

# SUITE

## STUDIO GROUP

---

Summer 2008

Welcome to summer and to the latest Suite happenings!

It is with sadness that we are to say goodbye to one of Suites most valued artists. Fiona Curran will be leaving Manchester and giving up her studio space to undertake a one year international artist's residency at The Florence Trust in London. Fiona will continue to be an associate member of Suite so we look forward to hearing about her future endeavors. Good luck Fiona, we all wish you well!

Meanwhile, Suite artists have lots of really exciting projects on the go including an International Exchange. Read on to find out more...!

---

### EXHIBITIONS



Janet Griffiths  
*Wendy takes a dive*



Andrew Bracey  
*Beer Mats*



Susie McMurray  
*Sutures*

**Janet Griffiths, Andrew Bracey and Tim Machin** are all taking part in Artranspennine 08. Janet Griffiths presents the further fantasy flying adventures of her alter ego 'Wendy' who, whilst flying around the Pennines, nosedives into a bush.

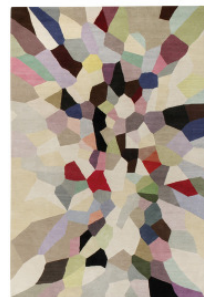
Meanwhile, **Andrew Bracey** is visiting pubs along the Artranspennine trail surreptitiously placing beer mats, which he has painted in his studio, back onto tables.

Also, look out for **Tim Machin's** unfolding narrative; cards in newsagent's windows, 'lost dog' posters sellotaped to lampposts and small-ads, together with some Google maps and writing created in unconventional, ephemeral places from bulletin boards to [Flickr](#) discussion groups. Further details can be found on the artranspennine site: [atp08.blogspot.com](http://atp08.blogspot.com) – the exhibitions are on until mid August.

**Susie MacMurray** has a number of exciting exhibitions on at the moment including her new installation, *Miasma* which opened in July at the [Florence Nightingale Museum](#) in the grounds of St Thomas Hospital London. The two works are made in response to Nightingale's miasmatic theory and use surgical gloves and sterile suture needles. Exhibition continues till 7th January. <http://www.florence-nightingale.co.uk>

Susie is also heading to New York for the opening exhibition of the new [Museum of Art & Design on Columbus Circle](#). The Gallery's inaugural show *Second Lives: Remixing the Ordinary* will feature the work of 50 international artists including Susie's *A Mixture of Frailties*, and be accompanied by a 200 page colour catalogue. The exhibition will run from 27th September 2008 - 15th February 2009. <http://madmuseum.org/SEE/upcoming%20exhibitions.aspx>

**Fiona Curran's** collection with The Rug Company is finally ready to launch. Check it out on [www.therugcompany.info](http://www.therugcompany.info). Images should be hitting the design press soon in the build up to **The London Design Festival** in September.



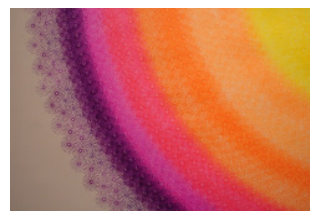
Fiona Curran  
Palette

**Jane Fairhurst** is also exhibiting a couple of her mixed media pieces at the **Chapel Gallery, Ormskirk**. The exhibition runs from 18th July to 5th September.



Jane Fairhurst  
After Goya

Later in the summer you can see ***Hypotrochoids***, a solo exhibition of **Lesley Halliwell's** Spirograph drawings at the **Hive Gallery**; a new contemporary gallery situated within Elsecar Heritage Centre in Barnsley which features a diverse rolling programme of contemporary visual art. The exhibition will run from 13th September to 19th October. [www.hivegallery.co.uk](http://www.hivegallery.co.uk)



Lesley Halliwell  
Tutti Frutti

## PUBLICATIONS

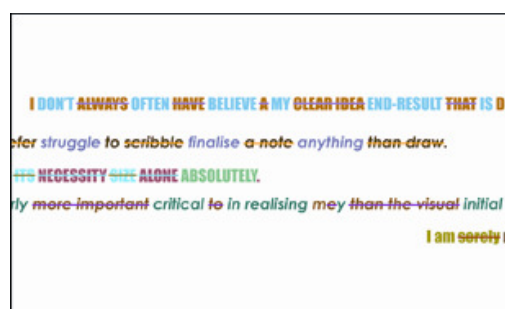
**Michael Corris** makes an impressive and audacious sweep through language-in-art from the 1960s to the present day.

**Fiona Curran** makes connections between Anne's text works and Italo Calvino's surreal novel, "If On a Winter's Night a Traveller."

