 10am-2pm. Liverpool School of Art & Design, Liverpool John Moores University, 68 Hope Street, Liverpool, L1 9EB. Information 0151 231 5190.

4. Liverpool Cathedral 16 September – 26 November 2006

St James' Mount, Liverpool L1 7AZ. Open daily 7:30am – 6pm. Variable access according to service times. Admission free. Information 0151 702 7284.

5. Albert Dock 16 September – 20 October 2006

The exhibition is situated adjacent to Tate Liverpool in Mermaid Court. Albert Dock, Liverpool L3 4AQ. Open daily 10am-6pm.

6. Arts Council England is Cape Farewell's major arts funder. Cape Farewell Arts is supported by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and The Bromley Trust. *Cape Farewell - Art and Climate Change* was created in partnership with the Natural History Museum London and is supported by Toshiba.

7. The next Cape Farewell expedition to the High Arctic takes place in September 2007. From September to October 2007 new Cape Farewell artworks will be on show at the Eden Project, Cornwall and at the South Bank Centre, London.