



Big Draw - Friday 14th October

Drop in between 11.30am and 2.00pm then 2.00pm to 4.30pm

Location: Oldbrook - Fishermead underpass connecting Oldbrook via Sutcliff Avenue to Fishermead.

Join artist Janetka Platun at the underpass. The workshop will be a moment to pause, reflect and decipher your heritage.

The public are invited to record their significant moments to be included in an artistically assembled register. Cast in shadow, the concealed space will be animated with a table, chairs, typewriter, telephone and lighting dating from 1967.

Contribute alternative points in your life over the past 50 years as you pass through the dark underpass from one location, before emerging in another.

This is free activity with all materials provided.

Janetka Platun will be running events for residents of the Fishermead and Oldbrook over the next few months, gathering stories and talking to people about their impressions and experiences of using the underpass.

So come along and get involved in part of the world's biggest celebration of drawing between 11.30am and 2.00pm or on the other side of the underpass between 2.00pm and 4.30pm on Friday 14th October with the opportunity to contribute and share your thoughts on what is being proposed.

If you want to find out more about the events taking place in your area please look at the On the Verge website **www.ontheverge.org.uk**

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Notes to Editors

On the Verge and its partners MK Council, The Parks Trust MK and the MK City Discovery Centre, are delivering the yearlong 'Underpasses' project with funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), the MK Community Foundation and MK Council. On the Verge is a Community Interest Company.

On the Verge has been awarded an 'Our Heritage' grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund towards the '*Underpasses connecting people, connecting places*', which will see a series of heritage and cultural events taking place in 4 communities in Milton Keynes designed to explore its heritage and unique system of underpasses. On the Verge will be working with partners and artists to deliver a series of community engagement events to uncover local history, collecting artistic responses and oral histories. Artwork for two underpasses, a heritage trail and series of exhibitions and publications will be created through the project, culminating in a celebration event next year marking Milton Keynes' 50th Anniversary.

Janetka Platun has worked across the UK including being commissioned as part of the Cultural Olympiad Project by The London Borough of Bexley and is currently undertaking a Leverhulme Trust artist in residence award at Queen Mary University, London. Further information on Janetka Platun and her practice can be found on her website: www.janetka-platun.com.

About the Big Draw and the Big Draw Festival

Founded in 2000, The Big Draw (formally The Campaign for Drawing) is an arts education charity that promotes visual literacy and the universal language of drawing as a tool for learning, expression and invention.

The charity leads a diversified programme encompassing advocacy, empowerment and engagement, and is the driving force behind The Big Draw Festival – the world's biggest celebration of drawing.

The Big Draw Festival is for anyone who loves to draw, as well as those who think they can't! It is an opportunity to join a global community in celebration of the universal language of drawing.

From 1-31 October, every year, thousands of enjoyable, and mainly free, drawing activities connect people of all ages with schools, galleries, museums, libraries, heritage sites, village halls, outdoor spaces - all sorts of places - artists, designers, illustrators, and each other.

For further information images and interviews please contact either:

Myriam Metcalf – Director, On the Verge mm@ontheverge.org.uk or

Clare Cleary – Project Manager, On the Verge. cc@ontheverge.org.uk

The Underpasses project is supported by: The Heritage Lottery Fund, Milton Keynes Community Foundation, and Milton Keynes Council and delivered in partnership with The Parks Trust MK, MK City Discovery Centre, and MK Council

