David Sinclair

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Humber Street Gallery

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Caroline Collier

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Dear Ms Collier,

I am writing to make a formal request for several loans from the Tate Archive concerning the work of Genesis P- Orridge, Cosey Fanni Tutti and Coum Transmissions

In January 2017 Humber Street Gallery will open its doors for the first time as a key dynamic in this transformative year for Hull.

Hull was announced the winner of UK City of Culture 2017 in 2013. The award is given every four years to a city that demonstrates the belief in the transformational power of culture.

To deliver on this promise, Hull City Council set up Hull UK City of Culture 2017 as an independent company and charitable trust. The team are working hard to plan and deliver 365 days of transformative cultural activity in 2017.

The arts and cultural programme for the year will celebrate the unique character of the city, its people, history and geography. In 2017, the programme will run from 1 Jan to 31 Dec. This year will be split into four seasons, each with something distinctive, intriguing and created to challenge and thrill.

We will work with the artists of Hull and celebrate the culture of the city and its place in the wider cultural offer of the North, and make Hull a cultural destination for must-see events. Young people are at the heart of the programme – it is this group who will inherit the longer-term benefits as a result of our focus around Education and Skills.

Working with businesses and organisations who want to help us, we will make Hull a better place for the people who live and work here, in particular those who have a presence in Hull or a connection to the city, and an interest in being here for the long haul

Our aim is to be forward-thinking in our choice of exhibitions, and to present the best of all aspects of art and design to our audience by including a range of contemporary visual fine art, design, fashion, photography and craft. Without losing our artistic integrity we often include a focus on popular culture and social history to broaden the appeal and accessibility of our exhibitions. We aim to ensure **Humber Street Gallery** is a venue where people can learn, engage and become inspired. We want to create an environment that instils a sense of confidence, enjoyment, understanding and a desire to return again and again by providing an exhibitions programme that appeals to a wide cross-section of people regardless of age, background or ability. We hope to generate debate, expand boundaries and encourage change and development, both for those familiar with the arts and those new to this arena.

Primarily serving as a showcase for major commissioned exhibitions and exhibitions and loans. from established lenders. By creating strong working relationships with such institutions as Magnum, Film and Video Umbrella and the Crafts Council. **Humber Street Gallery** aims to enhance the quality of the visitor experience whilst also raising the profile as a credible venue for exhibitions of importance.

The opening season of Hull 2017 is ‘Made in Hull’ and is an opportunity to re-visit and re-tell the key stories of the city in new and interesting ways. It is also the opportunity to begin to tell stories of Hull that may not be so well known to its residents or the wider public, stories that will help reposition the city in terms of its contribution to culture, stories like the formation of COUM Transmissions, the genre defying art collective that helped shape 1970’s counter-culture and especially to two lead creative forces in both these groups, Genesis P-Orridge and Cosey Fanni Tutti and their relationship to Hull.

This will be the opening exhibition for Humber Street Gallery, the new contemporary visual arts space for the city. The venue will be owned, ran and curated by Hull 2017. It will be a space that helps develop audiences for contemporary visual arts in the city in anticipation of the Turner Prize and it will also host significant exhibitions in their own right. This opening exhibition is designed as a statement of intent, it will uncover a story the city has not yet told.

The exhibition is the celebration and exploration of the living legacy of COUM Transmissions and in particular the artist Cosey Fanni Tutti and Genesis P-Orridge. Although the main body of the exhibition will be made from artefacts it will not be a museum show, the continuing legacy of COUM will be represented through an associated live programme featuring artists who best embody the spirit of COUM, there will be talks, in conversation style events and the publication of an accompanying catalogue featuring series of new writing commissions exploring the contemporary legacy of COUM Transmissions.

Andrew Wheatley from Cabinet Gallery and Cosey Fanni Tutti have been exploring the archive relating to the exhibition under the instruction of Andrew Wilson and will be imminently compiling the final list of the materials they wish to loan for the exhibition. I will forward this list as soon as it is available.

Further information about Humber Street Gallery and Hull 2017 UK City of Culture can be found at www.hull2017.co.uk. I have also included copies of the UK Registrars Group Standard Facilities Report and the UK Registrars Group Security Supplement for your attention. Should you require any further information in the immediate future, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above address.

Yours faithfully,

David Sinclair

Curator.