

# BUZZ

WHAT'S ON GUIDE. APRIL 2013.

FREE

## EDDIE IZZARD Playing It Straight

**BUSHCRAFT:**  
DISCOVER  
YOUR INNER  
RAY MEARS

**MACHYNLLETH  
COMEDY  
FESTIVAL**

PLUS BRITISH SEA POWER | BIANCO | SPRING FORAGING | AL LEWIS | TROYFEST







## ART ACROSS THE CITY

*Various locations, Swansea*

*Until Sun 12 May*

Taking its inspiration from the city of Swansea, *Art Across The City* returns with a number of new additions to the city-wide contemporary art exhibition led and commissioned by artist-led charity LOCWS International.

Presenting 12 artworks from a diverse range of international and UK-based artists, the exhibition allows its audience to engage with different pieces of art in accessible public spaces. Five new commissions from artists Pete Fowler, Olaf Breuning, Sinta Tantra, David Long and Philip Cheater join the seven permanent exhibits that are currently prominent within the city.

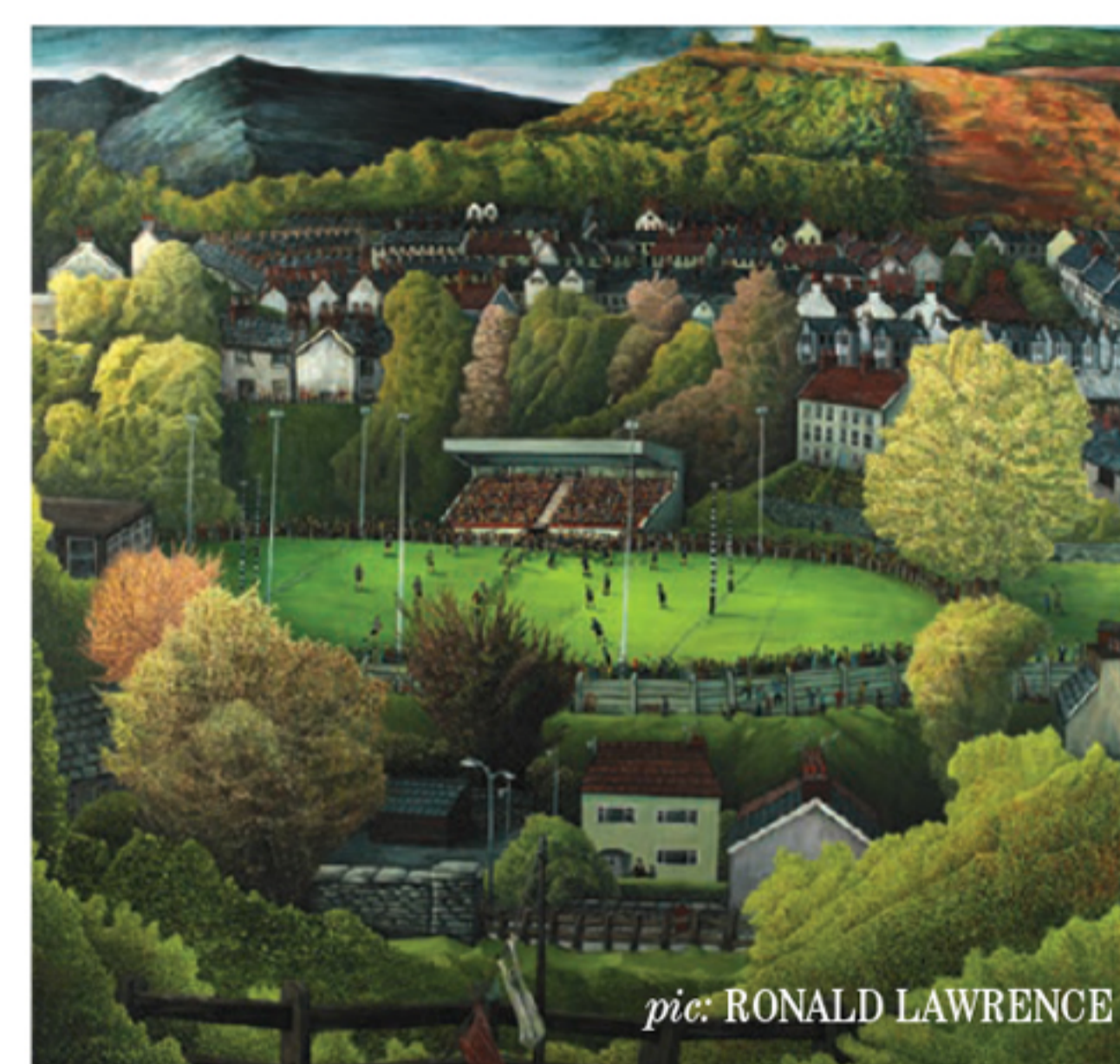
A Dylan Thomas cosmic makeover is the subject of Pete Fowler's largest work to date. The vibrant mural, located on the façade of a former nightclub, pays homage to the writing of the famous author along with quirky references to the city's heritage. Well-known for creating recognisable works for the Super Furry Animals, carries Fowlers' distinctive trademark character. Along the High Street, Sinta Tantra's mural *Greater Reality Elsewhere* references her Balinese heritage with two distinctive golden palm trees in abstract geometric colour.

"To begin at the beginning," the famous opening line from Dylan Thomas's *Under Milk Wood*, features as part of David Long's work. Attached to a large free-standing scaffold outside the Dylan Thomas Centre, this is another nod to the heritage of the city it features in. Taking inspiration from Swansea's architecture, multi-disciplinary artist Philip Cheater has also created three large sculptures that appear to both submerge into and emerge from the green outside of the Guildhall.

