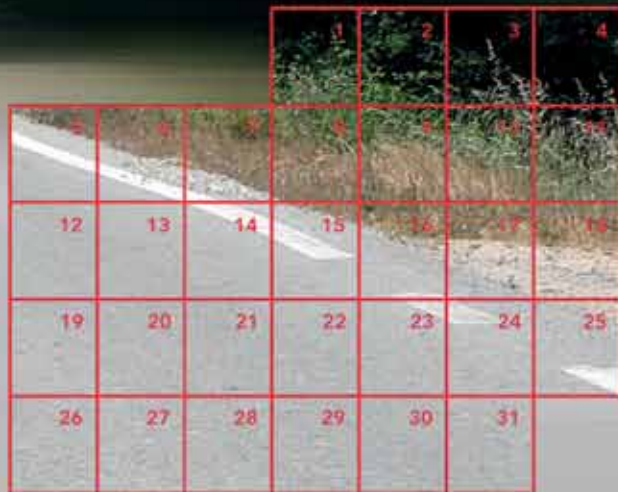


# AV FESTIVAL

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL OF ART, TECHNOLOGY, MUSIC AND FILM

## AS SLOW AS POSSIBLE 1-31 MARCH 2012

NEWCASTLE GATESHEAD MIDDLESBROUGH SUNDERLAND/AVFESTIVAL.CO.UK



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# Welcome

Welcome to *AV Festival 12: As Slow As Possible*.

In the run-up to London 2012 with its motto of “Faster, Higher, Stronger” we propose an alternative slower pace and relaxed rhythm to counter the accelerated speed of today.

Titled after *ASLSP (As SLOW aS Possible)* by pioneering artist John Cage, the theme explores how artists have stretched, measured and marked the passage of time. Some works last the full 31 days, others are infinite in duration or move imperceptibly slowly: 14 seconds become 31 minutes, one hour becomes 24, and we can all dream together in a 12-hour sleep concert.

This fifth edition of the biennial Festival runs, for the first time, over a whole month. It takes place at different speeds, paces and times of day, across NewcastleGateshead, Middlesbrough and Sunderland.

The programme includes 22 exhibitions, 34 film screenings, 15 concerts, 6 walks, and even a 744-hour continuous online radio. The Opening Weekend, Slow Cinema Weekend and Equinox Music Weekend programmes are full of new commissions and UK premieres.

AV Festival is built in partnership with numerous organisations and talented individuals across the North East and beyond, and we are hugely grateful to the ongoing commitment of our partners, funders, volunteers and artists. All of our exhibitions, and many of our events are free. For ticketed events, you can book online at [avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk)

Two special projects invite you to participate. You can volunteer to read aloud from On Kawara’s epic 20-volume work of typewritten dates spanning one million years at BALTIC. And the Festival finale is a large-scale *Slowwalk* with artist Hamish Fulton. Hundreds of people walking and reflecting very slowly and silently together, will mark the perfect ending to this slow Festival.

Rebecca Shatwell  
Festival Director

# 24-hour launch

Thu 1 March 6pm – Fri 2 March 6pm

AV Festival opens with 24 continuous hours of free exhibition openings and events across the region.

Our first hour kicks off in Middlesbrough with three exhibitions that take you on slow journeys across Cuban landscapes, ancient ruins and post-industrial steelworks.

The night continues with a marathon 24-hour live performance starting at midnight, of Leif Inge's *9 Beet Stretch*: Ludwig van Beethoven's 9th Symphony stretched to 24 hours, with no pitch distortion. You can come and go, or stay the whole night and following day immersing in this epic and ethereal deep listening experience, bring along your sleeping bags...

Time moves on with morning exhibitions across Newcastle starting with a live stream of Buzz the moon goose; a slowly rotating flip of a coin; and celestial sound cycles at the Civic. Towards Monument a real car slowly crashes; vinyl records play at glacial pace; a candle is lit; and synthetic futures are conjured. Across town pipes and foghorns sound, we are asked to breath slowly, and then all read a million years in Gateshead.

A quick metro trip to Sunderland, and then we're slowed down with film installations that freeze time or punctuate it with colour. 60 seconds and 60 landscapes are re-made 27-years-on at NGCA; time is delayed, mirrored and exposed at NGC, whilst a wooden digital clock tells us the real time in an empty shop as dusk falls.

