

CREATIVE
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WHARF

Bankside's Past in the Present: a neighbourhood in change

FREE exhibition, part of London Festival of Architecture 2017

31 May – 4 June 2017, 11am–6pm daily

Oxo Tower Wharf, Bargehouse Street, South Bank, London SE1 9PH

Nearest tube/train: Southwark, Waterloo, Blackfriars

oxotower.co.uk / 020 7021 1600



Millennium Bridge at Mason's Stairs



Sumner Street, SE1, 1890s

Adrian Chappell and George Nicholson with Bankside Neighbourhood Forum

Over the past four years, residents and businesses in Bankside have been working together to develop a new vision for the Bankside neighbourhood. Convened by the Bankside Neighbourhood Forum, this will lead to a referendum early in 2018.

Supporting this process is an exhibition of recent work by artist Adrian Chappell and historical images curated by photographer George Nicholson. The exhibition showcases over 60 vivid digital drawings and photographs under the theme Bankside's Past in the Present.

The images and storylines are derived from Bankside's changing industrial landscapes, dating from the late 18th century to the present day. Innovations in power generation technologies (steam, gas, hydraulics and electricity) played an important role in

Bankside's economic and social development until the 1980s. Several images depict the original Bankside power station and adjoining neighbourhood in the late 19th century.

Stories about key individuals, events and organisations that have played important roles in shaping today's Bankside are also featured.

Inspirational people

One such individual is Ted Bowman (1927-2012) who was born and lived in the area. Outside his family life and job as a night printer, Ted devoted much of his time to his community. As a trustee and chairman at Borough Market, Ted heard about the preparation of the Southwark Thameside Development Plan, which he felt ignored the needs and interests of his community. He founded the North Southwark Community Development Group (NSCDG) in 1972 which, for the next 25 years, engaged local residents in the planning and development of the North Southwark area. The NSCDG was also involved in the formation of the Coin Street Action Group in 1977 and played a significant role in the public inquiries that looked at the future of this area of London.

As Chairman of Coin Street Community Builders for nearly 30 years, Ted brought about many of the improvements to the neighbourhood we enjoy today including the completion of the South Bank riverside walkway and the refurbishment of Oxo Tower Wharf.

Bankside Today

The exhibition features a section entitled "Bankside Today". This covers the work and projects currently being planned by Bankside organisations, as well as setting out the key policy areas contained in the new neighbourhood plan.

London Festival of Architecture 2017 – Open Studio – Saturday 3 June

Responding to London Festival of Architecture's theme of 'memory' the exhibition features two free talks under the title "Tales from the River Bank". Led by George Nicholson and some of those directly involved in the regeneration of Bankside, the talks explore images and stories of Bankside's recent 'past into the present' - and its far-reaching impacts.

12-1pm: From Abercrombie to Ernie's Beach - making it happen

3-4pm: From Coin Street to Kolkata - a tale of two pizza restaurants

PRESS CONTACTS

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More details and high resolution images are available on request.

NOTES TO EDITORS

- gallery@oxo is owned and managed by Coin Street Community Builders (CSCB). CSCB is a social enterprise and our aim is to make our neighbourhood a great place to live, work in and visit. www.coinstreet.org
- Exhibition opening hours: 11am – 6pm daily.
- For more information on all exhibitions and other events at our venues on the South Bank, visit www.oxotower.co.uk
- You can like CSCB and Oxo Tower Wharf on Facebook at www.facebook.com/coinstreet and www.facebook.com/oxotowerwharf
- You can follow CSCB (@CoinStreet) and Oxo Tower Wharf (@OxoTowerWharf) on Twitter
You can follow Oxo Tower Wharf of Instagram (@OxoTowerWharf)
- For more information about Adrian Chappell's work visit www.curiouscurators.org.uk
- The London Festival of Architecture www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org was founded in 2004, and is now firmly established as Europe's biggest annual architecture festival. The London Festival of Architecture 2017 will feature events across the capital from 1-30 June, and this year will explore the theme 'memory'. The London Festival of Architecture celebrates London as a global hub of architectural experimentation, practice and debate, provoking questions about the contemporary and future life of the city, and promoting positive change to its public realm. The London-wide programme is delivered by a diverse mix of architecture and design practices and practitioners, cultural and academic institutions, artists and many others.