As part of the recent additions inhabiting the city, seven permanent commissions further support the programme.

Taking inspiration from the city and its people and heritage, these include works by artists Sean Puleston, Rik Bennett and Bedwyr Williams among others. LOCWS International's website carries a full artwork location map.

*Admission: free. Info: 01792 468979 / www.locwsinternational.com* **RHIANON HOLLEY**



## HERITAGE

*The Last Gallery, Llangadog*  
*Sat 13-Sun 28 Apr*

For those wishing to celebrate the long-awaited arrival of spring, Katie Jayne Vickers' exhibition at The Last Gallery promises to reinvigorate the senses with a range of mixed media pieces inspired by our natural surroundings.

Vickers is said to derive inspiration from childhood memories of the landscape in her local area; majestic Welsh sites including the Black Mountains and the Brecon Beacons are a particular focus. The artist's work aims to incorporate a deep history of place in its portrayals, using materials and objects associated with the landscape like clay, plaster, stone, charcoal, ink and paint.

The exhibition also demonstrates Vickers' developing focus on material, which has intensified through her work at Herbert's Quarry in the Brecon Beacons. Here, one can find discarded metals and old industrial implements that have become part of the scenery, transformed through time and reclaimed by nature. The artist lays her work in such sites and uses photography to document the assemblage. Currently a post-graduate student studying fine art at Trinity Saint David, Carmarthen, Vickers is based in Tairgwaith. Her work was included in the 2012 Welsh Artist Of The Year exhibition 2012 and to find out more about the artist's work, visit [www.katiejanevickers.wordpress.com](http://www.katiejanevickers.wordpress.com). *Admission: free. Info: 01550 777933 / www.thelastgallerywales.blogspot.com* (GS)

## GWILYM PRITCHARD: A LIFETIME'S GAZING

*Martin Tinney Gallery, Cardiff*  
*Thu 11 Apr-Sat 4 May*

Famous for his depictions of the beautiful Welsh landscape, Gwilym Pritchard has firmly cemented his legacy as one of Wales' most admired artists. *A Lifetime's Gazing* at the Martin Tinney Gallery is dedicated to the Crickieth-born Pritchard and documents his life's work, exploring some of his most famous depictions of Snowdonia's foothills and the Pembrokeshire coastline. Whilst unveiling a number of new pieces by Pritchard, the exhibition also coincides with the release of a book about Gwilym Pritchard's life and work which spans a number of generations. He has succeeded in capturing the delicate Welsh landscape in a number of ways through all seasons in various natural states. Pritchard's work is particularly famous for its thick paint and dramatic colour scheme. His work has also featured in a number of prestigious collections through the years, including Arts Council Wales and the National Library Of Wales. Pritchard spent many years living in Brittany where his work was critically admired, but he is now once more a full-time resident of his native land; the primary feature of his work. *A Lifetime's Gazing* captures the tangibility of Pritchard's beautiful work, and with all pieces available for purchase, there are also plenty of opportunities to own an important slice of Welsh art history. *Admission: free. Info: 029 2064 1411 / www.artwales.com* (BG)

## KEEPER

*Mission Gallery, Swansea*  
*Tue 2 Apr-Sat 12 May*

Re-examining the traditional gallery space and the role of the artist and gallery visitor, Bella Kerr's *Keeper* takes its audience through a unique range of interactive experiences which utilise props and "keepers" to define the use of Mission Gallery's space through interacting with or witnessing those who enter the space. Utilising Mission Gallery's reputation for challenging contemporary art, *Keeper* brings an element of theatre to the gallery space with four "keepers" – Bella Kerr herself, Kathryn Faulkner, Karen Ingham and Jane Rendell – examining and performing occupation within the gallery space as guardians or guides on duty. Twisting our normal understanding of exhibitions as something created by an artist for an audience, *Keeper* sees artists facilitating the final work ultimately created by those who engage in the space. Each keeper will bring their own backgrounds and diverse projects to the space with a particular focus on written and visual practice, the book, the art object and the processes of both. The experimental project begins from Tues 2-Sun 7 Apr with Bella Kerr inviting everything from quiet reading to reading aloud to yourself or others to the space. Bring your own books or utilise material found within the gallery. The initial event will initiate the activities of subsequent keepers with the exhibition finally closing on Sat 11 May. *Admission: free. Info: 01792 652016 / www.missiongallery.co.uk* (GL)

## RONALD LAWRENCE: A RETROSPECTIVE

*Oriel y Bont, Ty Crawshay*  
*Until Fri 3 May*

In the first and most comprehensive retrospective of Ronald Lawrence's work, Glamorgan University's art museum gallery, Oriel Y Bont, presents the life and art of an immensely talented painter, sculptor, musical instrument maker and photographer. Even at the age of 83 Lawrence is still a fervent practitioner, and for many years, his continued work has focused on the tactility of material. "My father and my maternal grandfather were always making things," explains Lawrence. "I grew up in an environment of making things, mainly out of scrap materials and objet trouvé. From an early age I made things along with drawing and painting. This has continued to the present." From figurative paintings in the 1950s to abstract metal sculptures in the 1960s, the later introduction of photography in the 80s and then the making and playing of jazz guitars in the 90s, Lawrence's versatility is widely recognised. Much of his painting was caught up in the 70s as part of the photorealist movement, and his diversity didn't stop there, his talent expanding in to teaching craft, design and technology for over thirty years whilst simultaneously producing his art. Born in the Hopkinstown district of Pontypridd and now living in the Graigwen area, Lawrence now exhibits in an exhibition befitting of his inventive creativity of great worth to the region. *Admission: free. Info: 01443 480480 / www.profile.glam.ac.uk/gallery* (GL)