See p.32–33 for venue information, and back page for Festival transport. **FREE, no booking required.**

**Join us for 24-hours, or drop-in at any time**

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6–9pm

**Middlesbrough Exhibitions**

John Gerrard, *mima*, p. 16  
Cyprien Gaillard, *mima*, p.16  
James Benning, Platform A, p.16

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12am–12am

**24-Hour Live Performance**

Leif Inge: *9 Beet Stretch*, Star and Shadow Cinema, Newcastle

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9am–3pm

**NewcastleGateshead Exhibitions**

Agnes Meyer-Brandis, Great North Museum, p.19  
Julien Maire, Hatton Gallery, p.18  
Susan Stenger, The Civic Centre, p.17  
Jonathan Schipper, 16 Saville Row/ Locus+, p.18  
Jem Finer, The NewBridge Space, p.17  
Torsten Lauschmann, Laing Art Gallery, p.18  
Sneha Solanki, Vane, p.19  
Marina Zurkow, Vane, p.20  
Yoshi Wada, Discovery Museum, p.17  
Benedict Drew, CIRCA Site, p.19  
On Kawara, BAL TIC, p.15

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3–6pm

**Sunderland Exhibitions**

James Benning, NGCA, p.21  
Bob Levene, Project Space, NGCA, p.20  
Elizabeth McAlpine, Reg Vardy Gallery, p.21  
*CRUMB Drop-In*, Ashburne House, p.31  
John Smith, CIRCA Screen, p.22  
Mark Formanek, 50 Fawcett Street, p.21  
*Mirror Neurons*, National Glass Centre, p.22  
Joe Winter, National Glass Centre, p.22

# Opening weekend

Fri 2 March – Sun 4 March

**Our unmissable opening weekend focuses on the durational through music, live performance and film across NewcastleGateshead. From the sustained music of Niblock, Wada and Cage; to Darboven's century of composed time and Goldsmiths' decade of weather reports; to the slow shifts from dawn to dusk in the films of Benning and Lockhart. Prepare for the ultimate long weekend...**



**Phill Niblock: *The Movement of People Working***

This leading US minimalist composer and filmmaker, presents his music and films simultaneously. The films, made between 1973–91, focus on labourers working in locations including Peru, Mexico, China and Japan. His slowly evolving music of long tones echoes the workers' repetition, to create an otherworldly experience. The evening

includes *Stosspeng*, a guitar duet composed for Susan Stenger and Robert Poss. Inspired by Morton Feldman, La Monte Young and John Cale, Niblock's work continues to influence a generation. Produced by AV Festival.

**The Sage Gateshead, Fri 2 March, 7.45–10.15pm, £12**

Phill Niblock, *The Movement of People Working*, 1973/1991. © the artist

## Opening weekend



James Benning, *Nightfall*, 2011. © the artist

### Leif Inge: 9 Beet Stretch

The last hours of this 24-hour performance complete our opening Friday night.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Fri 2 March, 10pm–12am, FREE**

### Talk: Phill Niblock, Susan Stenger, Yoshi Wada

A rare chance to hear these musicians talk about their work and shared histories, referencing the New York minimalist scene and Niblock's legendary arts space Experimental Intermedia.

**Tyneside Cinema, Sat 3 March, 11am–12pm, FREE, booking required**

### Jem Finer: Slowplayer Live Mix

Bring along your own vinyl records and hear them played live by the artist on his specially adapted slow record player, see p.17.

**The NewBridge Project, Sat 3 March, 12–6pm, FREE**

### The Art of Time + Director Intro

*The Art of Time* explores how leading artists and thinkers are inventing new and radical notions of time. Including interviews with: Vito Acconci, Doug Aitken, Chantal Akerman, David Claerbout, Stan Douglas, Sylvere Lotringer, Paul Morley, Alexander Sokurov, Robert Wilson and others. Directors Fergus Daly and Katherine Waugh introduce.

**Tyneside Cinema, Sat 3 March, 1.30–3.20pm, FREE, booking required**

### James Benning: *Nightfall* + Director Intro

Widely acclaimed for his great 16mm American landscape films, Benning has been making new work in digital HD since 2009. "*Nightfall* is a study of real-time light changing from day to night. It was filmed in a forest high up in California's Sierra Nevada Mountains." Benning introduces this UK premiere screening.

