

# TATTON PARK BIENNIAL 2008

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**Tatton Park Biennial 2008** is a new contemporary art event for the UK. Launched during Cheshire's Year of Gardens '08 and supported by Arts Council England, Northwest; Cheshire County Council; The Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA); The National Trust; Tatton Park; Cheshire's Year of Gardens '08 and Tatton Park Trust, the Biennial will be staged from May to September 2008.

Peter Mearns, Executive Director of Marketing at the NWDA, says: 'The NWDA is pleased to be able to support this innovative new event at Tatton Park. England's Northwest is a culturally dynamic region and our artistic offering is world class. The Tatton Park Biennial is a unique opportunity to marry this creative talent with Cheshire's garden heritage. This will be a much anticipated flagship event during Cheshire's Year of Gardens '08.'

Brendan Flanagan, General Manager at Tatton Park, adds: 'I have been looking forward to 2008 for sometime now. There is so much that will be happening in the region, but for me, the highlight will be the first Tatton Park Biennial, which opens a new window on our gardens and their collections, giving heritage a contemporary edge and enlivening the space.'

Curated by Danielle Arnaud and Jordan Kaplan from commissioning group **Parabola**, the 2008 Biennial theme is **Botanical Collections and Collectors**. 30 new commissions from artists, performers and writers including: David Blandy, Lisa Cheung, Gayle Chong Kwan, Faye Claridge, David Cotterrell, Jo Coupe, Nicky Coutts, Tessa Farmer, Anna Hart, The Little Artists, Heather & Ivan Morison, Jacques Nimki, Paulette Phillips, Simon Pope, Abigail Reynolds, Manuela Ribadeneira, Shane Waltener and Simon Woolham will develop new work in response to Tatton Park's gardens, investigating the legacy of collections, collectors and the designed landscape amid current issues of climate change and globalisation.

Curators Danielle Arnaud and Jordan Kaplan continue: 'We are thrilled to have been selected to curate the first contemporary art Biennial, and hope to offer something thought-provoking and vibrant by bringing to Tatton Park artists whose practices will challenge expectations and preconceptions about contemporary art.'

The 2008 Biennial supports the work of emerging and mid-career artists through a commissioning process that reveals the history of the Park and is a launch pad for future events that will further understanding of exceptional artistic practice within the laboratory of this National Trust property.

With up to 6 semi-permanent works, 12 evolving commissions, and a substantial programme of tours, performances and talks that lend further depth to the grounds, the Biennial will reflect the historical significance and contemporary relevance of Tatton Park. A specially curated film programme and an active Education and Access programme will extend to major cities, taking in a range of new visitors through specially devised and targeted schemes. A full-colour publication with commissioned essays, a novella by Giles Waterfield and an artist's multiple will be produced for the opening of the Biennial.

For more information about artists and updates about commissions and events, please visit [www.tattonparkbiennial.org](http://www.tattonparkbiennial.org) or contact the curators via: [info@tattonparkbiennial.org](mailto:info@tattonparkbiennial.org)

For information about Press and Marketing, please contact

Vicky Wilby, Marketing Coordinator, Tatton Park

[vicky.wilby@cheshire.gov.uk](mailto:vicky.wilby@cheshire.gov.uk)

01625 374417