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Audience and the artist

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Arts exploration go-ahead

A GROUNDBREAKING NEW partnership between Meteor, Axis, Foundation for Community Dance, NAWE, Sound Sense and Writernet has secured £360,000 from the New Opportunities Fund to create 'Arts Explorer'.

Funding and collaboration between partners will enable some 10,000 pages of text, 8,000 images and around fifty hours of audio, video and film recordings of good practice in the arts to be made more widely available. Websites developed through Arts Explorer will enable new audiences in disadvantaged and marginalised communities to access material to support curriculum

development, training and lifelong learning. INIVA will receive £170,000 towards enhancing its digital archive. This resource aims to bridge the gap between contemporary art and culturally diverse audiences and make connections between art and everyday life. Artists are represented through a portfolio of key works, biography, texts and quotes, with searches by key words and themes. Substantial awards are also going to new developments at Amber/Side, Lux, Royal Photography Society, Belfast Exposed, the Glass Archive and Livewire Northern Ireland.

Shen Yuan, *The Dinosaur's Egg*, (detail), 2001.



Joseph Ingelby, *Slipstream*, steel and copper, at Dalmarnock Bridge showing the impact of floodlighting.

Commission sited

AS PART OF ENVIRONMENTAL improvements to the Clyde and Rutherglen, Joseph Ingelby was commissioned by South Lanarkshire Council to make a sculpture at Dalmarnock Bridge. Made in galvanised steel and copper, *Slipstream* takes its inspiration from nautical, navigational and natural sources. It is sited on a new viewing platform overlooking the Clyde and the work

reflects the shape and course of the river at this point, echoing the area's former ropemaking history. The tension in the 'rope' as it disappears and emerges from the ground is heightened by being floodlit in purple, green and white during the period of darkness. Funded by Scottish enterprise Lanarkshire, the project was coordinated by South Lanarkshire Council.

Light touch

INSTALLATION ARTIST Caitlin Heffernan and mixed-media artist Sandra Beccarelli have joined forces to create 'Collective Pulse', an "unsettling and inspiring environment of pictures to dance to, in an installation to dream in". Both artists are excited by light and works reflect this. Beccarelli's boxed works present notions of city lights – rhythmical, pulsing, electrical and hypnotic – whilst Heffernan's deal with reflected light which is still, contemplative, fragile and illusory. At Stables Gallery, Twickenham, 6-30 September.

Work by Sandra Beccarelli from 'Collective Pulse'.



NESTA invests in artists

THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA) recently announced over forty new awards worth over £3.5 million, as part of its mission to spot and invest in UK innovation and creative talent. This brings the total awards since May 2000 to more than 120, valued at £10.5 million. Some awards have the potential to boost the economy through new products and technology, and others to enrich society culturally and socially through new artforms and creative learning.

Amongst recipients is Andrew Stones, an established artist working in video and mixed-media installations. Based in Sheffield, he has been described as "one of the most creatively ambitious artists in the UK". A NESTA fellowship of £75,000 over three years, gives him time away from commissions and project



awards, to explore in depth the cultural influence of science and technology. Throughout his research he will be developing new works inspired by visits to major scientific centres including Kennedy Space Centre (USA), the Eden Project (UK), Kew Gardens (UK) and CERN (Switzerland). The fellowship will result in a new body of video/sound works (instal-

lation; videotape; audio CD; online) based on direct engagement with sites and personalities involved in aspects of science and technology central to contemporary life. This could include genetics, cosmology, ecology and consumer technology. Stones wishes to "examine the contrast between the human desire to know, and the various degrees of access to what is known." Commenting on the importance of the investment, he said: "The relationship between art and science is straightforward, yet funded opportunities to explore it often seem based on preconceived notions of collaboration. NESTA creates space for challenging work to take place in the culturally contested zone between art and science – and this is precisely where I want to locate my current work."

Above: Andrew Stones, NESTA fellowship recipient.