**Tyneside Cinema, Sat 3 March, 3.50–6pm, £6.95/£4.80. 2 for 1 ticket offer**

### Lament for John Cage

Marking the 100th anniversary of John Cage's birth and 20th anniversary of his death, this evening focuses on slowness and duration, across six distinctive performances. Cage's *Postcard from Heaven* performed by Rhodri Davies (harp) includes continuously sustained sounds. *Ryoanji* performed by Susan Stenger (flute), Robert Poss (percussion) and Dominic Lash (double bass), is Cage's long, meditative work inspired by a Zen garden. World premieres include *A Cage of Stars* composed by Phill Niblock for Rhodri Davies, and *The Lament of John Cage* by Yoshi Wada for Susan Stenger and Robert Poss (electric guitar), Tashi Wada (reed organ), and the City of Newcastle Pipeband. Poets Kenneth Goldsmith and Alec Finlay will read Cage's texts and poetry inspired by him. Curated by AV Festival and Susan Stenger.

**The Sage Gateshead, Sat 3 March, 8–10.30pm, £15/£13**



Susan Stenger with John Cage at the Portland Center for the Visual Arts, Oregon, 1984. Courtesy Susan Stenger. Photo © Randal Davies

## Book tickets: [avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk)



Kenneth Goldsmith. © the artist

### Kenneth Goldsmith: *The English Weather (1920)*

Goldsmith's writing has been called "some of the most exhaustive and beautiful collage work yet produced in poetry". He is the founding editor of UbuWeb and the author of ten books of poetry including *Weather*, a book of appropriated New York City weather reports for a year. Goldsmith is working with digitised monthly weather summaries of 1920s British weather from the Met Office Archive. The resulting durational performance will reflect the copious drama, variability, contrasts, excess, deficiency, disturbances, precipitation and memorability of our weather. Commissioned by AV Festival. World Premiere.

**Morden Tower, Sun 4 March, 11am–2pm, FREE, booking required**

### Yoshi Wada Live

This new composition for timpani and highland bagpipes, is performed live within Wada's sound installation, see p.17.

**Discovery Museum, Sun 4 March, 2.30–3.15pm, FREE**

### Sharon Lockhart: *Double Tide* + Director Intro

*Double Tide* documents a female clam digger in the mudflats of coastal Maine. Filmed on the rare occasion in which low tide occurs twice within daylight hours, once at dawn and once at dusk, *Double Tide* takes as its subject a worker whose job is defined by the most elemental and unchangeable forces of nature. Lockhart is present to introduce the film.

**Tyneside Cinema, Sun 4 March, 4–6pm, £6.95/£4.80. 2 for 1 ticket offer**

### Hanne Darboven: *Requiem*

This UK premiere of Darboven's *Requiem* is performed by Thomas Dahl, Director of Music at St Peter's Church in Hamburg and selected by the artist for her 60th birthday recital in 2001. Darboven is one of the most radical of the conceptual artists. In 1968 she adopted the date as the basis for every future work, as a daily act of writing time. *Requiem* is her major composition for organ, based on calculations using dates 1.1.00 to 31.12.99, plus parts of Bach's *Tocatta in D minor*. It powerfully represents all the days of the 20th century. Produced by AV Festival.

**St Thomas the Martyr Church, Sun 4 March, 8–10pm, £8 (£3 off with *Lament for John Cage* ticket)**



Sharon Lockhart, *Double Tide*, 2009. © the artist

# Slow cinema weekend

Thu 8 March – Sun 11 March

Over this special weekend we welcome some of the world's leading filmmakers to Newcastle to screen and discuss their rarely seen work. Representing the most exciting cinema across Europe, Latin America, South-East Asia and the UK, these uncompromising and visionary filmmakers are devoted to the slow art of film. You can attend individual films or the whole weekend, see back page for ticket deals.



Fred Kelemen. © the artist

## Slow Cinema Discussion

A panel of filmmakers and critics discuss their work and current trends within contemporary cinema, including: Fred Kelemen, Lav Diaz, Lisandro Alonso, Ben Rivers, Jonathan Romney, George Clark and Matthew Flanagan.

