

SNAPSHOT

Jack Hutchinson
with what's on in
February around
the UK and beyond.

This month sees a further wave of national demonstrations against the government's austerity measures. The arts are facing an ideological attack from all fronts, with the full effects of cuts to education and the Arts Council hitting home. Despite this growing philistinism, artists continue to illustrate resourcefulness, vision and creativity in the face of adversity, with this month's selection of exhibitions and events a case in point.

Oriel Myrddin Gallery explores the ambiguity between extreme artifice and our knowledge of raw hirsute state in 'Paul Emmanuel: Fleece Painting' (Carmarthen, to 26 February). The fine line between the natural and cultured, the conscious and subconscious, are investigated, questioning the very boundaries of painting. Elsewhere, g39 presents 'Show One of Each: Maia Conran' (Cardiff, from 4 February). Influenced by popular cinema and science fiction, Conran's work has an uncanny familiarity that is heightened by an institutional aesthetic. Not to be missed.

www.orielmyrddingallery.co.uk
www.g39.org

One of the UK's most prolific photographers, Hannah Starkey presents twenty-nine of her works at Coventry's Mead Gallery (to 12 March). Artists are invited to submit their own photographs for exhibition in response to Starkey's work, with a winner chosen by Starkey subsequently receiving a signed print. Collaboration is further explored in 'The UK Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef', at Salisbury Arts Centre (Wiltshire, to 26 February). This large-scale artwork consists of thousands of brightly coloured crocheted coral, created by craft makers from around the world.

www.warwickartscentre.co.uk
www.salisburyartscentre.co.uk

Deptford's superb artist-led gallery and studio complex, Core Gallery, launches its new education programme. 'DIY Educate' (London, from 26 February) will provide artists with opportunities to network and share knowledge, providing an impetus to develop their practice. Another fine example of an artist-led space, Transition Gallery presents 'Literary Journeys', the work of photographer Tara Darby (London, from 12 February). Effortlessly navigating the worlds of fashion, music, advertising and journalism, this is essential viewing.

www.coregallery.co.uk
www.transitiongallery.co.uk

Past and present collide in 'High-abstract' (Poussin Gallery, London, from 11 February), an exhibition of abstract painting and sculpture spanning the last fifty years. Artists include Alan Davie, John Hoyland, Fred Pollock, Alan Gouk, Anne Smart and Robin Greenwood. Another important retrospective is taking place at GV Art. 'David Heathcote' (London, from 8 February) brings together a remarkable selection of work from an artistic and academic career spanning some sixty years. Landscape drawings breathe an air of contemplative calm, whilst Heathcote's sculpture has the presence of profound inwardness.

www.poussin-gallery.com
www.gvart.co.uk



1 Paul Emmanuel, *Cefn Coed Isaf*, oil paint and hair gel on balwen fleece, 2010.

2 Ildiko Szabo, *Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef*, crochet forms, 2008.

3 Hannah Starkey, *Untitled*, 1998. Courtesy: Maureen Paley