

# SEIZE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 10th February 2014

**SEIZE Leeds announces details of its upcoming temporary public exhibition.**



Image credit: Leo Plumb

## **SEIZE Leeds presents: OVERTIME: Art and the Office** *26 March – 29 March 2014*

**OVERTIME** is an exciting new art exhibition that explores the differences between office spaces and the artists' studio. SEIZE Leeds has invited 26 artists to respond to an office space – to explore the tools and working methods common to such spaces through making art. Occupying a disused floor of Wellington Park House, in Leeds' busy financial district, the exhibition brings together a diverse range of artists in order to showcase both emerging and more established practitioners from across the country.

Often seen as a bureaucratic environment, offices are associated with systemized tasks, the management of data and pro rata salaries, but rarely unregulated creative play. **OVERTIME** seeks to use the unexpected friction generated by placing the work of art in the office to interrogate fixed attitudes towards working practices more generally.



Image credit: Alice Bradshaw

The financial quarter of Leeds has an abundance of empty working units, each flagged by a hopeful 'To Let' sign .

Taking this up as an unavoidable reality of current-day Leeds, SEIZE has organised this show as a way of proactively responding to the problem and imagining the city's possible futures.

Taking caricatures of the office worker and the artist as starting points, SEIZE has therefore established a platform for artists and viewers to debate issues surrounding the distinctions (or lack thereof) between making art and other more conventional modes of work, whilst furthering discussions that are still fresh about art, education, unemployment and the economy.

Expect a lively mix of artworks reflecting the broad range of contemporary artistic practices including: image-based work, sculpture, digital projections, installation, painting, screen-based works, performances, and participatory projects, all of which will be housed at the Wellington Street site.

On Friday 28th March, Wellington Park House will also play host to a conversation led by Derek Horton (Co-Director of &Model Gallery, Leeds) and Bruce Davies (Director of BasementArtsProject).

Open to all, the "Coffee break Seminar" aims to tackle the Work/Play dualism that thematises this show. Using the art displayed in the space as a springboard for discussion, the session will examine this dualism in the context of twenty-first century problems to ask, 'should work and play be kept apart?' In the spirit of every good office, tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided. (Times tba)



Image credit: Emma Hardaker

**-End**

**Participating artists & collectives are:**

Lily Ackroyd-Willoughby/ Mike Ainsworth/ Anachron-Gen/ Alice Bradshaw/ Lydia Catterall/ Spike Dennis/ Natalie Drenth/ Emma Hardaker/ Phill Hopkins/ Edward Hurst/ Luc Jones/ Ellie MacGarry /Bess Martin/ Tom McGinn/ Emma Moody-Smith/ Julia Miorin/ Shanie Mor/ OFFCUT collaborative/ Leo Plumb/ Ned Pooler/ Stanley Quaia/ Alec Shepley/ Will Turner/ Philip Welding/ Matt Wheeldon

**Listings Information:**

**OVERTIME, free exhibition: Opening Night 26 March 7- 9.30pm.**

Show ends Saturday 29 March 2014

Opening hours: Thursday & Friday 11am – 6pm, Saturday 11 – 5pm

Wellington Park House, 25 Wellington Street (NB: entrance via Thirsk Row) Leeds, LS1 4WG

The nearest public car park is located at Leeds train station.

**Coffee-break seminar: Should work and play be kept apart?** Friday 28th March (Times tba)

Refreshments will be provided.

**Press information:**

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/SEIZELeeds> | Twitter @SEIZE\_Leeds

Follow and tag SEIZE's OVERTIME show on twitter using #SEIZELEEDS and #OVERTIME

**For further press information please contact:**

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**About SEIZE Leeds**

SEIZE Leeds is an artist-led organisation that works to engage and support emerging and mid-career artists both regionally and nationally through a programme of ambitious temporary art shows and events. SEIZE works with vacant spaces in-situ to produce exciting and accessible exhibitions that explore ideas relevant to each site and promote talent.

**Partners and supporters:**

& Model

**BasementArtsProject**

**EAST ST ARTS**

**Exhibition funded by:**

