

TimesArts

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College plays host to Mexican artist

Arts News

by Mark Tallentire

A DURHAM University college is claiming a worldwide coup in attracting one of Mexico's top artists to stage an exhibition.

Grey College is hosting Searching for Inner Silence, an exhibition by Teresa Rubio, until Saturday, June 23.

Ms Rubio (pictured with some of her work) is an internationally renowned artist who has exhibited widely throughout Mexico, as well as in Japan and China.

Many of the works on display are inspired by time she spent in Durham and Paris late last year, incorporating the browns and yellows of Durham during autumn and white and deep greys of Paris in winter.

Other pieces represent the blue sea and sky of Ms Rubio's home country.

The exhibition includes water colours, tempera done on rice paper and acrylic on cardboard, paper and canvas.

Ms Rubio said: "What unifies all the collection is the search for inner silence, a search for expressing inner experiences of wonder, peace and joy."

"At times the inspiration comes from being in contact with nature and a great sense of expansion, perfection, unity and silence that comes with it; other times inspiration comes from an experience of deep connection within self, from a place of inner silence. Light, space, colour and form all



blend within the abstraction to express the profound and intimate experience of my inner connection with God."

Exhibition organiser Henry Dyson, keeper of fine art and fellow of Grey College, said: "We have hosted some wonderful exhibitions over the years but this will be very, very special."

"I am very grateful to Teresa Rubio for sharing the riches she has discovered in her search for inner silence and I hope the exhibition is seen and enjoyed by many."

The exhibition, in Grey College, on South Road, Durham, is open from 11am to 4pm on weekends. Weekday viewing is by appointment only. To book, call Joyce Dover on 0191-3345565.

All the artworks will be available to buy. At the close of the exhibition, some will be donated to the college.



Exhibitions coincide with Gospels return

A SERIES of art exhibitions inspired by North-East history is underway.

The events have been organised to coincide with the return to Durham of the Lindisfarne Gospels for a three-month loan from the British Library, starting on July 1.

A programme of arts commemorating the relationship between churches on Wearside and the Gospels got underway earlier this month.

The East Durham Artists Network, a community volunteer group, is holding exhibitions at three churches in Sunderland linked to the gospels.

From Cave to Cathedral takes inspiration from the tales of the Gospels, a series of Me-

dieval manuscripts written in tribute to Saint Cuthbert, patron saint of the North-East.

The works, by nine artists, include a range of sculptures, paintings and poetry. Artist Jac Howard (pictured, above, with the Dean of Durham, the very reverend Michael Sadgrove), from Seaham, said: "It's wonderful to take the art out to the public, exhibited in a space that inspired the making of the work itself."

The displays, at St Michael's and All Angels Church in Houghton-le-Spring, St Andrew's Church in Roker and Sunderland Minster, will run until 31 August. Further details are available at sunderlandminster.org.uk and edan.org.uk or by calling 0191-5654066.

Cash could help secure future of Northern Music Consortium

MUSIC organisations across the North have been given a helping hand to secure their future.

Arts Council England has awarded almost £150,000 to the Northern Music Consortium through its Catalyst Arts: building fundraising capacity fund, which aims to boost fundraising skills within the arts

community to help organisations to survive in difficult economic times.

The Northern Music Consortium is led by Durham County Council's Brass: Durham International Arts Festival and includes Durham Music Service, Jazz North, Sound Wave Cumbria, Teesdale's InterOpera Ltd and Durham City-based National

Youth Choirs of Great Britain. The money will be used to help groups identify other income sources and raise money from private donors.

Alison Clark-Jenkins, Arts Council England's regional director, said: "The Northern Music Consortium will be using the Arts Council's Catalyst investment to achieve a variety of

goals, from developing private-giving strategies to running joint fundraising campaigns.

"This important work will help organisations across the North of England become more resilient and innovative, which is exactly the kind of work our catalyst scheme is there to support."

Councillor Neil Foster, Durham County Council's cabinet member for economic regeneration, said: "This funding will not only help members of the consortium develop their fundraising skills to ensure continued investment, it will also open up new opportunities for artistic collaborations and projects."

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