**Tyneside Cinema, Fri 9 March, 11am–12.30pm, FREE, booking required**

## Fred Kelemen

One of the boldest German filmmakers of the last 20-years, critic Susan Sontag compared Kelemen's "urgently relevant" work to Sokurov and collaborator Tarr. He garnered attention for his 1990s trilogy – *Fate*, *Frost* and *Nightfall*. Believing in "time and not in speed", meditations on human dissolution, cruelty and loneliness unfold at somnambulant pace. Set amongst Europe's late-capitalist underclass of the unemployed and dispossessed, he captures nocturnal urban low-life with beauty. Kelemen is present throughout the weekend to introduce and discuss his work, in conversation with film critic Jonathan Romney.

Book tickets: [avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk)

## Fate/Verhaengnis

*Fate* is a remarkable debut film, admired by Sontag as "a visionary, one-of-a-kind achievement". Taking place over one night in Berlin, it follows an emigrant Russian accordion player and his lover through this city of lost people, fatefully bound together by their solitary quest for happiness. Unscripted, and shot on handheld video with natural lighting, *Fate* is a dance of desire, pain and survival.

**Tyneside Cinema, Thu 8 March, 6pm, 80mins + Q&A, 1994, £8/£6.95**

## Frost

*Frost* is a landmark European film, cementing Kelemen as an inheritor of Fassbinder and Herzog. This three-hour epic 16mm film focuses on a mother and son fleeing her abusive husband in Berlin and wandering the former East Germany seeking a town that has long since vanished. Set during a sunless Christmas, *Frost* slowly unfolds during their one-week odyssey across glacial landscapes, towards peace.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Thu 8 March, 8.30pm, 201mins + Q&A, 1997, £5/£3.50**

## Nightfall/Abendland

Kelemen's third feature is a devastating, tender and sublime masterpiece. Expanding the location to Portugal integrates the Fado tradition of love and death ballads into this depiction of a single night in the lives of an estranged couple. Combining 35mm long-takes with video close-ups, the black depravity of the night surrounds them like a long sad song.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Fri 9 March, 6pm, 140mins + Q&A, 1999, £5/£3.50**

## The Turin Horse

This preview of Bela Tarr's last ever work, filmed in collaboration with Kelemen, depicts six days in the life of a father, daughter and their horse trapped in a rural farmhouse by a near-hurricane storm. Tarr's initial idea draws on Nietzsche's descent into madness after watching a horse being whipped in Turin.

**Tyneside Cinema, Sat 10 March, 7.45pm, 146mins + Q&A, 2011, Hungary, £8/£6.95**



Lav Diaz. © the artist

## Lav Diaz

Internationally celebrated as "the ideological father of the New Philippine Cinema". Diaz has created one of the most compelling bodies of work in contemporary cinema. Peopled by outsiders – failed revolutionaries, filmmakers, artists, criminals and cult members – his work explores society from the margins and the traumatic post-colonial history of South-East Asia. Using extreme duration, it offers a deeply rewarding, immersive and unique experience. This UK debut focuses on recent work. Diaz is present throughout the weekend for discussion with curator George Clark and critic May Adadol Ingawanij.

## Elegy To The Visitor From The Revolution

A woman waits on the street kerb, a group plan a robbery, a musician plays guitar and a visitor wanders the city; these are the enigmatic components of Diaz's work-in-progress film – the start of an ambitious series of 15. A remarkable work in its own right, it is the perfect introduction to his distinct slow-burn aesthetic.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Fri 9 March, 9.30pm, 80mins + Intro, 2011, £5/£3.50**

## Slow cinema weekend

### **Melancholia**

Three strangers arrive in rural Sagada. Past revolutionaries, they adopt different identities to manage their trauma. Exploring the legacy of failed revolution and military oppression this 8-hour intimate epic is Diaz's most complex and moving film. Winner of the Orizzonti Prize at the Venice Film Festival, 2008, *Melancholia* is a powerful work about political defeat and human loss.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Sat 10 March, 1pm, 480mins + refreshments, 2008, £5/£3.50**

### **Century of Birthing**

Stories about a Christian religious cult and a self-involved filmmaker, are brilliantly intertwined in Diaz's newest film, premiered at the Venice Film Festival, 2011. *Century of Birthing* also weaves different types of filmmaking together (documentary, fiction, film-within-a-film) to create a profound 21st-century exploration of the value of art, belief and commitment.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Sun 11 March, 1pm, 360mins, 2011, £5/£3.50**

### **Butterflies Have No Memories**

In a formerly prosperous, remote mining village, unemployed workers live in economic oppression until the mine-owner's daughter returns from Canada. The director's cut of this film about industrial age nostalgia was commissioned for the Jeonju Festival in Korea. A double bill with *Independencia* by acclaimed young Philippine director Raya Martin.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Wed 28 March, 7.30pm, 58mins, 2009, £5/£3.50**



