



THE GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

There are significant changes afoot. A new concert and conference arena. Swish boutique hotels. Warehouses becoming art galleries. The new **all-you-can-eat Chinese buffet** on Hanover Street (now that's what we call progress). But what about that which you can't see?

We've added a spanking new performance space to our **city-wide network of broadcast sites**, alongside existing links to the shopping district and Pier Head. To kick-start this collaboration we broadcast a series of live, exclusive concerts to the heart of the public space, with gigs from **The Christians, Echo & The Bunnymen** and **Pete Wylie**. Call it our Christmas gift to you, but really, there's no need to nip into the kitchen and wrap up the toaster in return.

Just so long as you continue to attend and support our rolling series of free events, which this quarter included a stunning, cherry-picked showcase of live acts from **Liverpool Music Week**, together with the first ever **BBC Radio 3 Festival of Free**

Thinking, which allowed the public to select screen content via movement alone. And not just any content, but photo-real projections of the next decade from California's **Institute for the Future**.

Hit rewind, and **The University of Liverpool** in conjunction with local filmmaker **Angus Tilston** released **video footage of the city dating back to 1897** as part of the **City in Film** archive project. This proved so popular that the run was extended, with rare images of the since demolished **overhead railway** thundering through contemporary Clayton Square. All aboard!

Contents

Double Vision	2
Festival of Free Thinking	3
Liverpool Music Week	4
Sonic Booth	5
City In Film	6

DOUBLE VISION

As Christmas crept into sight to shake her tinsel draped hips with a come-hither simper, the Big Screen Liverpool and **BBC Merseyside Performance Space** pulled out all the stops in a bid to entertain late-night shoppers. In previous years the Big Screen has hosted a temporary stage at the base of the screen, but this year we embraced our latest gadgets to launch a unique performance concept for the city.



5



6



7



8



9



10

Double Vision is a series of live, acoustic concerts which took place at the new BBC Merseyside Performance Space, relayed simultaneously to the Big Screen itself. This is made possible through a direct **underground audio/video link** from the BBC to the Big Screen, dispensing with the need for cumbersome and expensive satellite transmission equipment.

Three video cameras were stationed within the indoor venue, with output channelled into a **Sony AnyCast**. For those who don't salivate over such terms or pour over technical manuals with the zeal of a new Ikea catalogue, this wondrous piece of kit condenses an entire transmission suite into a unit

the size of a laptop - allowing a single operator to switch camera views live between multiple sources.

School and community choirs began each event followed by singer **Philip Tilston** singing classics from the swingin' Christmas songbook. Then followed our headline acts, which for our launch season included **The Christians** (Nov 30th), **Echo & The Bunnymen** (Dec 7th), **Pete Dinklage** (Dec 14th) and **JK as Robbie Williams** (Dec 21st).

Up to 50 tickets for these intimate gigs were available through on-air promotions at **Radio Merseyside 95.8FM** or via a weekly online competition at **bbc.co.uk/liverpool**. All those without headed to the Big Screen in Clayton Square, where the entertainment was relayed live to the many hundreds who gathered.

These concerts will not be repeated on television, radio, nor online, so it really was your first and last opportunity to view! We plan on returning to the Double Vision concept throughout 2007, expanding to include **live comedy, debates, performance, radio drama** and more.



11



RADIO 3 FESTIVAL OF FREE THINKING

Ever wanted to select your own content for the Big Screen? Well now you can! We launched **Visual Jukebox** during the inaugural **BBC Radio 3 Festival of Free Thinking**, allowing you to select visions of our not-so-distant-future.

Visual Jukebox utilises our motion-sensitive camera installed permanently atop the screen for just such projects. Content has been provided by our friends at the **Institute for the Future** in **California's Silicon Valley**; a leading global think-tank who peer into the looking glass at technological innovations-to-be, gauging how society will mutate across such diverse fields as business, health and daily life.

IFTF **Research & Design Manager Jason Tester** specialises in creating **photo-real artefacts of the near future**, allowing us to better grasp what can be a mind-bending leap of faith via the seamless adjustment of everyday sights and

scenes. If Merlin were with us today, he's be wielding an installation disc for Photoshop, and not a wand.

Prompts appeared on screen with clearly defined zones into which the public were able to step to select and vote from a choice of 4 mystery answers to each question:

How will CCTV change and adapt within our cities? What are the cover stories of a gossip magazine in 2019? Which emerging food products will replace those of today? What advertisements will we be seeing in the future?

A clock counted down as the votes are collected (see frontpage image); registered by stepping into a zone of your choice and simply waving your hand. At the end of this period, the option with the most votes appeared on screen. Tomorrow's technology, today? Roll up, roll up and start flapping those arms...



12



AUDIO VISUALS



LIVERPOOL MUSIC WEEK

A joint event between **Liverpool Music Week** (4th – 13th Nov) and **BBC Radio 3 Festival of Free Thinking** (3rd – 5th Nov), fused in spectacular fashion to create a glorious hybrid of live music and eye-boggling visuals.

