

HUMBER  
STREET  
GALLERY

EXHIBITION  
GUIDE

# ***YOU AND ME IN HU3***

Russell Boyce and George Norris

9.02.24 - 14.04.24

Space 1 & 2



## EXHIBITION TEXT

*You and Me in HU3* presents the work of two artists, Russell Boyce and George Norris. The exhibition weaves together a series of black and white photographs taken over 40 years ago with ongoing work shot in colour. Through this duality, *You and Me in HU3* charts half a century of change across an area of Hull which has seen vast social transformation since the decline of the fishing industry in the mid 20th century.

Composed of distinct series of images, *You and Me in HU3* reflects a breadth of social issues whether historic or contemporary. In “Changing Times” Russell presents an intimate set of photographs documenting daily life for a young mum during the 1980s housing crisis, whilst “Rag-Bone” explores the once prevalent but now declining occupation of the rag-and-bone man. George’s series “Gypsy Childhood” is a set of images born out of the artist’s sustained generational relationship with one of Hull’s horse-trading Gypsy communities, meanwhile “A Love Letter to Hull” is a celebratory ode from the artist to his city, loaded with warmth, love and familiarity.

*In addition to the work presented at Humber Street Gallery, a selection of images will be displayed outdoors at Gipsyville Library throughout the duration of the exhibition. For more information visit our website.*

## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The exhibition *You and Me in HU3* also tells a story of friendship. In 1983, Russell Boyce, age 21, was studying at Hull College of Art, under the tutorage of renowned documentarian Daniel Meadows. Living on St Georges Road he documented his local community including third generation rag-and-bone man, 19-year-old, George Norris.

In 2011, after the death of his mother, George discovered a vanity box containing family photographs, one of which was an image of George and his mother taken by Russell in 1983. The discovery of the photograph had a profound impact on George, leading him to reconnect with Russell and begin photographically documenting his own shared history with HU3. Prior to this, working away for long periods on the oil rigs, George had felt like an occasional tourist in his own city. Meanwhile, Russell's path had taken him to work as an international news photographer for global agency Reuters.

Since reconnecting with George, Russell has returned to Hull to re-imagine some of his original work, linking the bodies of work taken forty years apart in HU3, with new work. "Ladies and Gentlemen, Kandy de Barry" documents drag Artist Bobby Mandrell (Ray Millington), "Star & Garter (Rayners)" documents lunchtime drinkers in the infamous pub on Hessle Road which was once central to the fishing community whilst "Living the Changes" examines the housing and unemployment crisis in Hull in the 1980's.

George, now an established documentary photographer, presents a selection of ongoing imagery reflecting contemporary HU3 communities; "Peacocks" examines sub-cultures in HU3 and further afield: tattoos, body piercing, clubbing, punk and rockabilly to name a few. "Gypsy Childhood" is a series of portraits of gypsy children as they temporarily settle in Hull's HU3. And "Love letter to Hull" is street photography at its most compassionate as George documents the community he lives in.

## RELATED EVENTS

### **Exhibition Launch Party: *You and Me in HU3***

Thursday 8 February 2024

6-9pm

Humber Street Gallery

Free, no booking required

Join us to celebrate the launch of our newest exhibition at Humber Street Gallery, *You and Me in HU3* by Russell Boyce and George Norris. This event is a chance to meet the artists, visit the exhibitions and to share a drink or two.

### **Thursday Lates: Gill Adams and Da Marmi**

Thursday 22 February 2024

7-9pm

Humber Street Gallery

Pay what you can, booking required

In response to *You and Me in HU3*, writer Gill Adams and manouche jazz guitar duo Da Marmi will join forces for an evening with a difference. Writer/comedian Gill Adams will take on the role of Rita Lolita, a punter from Rayners, and chat about the strong, outrageously loveable women of Hesse Road. Da Marmi are a phenomenal 'gypsy jazz' guitar duo. Also referred to as 'manouche jazz', influenced by Romani music and popularised by Django Reinhardt, this genre of music combines traditional jazz elements with lively, virtuosic improvisations.

### **An Evening with The Critical Fish**

Thursday 7 March 2024

6:30-8:30pm

Humber Street Gallery

Free, booking required

Join artist-led project The Critical Fish to explore our current exhibition in a relaxed and informal environment.

These sessions are for anyone who is interested in exploring the exhibition, sharing their ideas, and responding critically and creatively. No prior experience needed and everyone is welcome.

## **In Conversation with Russell Boyce and George Norris**

Thursday 14 March 2024

6-8pm

Humber Street Gallery

Free, booking required

Hear from artists Russell Boyce and George Norris in conversation, as they discuss their first collaborative exhibition *You and Me in HU3*, commissioned by Humber Street Gallery.

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## ABOUT US

Humber Street Gallery is an Absolutely Cultured project. Originally established in 2017 as part of the City of Culture programme, it has developed into a vibrant, high-quality contemporary visual art space for Hull. It is now a significant contributor to the contemporary visual arts offer in the north.

Our ambition for Humber Street Gallery is to further develop the venue into a multi-artform and multi-functional creative centre, showcasing a wide range of art and activities providing something for everyone from visual art, dance, music to spoken word.

Increasingly the space will be used to showcase more work by local as well as national and international practitioners.

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## CONTACT US

Humber Street Gallery  
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Get the latest updates by following Humber Street Gallery on our official social media channels.

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Absolutely Cultured is a registered charity. If you would like to support our work, you can do so at [absolutelycultured.co.uk](https://absolutelycultured.co.uk)

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## OPENING TIMES

Mon & Tue	Closed
Wed	10:30am-5pm
Thurs	12-7pm
Fri-Sun	10:30am-5pm

### OFFICIAL FUNDING PARTNERS



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
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