Date for your diary: Book Launch and Exhibition Viewing on 12 September, 5-8pm, Mid Pennine Gallery, Yorke St, Burnley BB11 1HD. [www.midpenninearts.co.uk](http://www.midpenninearts.co.uk)

Castlefield Gallery Publications are publishing "Certainty Suspended" – an illustrated book on the text works of **Anne Charnock** to coincide with her solo exhibition at Mid Pennine Gallery (16 August – 27 September). Supported by a professional development grant from Arts Council England, the

book presents essays by artist and arts writer Prof Michael Corris and Suite's own Fiona Curran.



Anne Charnock  
Book cover

## ARTIST SPOTLIGHT: **Swap/Vaihto**

**A year ago Suite was approached by Spanish artist Ima Picó with the suggestion of setting up an international exchange project with the Finnish-based artist collective, Namastic. Bureau has worked with both groups as the host gallery in the UK and The Cable Factory will be the exhibition venue in Helsinki. The basic principle of the project was for participants to take the opportunity to swap ideas, working methods, places and spaces.**

swap

vaihto

*Several successful funding applications later and a group of Finnish-based artists arrived in Manchester. On the face of it, it looked as though there were huge differences to overcome in terms of our respective approaches to our practices - particularly since the Finnish artists used so much technology in their work in comparison to most artists in Suite. However, what the project illustrated was that, disregarding the media used and the format of the work produced, there were huge correspondences and overlaps in ways of thinking and making work. Swap's happened aplenty in terms of technical expertise for example and collaborations from unlikely sources.*

*The project benefited enormously from having the support of Bureau, enabling the participating artists to concentrate on their various dialogues and collaborations. As well as the final exhibition, the project also offered other events, both pre-planned and fairly impromptu: Hannu Karjalainen and Jaana Kokko, were offered the opportunity to present work as part of Cornerhouse's programme of artist talks; and sound artist, Marko Timlin, presented a solo performance at Islington Mill within a few days notice. In addition, the preview night also featured VJ'ing from Mikko Oravainen, Hannu Häkkinen and Jonne Pitkänen.*

*The UK end of the exchange has just been completed. The resulting exhibition is currently running at Bureau until August 9th ([www.bureaugallery.com](http://www.bureaugallery.com)). The Salford/Manchester part of the project has really laid the foundation for the development of work and ideas in Helsinki. The UK artists go out to Helsinki at the start of August for the second stage of the swap. A related publication, outlining and reflecting on the activities, will be launched in Autumn 2008.*

*Suite would like to extend thanks to a number of people and bodies who were vital in getting the project realised: to Ima Picó who came to us with the original idea, to the Directors of Bureau (Sophia Crilly & Mark Kennard) for their curatorial expertise, to all the supporters of the project for making it possible and finally to Namastic for traveling over to us and getting the first half of the exchange off to such an exciting start. We're looking forward to the re-match in Helsinki!*

*Participating artists: Barbro Björkfelt, Andrew Bracey, Jonathan Carson, Anne Charnock, Fiona Curran, Sophia Crilly, Samantha Donnelly, Janet Griffiths, Eeva-Mari Haikala, Hannu Häkkinen, Hannu Karjalainen, Mark Kennard, Jaana Kokko, Tim Machin, Rosie Miller, Juhana Moisander, Egle Oddo, Mikko Oravainen, Ima Picó, Jonne Pitkänen, Vivra Sointu, Marko Timlin, Tom Watson.*

*Swap/Vaihto is organised by Bureau in collaboration with Suite Studio Group, Ima Picó and Namastic. Supported by Arts Council England, Arts Council of Finland, British Council, Bureau, The Cable Factory, HIAP, The Finnish Embassy, The Finnish Institute & Salford Council*

---

## Newsletter information:

*The Suite Newsletter will be produced every quarter.*

*It represents a selection of the exhibitions and events that Suite artists are involved in around the country. The list is not exhaustive and further information can be found on the official Suite website*

*If you have seen an exhibition of one of the Suite artists and would like to write a few words about it, please email [lesley@lesleyhalliwell.co.uk](mailto:lesley@lesleyhalliwell.co.uk). A couple of sentences will do – no need for a full scale review.*

*If you would like to be taken off our mailing list please email [lesley@lesleyhalliwell.co.uk](mailto:lesley@lesleyhalliwell.co.uk) and let us know.*

*If you know anyone who would like to be added to our list please let us know.*

*We hope you have enjoyed it!*

**Suite Studio Group, Casket Works, Ground Floor, Cow Lane, Salford M5 4WN.**  
<http://www.suite-studiogroup.co.uk>

---

**suite members:** andrew bracey; jonathan carson; anne charnock; fiona curran; samantha donnelly; jane fairhurst; bernard georgeson; janet griffiths; lesley halliwell; paul horne; tim machin; susie macmurray; chris marshall; rosie miller; ruth moilliet; john murray; sarah robinson; tom watson