



“On my return from travel, I was roused to a consideration of subjects which I had previously never dreamed of, or thought about, connected with self; and I had such ideas that, had I spoken of them openly, I must, if answered in the world’s fashion, have been told I was unreasonable. I concealed, of course, these secret admonitions. I knew not whence they came, although I could not question their propriety, nor could I separate myself from what appeared my fate. My religious opinions varied and do vary from the vulgar; I was inclined to fall in with the views of the ancients, and to regard the substitution of modern ideas thereon as not for the better. These and the like, coupled with an idea of a descent from the Egyptian god Osiris...”

THE INSTITUTE OF MENTAL HEALTH IS BURNING



CURATED BY NEIL MCNALLY

On November 4th, 1839, in atrocious weather, thousands of armed Chartists marched upon Newport intent upon political reform. Thomas Phillips, the Mayor of Newport, with the superior firepower of a small number of soldiers and special constables managed to put down the insurrection. In the battle, twenty two people were killed, and Phillips was shot twice. This defeat ended all thoughts of a Silurian Republic – the dream that South-East Wales would become a working class fortress and the centre of revolutionary activity that would sweep through the kingdom. The ringleaders were found guilty of high treason, but escaped execution due to a technicality, and were instead transported for life to Van Diemen’s Land. The memory of such class hostility did not suit the mid-Victorian mood of social improvement and harmony.

In 1842, Sir Thomas Phillips, now a national hero, went on a Grand Tour of Europe and the Middle East. He took with him a young artist named Richard Dadd to record his travels. Ten months into the trip Dadd suffered from paranoid delusions: he wanted to attack Phillips, and in Rome he wanted to kill the Pope. Returning to England, Dadd lived off a diet of ale and hard-boiled eggs, and believing his father to be possessed by the Devil, slit his throat with a razor before killing him with a knife. En route to Paris (where he intended to kill the Emperor of Austria) he attacked a traveller with a razor. He spent the rest of his life incarcerated in lunatic asylums, where he continued to make art.

There is a Dadd painting (Splendour and Wealth) in the Museum’s collection: it was bought in 1958 from Walker Galleries in London for £58. This investigation into the Museum’s art collection is the impetus to explore the long-term trauma caused by personal, historical and socio-political events. Contrasting the failure of the last large armed uprising against authority in Britain with Dadd’s story, the exhibition touches upon rupture, violence, madness, class and place. 12 international artists have been asked to make newly conceived work for the exhibition, to be shown alongside a selection of work drawn from the Museum’s permanent collection:

Ewa Axelrad & Steve Press, Marcel Broodthaers, Merlin Carpenter, Inez De Coo, Richard Dadd, Jacob Epstein, Morag Keil, L. S. Lowry, David Jones, Hannes Michanek, Amy McDonough, Catalina Niculescu, Luke Pomphrey, Auguste Rodin, Phil Root, George Stubbs, Rowland Thomas, J. M. W. Turner, Keith Vaughan, Iori Wallace, Eva Weinmayr, Christopher Wood.

RICHARD DADD

“Ar ddychwelyd o deithio, fe’m hysgogwyd i ystyried pynciau, nad oeddwn hyd yn oed wedi breuddwydio na meddwl amdanynt o’r blaen, yn ymwneud â’r ‘hunan’. Roedd gennyf syniadau y byddai gweddill y byd, mae’n siŵr, wedi’u hystyried yn afresymol pe bawn i wedi siarad amdanynt yn agored. Cuddiais y ceryddon cyfrinachol hyn, wrth gwrs. Ni wyddwn o ba le y daethant, er na allwn gwestiynu eu priodoldeb. Ymhellach, ymddangosai mai dyma oedd fy nhynged ac ni allwn lai na phlygu iddi. Roedd, ac mae, fy marn ar grefydd yn wahanol i’r di-foes; tueddwn i gyd-fynd â barn y cyndeidiau ac i ystyried nad oedd cyfnewid y farn hon am syniadau modern yn newid er gwell. Rhain a’u tebyg, ynghyd â syniad o ddisgynfa gan dduw’r Eifftiaid, Osiris...”