Lav Diaz, *Century of Birthing*, 2011. © the artist



Lisandro Alonso. © the artist

### **Lisandro Alonso**

One of the most accomplished and original Argentine artists working in contemporary Latin American cinema, Alonso combines fiction and documentary techniques to create meditative, mysteriously atmospheric films. Each film follows a solitary man, signifying a larger journey or inner quest, within exquisite natural landscapes shot on 35mm. Working with non-actors from rural communities, the slow rhythm of everyday life is distinctive and mesmerising. Alonso is present throughout the weekend to introduce and discuss his work.

#### ***La Libertad / Liberty***

Alonso's brilliant debut film follows a day in the life of Misael, a migrant woodcutter absorbed in ceaseless manual work in the Argentine Pampas. Self-sufficient and largely cut-off from the outside world, he derives his basic income and needs from nature itself. *La Libertad* is a poetic contemplation on labour, landscape and elemental freedom.

**Tyneside Cinema, Fri 9 March, 1.45pm, 70mins + Q&A, 2001, £5/£3.50**

## Book tickets: [avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk)

### **Los Muertos/The Dead**

Alonso's second feature is the enigmatic journey of released convict Vargas, through the jungle to reunite with his daughter. Observing his last two days in prison, and first two days of freedom, *Los Muertos* shows his transition with beauty and brutality. Like *La Libertad* the character is a local non-actor, however a deep mystery and detachment surrounds him.

**Tyneside Cinema, Fri 9 March, 3.30pm, 78mins + Q&A, 2004, £5/£3.50**

### **Liverpool**

Evoking *Ulysses*, Alonso's latest film follows estranged seaman Ferrel on a journey home to his family. Filmed in snowy Tierra del Fuego, the world's most southerly town, this solitary road movie meditates on searching for the past. Named after the key-ring Ferrel gives his daughter just before his final departure to another anonymous port, *Liverpool* is Alonso's most complex and mature film.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Sun 11 March, 9pm, 84mins + Q&A, 2008, £5/£3.50**

### **Ben Rivers**

Rivers is one of the most distinctive UK filmmakers working today. His films focus on marginal places and individuals, often those who have disconnected from the normal world and taken themselves into wilderness territories. Using an old handheld 16mm camera and film stock, he meticulously processes the work himself. Crossing the boundaries of gallery and cinema presentation, and between documentary and fiction, his work imagines alternative visionary new worlds. Rivers is present throughout the weekend to introduce and discuss his work.

### **Slow Action**

*Slow Action* is a post-apocalyptic science fiction film, operating between documentary, ethnography and fiction. Filmed at different islands across the globe: Lanzarote; Gunkanjima (off Nagasaki); mid-Pacific Tuvalu and Somerset (yet to be discovered as an island). Each location is narrated according to its biogeography, to enable utopian reconstructions of these soon-to-be-lost worlds.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Sat 10 March, 11am, 45mins + Intro, 2010, £5/£3.50**

### **Two Years At Sea**

Rivers' first feature-length film documents the solitary existence of Jake, who lives in isolation in a remote Scottish forest. He is seen in all seasons, surviving frugally, undertaking strange projects, living the radical dream of his younger self. *Two Years At Sea* captures his unconventional life with profound beauty.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Sun 11 March, 11am, 88mins + Intro, 2011, £5/£3.50**



Ben Rivers and Jake on location. © the artist

# Equinox music weekends

Sat 17 March

Fri 23 March – Sun 25 March

These two weekends of new commissions and special concerts focus on ritual, alchemy and dreams in experimental music. Connecting together the weekends either side of the spring Equinox, we mark the time shift from spring to summertime. Starting with a remembrance event to Peter Christopherson, followed by a weekend of Steven Stapleton, Attila Csihar, :zoviet\*france: and more. You can come to one or all of the concerts, and even sleep over...



Pilgrims Way, Lindisfarne, 2011. Photo © Lynda Sebbage

## Musick to Play in the Dark: A Talk by Rob Young

Rob Young is the author of *Electric Eden: Unearthing Britain's Visionary Music*, and Editor-at-Large at *The Wire* magazine. In a talk illustrated with sound, he discusses Peter Christopherson's unique contribution to music via Throbbing Gristle, Coil and beyond.

