



16th March 2016

LEEDS DOCK TO BRING LUMEN PRIZE TO CITY FOR THE FIRST TIME

- INSTALLATIONS BLEND TECH, ART AND MUSIC AT *LIVE AT LEEDS MUSIC AND DIGITAL FESTIVAL* -

Leeds Dock is bringing the world's pre-eminent digital and interactive arts prize – The Lumen Prize Exhibition – to the city for the first time as part of the Live at Leeds Music and Digital Festival from 25–30th April.

It offers visitors a unique chance to see interactive and immersive installations blending technology, art and music from Lumen's annual global tour.

Carla Rapoport, Director & Founder of Lumen Prize Exhibition commented, "The Lumen Prize is excited to be part of the Leeds Digital Festival this year and will be bringing a dazzling range of digital art from all over the world to this exciting event. Leeds is the latest stop on our current global tour, which has taken us to Vancouver, NYC, Shanghai and London. We're excited to be in the North of England for the first time and look forward to encouraging local artists to enter the prize and be part of the tour for 2016/17."

Among the Lumen Prize installations on show is 2015 prize winner 'MAN - A': a piece of 'camouflage art' that sees concealed life and movement burst from seemingly flat geometric surfaces of distorted patterns and military 'dazzle' when triggered by visitors using an augmented reality mobile app.

Another, 2015 runner-up Metamorph, creates sensory interactions for visitors who stretch its semi-transparent veil to alter organic, liquid or incandescent substances and generate three-dimensional soundscapes, while 2014 silver winner 'Passages' scans and translates audience movement.

Headline piece, Portee, is a project at the crossing of light, technology, architecture and music.

Luminous wires stretching down from towering concrete pillars, mysteriously linked to a solitary

grand piano can be played like a giant harp creating an immersive layered soundscape as audience members interact with the piece.

Other works include New Jerusalem – an immersive virtual reality experience that seeks to embody the spirit of a beautiful and illuminated metropolis, the interactive Garden of Earthly Delights which places the onlooker in a Hieronymous Bosch-esque landscape; and MOC which explores the relationship between sound and image through simple interactions. Whistling into a microphone might prompt unique digital foliage to grow and evolve its shape in real time based on the notes, volume and frequency of the sound.

Man A will be in restaurant/bar Dock 29 from 10am–9pm, Portee in The Union from 5–10.30pm and 2015 and 2014 silver winners, Metamorphosis and Passages in the Lumen Gallery Space from 5–10.30pm daily, along with New Jerusalem, Garden of Earthly Delights and MOC. There will be select access from Monday – Wednesday, and full public access to all exhibits from Thursday – Saturday.

On Thursday 28th April, Dock 29 will host the fifth Glug Leeds Talk, an international, creative networking event for which Glug Revelations has lined up five expert speakers to discuss emerging trends in the industry. For the nostalgic there will be a retro game-off with Sega and Nintendo games consoles on Friday 29th from 10am.

Dock 29 will also host two debates: 'The Digital Debate' including speakers from Sky and Leeds City Council's Digital Department and 'The Digital Art Debate' with Lumen Prize Project Director, Serena Wallace-Turner, Digital Curator of the Museum of London, Foteini Aravani, and Tessa Jackson, OBE, curator, arts consultant, and ex CEO of Institute of International Visual Arts debating the nature of digital art.

Neighbouring Block E will house one of a series of worldwide 'Bring Your Own Beamer' events on 29th April – a creative free-for-all night of moving image, projection, participation and experimentation, accompanied by an array of local music, food and drink. A number of Leeds-based digital artists will showcase their work, including students from the cities' colleges and universities, alongside live performances from Released record label. Leeds College of Music will also be hosting their own night of music on the same evening in the Lighthouse, showcasing the best in electronica alongside live visual sets from Leeds College of Art from 6.30pm.

Tim Gee from Leeds Dock said: “As headline sponsor of the city-wide Leeds Digital Festival, Leeds Dock wants to celebrate digital culture in all its forms. The programme of engaging events at Leeds Dock as part of the Festival showcases some of the very best in music, art and creative discussion around.”

The city’s emergence into an innovation hub is covered as part of a film by The City Talking in Leeds which will premiere at Dock 29 on 25th April. For those looking to be a part of it, ‘The Digital Ladder’ on Thursday 28th offers graduates and creatives the opportunity to meet leading digital companies in Leeds, including Sky, Epiphany and Rockstar Games to explore career paths available.

The Leeds Digital Festival is backed by Leeds City Council and TechNorth, the government initiative to support digital entrepreneurship. It has previously welcomed over 12,000 visitors. In another first this year it is collaborating with the award-winning ‘Live at Leeds’ music festival – now in its 10th year – with a line-up featuring Jess Glynne, Band of Skulls and Clean Cut Kid.

Leeds Dock sits in the heart of the South Bank and has a growing reputation amongst digital technology, media, creatives and entrepreneurs. The destination offers flexible contemporary workspace, independent cafes and innovative dining, along with a year-round programme of exciting events.

Full details about Leeds Dock and the Leeds Digital Festival are available at Leedsdock.com and leedsdock.com/events

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Notes to Editors:

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Leeds Dock is a vibrant and creative waterside destination, offering flexible contemporary workspace, independent cafés and innovative dining, along with a year-round programme of exciting events.

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