MAE’R SEFYDLIAD IECHYD MEDDWL AR DÂN



CURADWYD GAN NEIL MCNALLY

Ar 4ydd o Dachwedd 1839, mewn tywydd ofnadwy, gorymdeithiodd miloedd o Siartwyr arfog i Gasnewydd gyda’r bwriad o sicrhau diwygiad gwleidyddol. Llwyddodd Thomas Phillips, Maer Casnewydd, i dawelu’r terfysg gyda grym arfog cryfach ei nifer fechan o filwyr a chwnstabiaild arbennig. Cafodd dau berson ar hugain eu lladd yn y frwydr a chafodd Phillips ei saethu ddwywaith. Chwalodd y frwydr hon unrhyw obeithion am Weriniaeth Silwraidd – sef y freuddwyd o greu cadarnle dosbarth gweithiol yn Ne-ddwyrain Cymru a fyddai’n ganolbwynt i weithgaredd chwyldroadol a fyddai’n lledu drwy’r deyrnas. Cafwyd arweinwyr y terfysg yn euog o deyrnfradwriaeth ond bu iddynt osgoi’r groc bren oherwydd manylyn technegol ac, yn lle hynny, cawsant eu halltudio i Van Diemen’s Land am weddill eu hoed. Nid oedd atgof o elyniaeth o’r fath rhwng y dosbarthiadau yn cyd-fynd â naws canol Oes Fictoria, sef gwelliant cymdeithasol a chytgord.

Yn 1842, aeth Syr Thomas Phillips, a oedd yn arwr cenedlaethol erbyn hynny, ar Daith Fawr o amgylch Ewrop a’r Dwyrain Canol. Aeth ag artist ifanc o’r enw Richard Dadd gydag ef i gofnodi hynt a helynt ei daith. Ar ôl deg mis o’r daith, dechreuodd Dadd ddiodef o rithdybiau paranoiaidd: roedd am ymosod ar Phillips, ac yn Rhufain roedd am ymosod ar y Pab. Ar ddychwelyd i Loegr, roedd Dadd yn byw ar gwrw ac wyau caled ac ar ôl mynd i gredu bod ei dad wedi’i feddiannu gan y Diafol, torrodd ei wddf â rasel a’i drywanu i farwolaeth â chylllell. Ar y ffordd i Baris (lle’r oedd yn bwriadu lladd Ymerawdwr Awstria) bu iddo ymosod ar deithiwr gyda rasel. Treuliodd weddill ei oes wedi’i garcharu mewn gwallgofdai, gan barhau i greu gwaith celf.

Mae un o baentiadau Dadd (‘Splendour an Wealth’) yng nghasgliad yr Amgueddfa. Prynwyd y llun yn 1958 gan orielau Walker yn Llundain am £58. Mae’r ymchwiliad hwn i gasgliad celf yr Amgueddfa wedi ysgogi archwiliad o’r trawma a achosir gan ddigwyddiadau personol, hanesyddol a gwleidyddol-gymdeithasol. Drwy gymharu methiant y gwrthryfel arfog mawr diwethaf yn erbyn yr awdurdodau ym Mhrydain â stori Dadd, mae’r arddangosfa’n cyffwrdd â rhwygiadau, trais, gwallgofrwydd, dosbarth cymdeithasol a lle. Gofynnwyd i 12 artist rhyngwladol wneud gwaith o’r newydd ar gyfer yr arddangosfa er mwyn ei arddangos gyda dewis o waith o gasgliad parhaol yr Amgueddfa:

Ewa Axelrad & Steve Press, Marcel Broodthaers, Merlin Carpenter, Inez De Coo, Richard Dadd, Jacob Epstein, Morag Keil, L. S. Lowry, David Jones, Hannes Michanek, Amy McDonough, Catalina Niculescu, Luke Pomphrey, Auguste Rodin, Phil Root, George Stubbs, Rowland Thomas, J. M. W. Turner, Keith Vaughan, Iori Wallace, Eva Weinmayr, Christopher Wood.

