

PRESS RELEASE

Maker Unknown: Anonymous Folk Art Past & Present

14 September – 11 November 2007

Maker Unknown is a new exhibition at Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum which explores the anonymity of historical and contemporary Folk Art.

Folk Art has been an element of popular culture throughout history and remains part of everyday life in Britain today. Many historical Folk Art pieces are labelled 'Maker Unknown' as details about the maker have been lost or were left deliberately unclear. Contemporary Folk Art is often similarly nameless with the focus on the work itself or the event depicted.

This exhibition brings together historical works from Compton Verney's Folk Art collection and Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum's own collection. These works, selected by artists Jeremy Deller and Alan Kane, have been placed alongside photographs and items from their own Folk Archive, which documents Folk Art practices in the present day.

To celebrate the opening of the exhibition on Saturday 22 September Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum will hold a fun event for visitors of all ages, featuring special guest 'Snowdrop' the mechanical elephant.

On Thursday 1 November there will also be an opportunity to join Jeremy Deller and Alan Kane as they discuss the ideas behind the exhibition with art historian Claire Bishop. Please call 01926 742700 for further details.

- Ends -

Further information

Call Emma Lewis, Publicity Officer, on 01926 742709, email:

emma.lewis@warwickdc.gov.uk or Chloe Johnson, Curatorial Officer, on 01926 742702 email: chloe.johnson@warwickdc.gov.uk.

LEAMINGTON SPA ART GALLERY & MUSEUM

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Open: Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday 10.30am – 5pm, Thursday 1.30pm – 8pm, Sunday 11am – 4pm, Monday closed (except Bank Holidays)

Admission free.