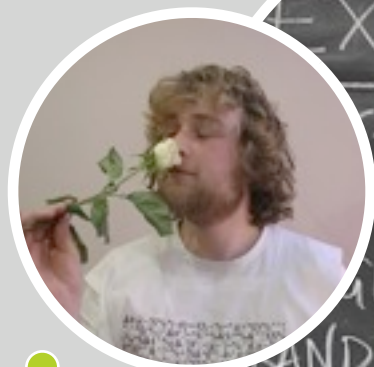
LMW launched their programme of events on Saturday 4th November with an outdoor stage at the Big Screen; a free showcase of the finest alternative music from within the city. No X-Factor vocalists here, but the cutting edge in **ambient, electronic, multi-instrumental** and **genre-busting** performance.

Featuring the attention grabbing electro-experimentalists **Pop Levi & Snap Ant's Supernumerai (Ninja Tune)**, we also welcomed **Cor-**

porate Athlete vs Wassarts; core members of the **Hive Collective** and the puppet-masters behind the **Liverpool Festival of New Electronic Music**.

Also on the bill was **Kinetic Fallacy**, who since their show stealing performance at **The Big Chill** have progressed into one of Liverpool's most unique acts. Just watch what you chuck in the bin: you have nothing to fear but the resurrection of your home videos!

Throughout the 3-hour show, **VJs mixed live visuals** to accompany the music, drawing upon an eclectic storehouse of pictures and abstract sights. Live samples were recorded throughout and artists whisked away for interview and later broadcast by Radio 3's **Mixing It** programme, bastion of off-kilter music radio.



SONIC BOOTH

Freelance creatives **Nikki Rose** and **Souhab Khan**, both based in the city, became fed up with the lack of coverage for new youth music; consequently deciding to embark upon their own project instead. With no direct funding but heaps of enthusiasm from all who came into contact, **Sonic Booth** was born: a video pilot of a **new music show broadcast only at the Big Screen Liverpool**.

This fast-paced, stylish peek at a dynamic scene bubbles over with local talent. Including interviews and live performance, this debut outing includes contributions from **28 Costumes**, **Younger Mob**, **Bexysitch**, **A.P.t.T** and **Former Miss America**. We particularly love the bemused members of the public who have been stopped in the street to provide links, allowing all types and ages to present their own show!

At half an hour in length, the pilot is crammed with content, with no shortage of interested musicians lining up to participate and **5 showings per day** throughout the month of December. Following this well-deserved success, Nikki and Souhab have received funding from **Liverpool Culture Co.** to create at least two more installments, due for outdoor screening in Spring and Summer of 2007.



CITY IN FILM

A film tracking Liverpool through the last century was shown on the screen as part of the **City in Film Symposium**; a research project organised by the **University of Liverpool** exploring the relationship between the city's architecture and film. The City in film team worked with independent film maker Angus Tilston to produce the 12-minute footage which portrays a **journey through time from Liverpool city centre in 1900 to the present day**. This was initially screened five times a day for a fortnight; extended to a one-month run following public demand. The project aims to create an online database of Liverpool films for cinema goers, producers and researchers. Following an appeal across local media, films located include footage of the **overhead railway, St Georges Plateau in 1897**, images of destruction during the **Blitz years**, scenes of everyday city-life and more recently **construction of the Chinese Arch** and the start of regeneration work that even now continues to transform our surroundings.



GUIDE TO IMAGES

Page 1: 1 BBC Radio 3 Festival of Free Thinking: Visual Jukebox 2. Sonic Booth: Bexysitch 3. Liverpool Music Week Showcase: Supernumerai 4. Liverpool Music Week Showcase: VJs at work Page 2: 5. Double Vision: The Christians 6. Double Vision: Echo & The Bunnymen (Ian McCulloch) 7. Double Vision: Pete Wylie 8. Double Vision: JK as Robbie Williams 9. Double Vision: BBC Merseyside Performance Space 10. Double Vision: direct video/audio cable link Page 3: 11 Radio 3 Festival of Free Thinking: Visual Jukebox (content), © Jason Tester /Institute for the Future Page 4: 12 Liverpool Music Week Showcase (clockwise, from left): Kinetic Fallacy, Corporate Athlete, screen crowds, Supernumerai (Stan Ambrose), screen crowds, LMW branding Page 5: 13 All stills from Sonic Booth Page 6: 14 All stills from City In Film © Angus Tilston/Pleasures Past

CONTACT INFORMATION

Got a question? Get in touch!

Bren O'Callaghan
BBC Live Events
Big Screen Manager Liverpool

Address: BBC Merseyside
31 College Lane
Liverpool L1 3DS

Telephone: +44 151 794 0982

email: bren.ocallaghan@bbc.co.uk

or

bigscreenliverpool@bbc.co.uk

to submit city diary and listings information

visit us online at www.bbc.co.uk/liverpool
www.37seconds.co.uk
www.bbc.co.uk/bigscreens



Liverpool City Central: **BID**
Business Improvement District