RICHARD DADD

“After the most anxious and careful investigation of your respective cases, before juries of great intelligence and almost unexampled patience, you stand at the bar of this court to receive the last sentence of the law for the commission of a crime, which, beyond all others, is the most pernicious in example, and the most injurious in its consequences, to the peace and happiness of human society – the crime of High Treason against your Sovereign. You can have no just ground for complaint that your several cases have not met with the most full consideration, both from the jury and from the court. I should be wanting in justice if I did not openly declare, that the Verdicts which they have found meet with the entire concurrence of my learned brethren and myself.

And now nothing more remains than the duty imposed upon the Court – to all of us a most painful duty – to declare the last sentence of the law, which is that you, John Frost, and you Zephaniah Williams, and you, William Jones, be taken hence to the place from whence you came, and be thence drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution, and that each of you be there hanged by the neck until you be dead, and that afterwards the head of each of you shall be severed from his body and the body of each, divided into four quarters, shall be disposed of as Her Majesty shall think fit, and may Almighty God have mercy upon your souls.”

**THE
INSTITUTE
OF
MENTAL
HEALTH
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**NEWPORT MUSEUM
AND ART GALLERY**
John Frost Square
Newport
South Wales
NP20 1PS

24 September – 3 December 2011

PREVIEW
Friday 23rd September 2011
6.30pm – 8.30pm

OPENING TIMES
Monday – Thursday 9.30am – 5.00pm
Friday 9.30am – 4.30pm
Saturday 9.30am – 4.00pm

Originated by Newport Museum
and Art Gallery
www.newport.gov.uk/artgallery

**MAE'R
SEFYDLIAD
IECHYD
MEDDWL
AR
DÂN**

**AMGUEDDFA AC ORIEL
GELF CASNEWYDD**
Sgwâr John Frost
Casnewydd
De Cymru
NP20 1PA

24 Medi – 3 Rhagfyr 2011

RHAGWELEDIAD
Nos Wener 23 Medi 2011
6.30pm – 8.30pm

AMSEROEDD AGOR
Dydd Llun – Dydd Iau 9.30am – 5.00pm
Dydd Gwener 9.30am – 4.30pm
Dydd Sadwrn 9.30am – 4.00pm

Yn tarddu o Syniad gan Amgueddfa
ac Oriel Gelf Casnewydd
www.newport.gov.uk/artgallery

DIRECTIONS

By train: From the train station, follow the pedestrianised route to the main shopping thoroughfare – Commercial Street. Walking up the street turn left at Lloyds bank down Llanarth Street into John Frost Square. The museum and art gallery is immediately on your right (same building as the library).

By bus: From the bus station take the stairs on the far left of the station – turn left into John Frost Square. The museum and art gallery/library is in the right hand corner of the pedestrianised square – to the right of Kingsway Shopping Centre.

For further details of how to get to venue please call 01633 656656

For information concerning disabled access, telephone 01633 842962

CYFARWYDDIADAU

Ar y trê: O'r orsaf trenau, dilynwch y llwybr cerddwyr i'r brif ardal siopa – Commercial Street. Wrth gerdded fyny'r stryd, trowch i'r chwith ger Banc Lloyds, ac i lawr Llanarth Street i Sgwâr John Frost. Mae'r Amgueddfa ac Oriel Gelf ar y dde (yr un adeilad â'r llyfrgell).

Ar y bws: O'r orsaf bysbus, defnyddiwch y grisiau ar ochr chwith bellaf yr orsaf – trowch i'r chwith i Sgwâr John Frost. Mae'r Amgueddfa ac Oriel Gelf yng nghornel dde'r ardal i gerddwyr – i'r dde o ganolfan siopa Kingsway.

I gael mwy o fanylion ynghylch cyrraedd y lleoliad, rhowch alwad i 01633 656656

I gael mwy o fanylion am fynediad anabl, ffoniwch 01633 842962

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