**Tyneside Cinema, Sat 17 March, 5–6pm, FREE, booking required**

## Susan Stenger and Attila Csihar: Full Circle Live

This live performance for voice makes use of the unique acoustics of the Civic Centre entrance dome. It represents the Equinox as the equal point between night and day, and takes us through multiple time cycles. Limited capacity. See exhibition p.17.

**The Civic Centre, Fri 23 March, 5.30–6pm, FREE**

Book tickets: [avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk)



## Wishful Thinking: In Remembrance of Peter Christopherson (1957–2010)

Peter 'Sleazy' Christopherson was best known as a founder member of Throbbing Gristle and Coil, a designer at Hipgnosis, and a videomaker for Greenback Films. In summer 2010, AV Festival commissioned him to compose a work for the 2012 spring Equinox, to be staged at Durham Cathedral, where his father was University Vice-Chancellor from 1960–1979.

Christopherson died in his sleep at home in Thailand on 24 November 2010 before completing the work. This music, film and performance event is a celebratory remembrance of his life and work.

It includes the premiere of three performance sketches with Christopherson's original

collaborators for the commission: visual artist Alex Rose, sound recordist Chris Watson and vocalist Attila Csihar.

Special guests Chris Carter and Cosey Fanni Tutti premiere live remixes from Throbbing Gristle's nascent, and final, studio album: a 'cover' of Nico's *Desertshore*, preceded by a rare screening of Philippe Garrel's *The Inner Scar* for which *Desertshore* was soundtrack and inspiration.

The evening comes to a poetic close with Derek Jarman's *A Journey To Avebury*, with a soundtrack by Coil, Christopherson considered the film "truly, a timeless work of art". Commissioned by AV Festival with producer Paul Smith. World Premiere.

**Tyneside Cinema, Sat 17 March, 8pm–12am, £20 Stalls/£22.50 Circle**

Above: Peter Christopherson, 2010. Photo © Leon Chew

## Equinox music weekends

### **:zoviet\*france:** **The Newcastle Tour**

Formed in 1980 :zoviet\*france: is a prolific music group based in Newcastle, who are pioneers of ambient and electronic music. This trilogy of rare live performances over sequential weekends, takes them on their first tour of their hometown, sonically re-mapping the city across historic venues Morden Tower, Cumberland Arms and Stephenson Works. Produced by a better noise, see [abetternoise.org.uk](http://abetternoise.org.uk)

**Morden Tower, Fri 23 March, 8–9pm, £8 individual/£18 tour pass**

### **Steven Stapleton: Sleep Concert**

The UK premiere and fourth ever *Sleep Concert*. Stapleton performs live throughout the night manipulating and re-animating his own Nurse With Wound recordings in an avant-DJ somniloquy to shape and colour your dreams. Nurse with Wound has produced over 40 recordings since 1978, influenced by krautrock, ambient, easy listening, noise and musique concrete, Stapleton collaborators include David Tibet, James Thirlwell, Andrew McKenzie, Stereolab and William Bennett. A rare performance not to be missed, limited capacity and advance booking recommended. Beds will be provided. Produced by AV Festival.

**Centre for Life, Fri 23 and Sat 24 March, 9pm–9am, £25 incl. bed and breakfast**

### **The Time is Out of Joint: Forest Swords, The Caretaker, Pye Corner Audio**

Three live performances embrace the concept of Hauntology at the moment we skip an hour to mark the beginning of British Summertime. Based on the idea that there are numerous unrealized futures deriving from past points in history, Hauntology makes us nostalgic for a future that never was. Working from recordings of demolished North East buildings, *Ground Rhythms* by Forest Swords is performed only once before being destroyed. Inspired by Kubrick's *The Shining*, 1920s ballroom dance, and human memory creation, The

Caretaker creates dream-like music that slows down time. Pye Corner Audio is influenced by nostalgia for the BBC Radiophonic Workshop of the 1970s. Curated by Lauren Lucretia Elliott. Supported by The Factory.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Sat 24 March, 9pm–2.30am, £10**

### **Attila Csihar: A Scrying: First and Second Action (NCL)**

Csihar, the baritone voice of Sunn 0))) and Norwegian black metal pioneers Mayhem, creates his first ever intimate solo durational work. Inspired by the theatre, science and ancient mythology of alchemy, he performs a specially created text in the Enochian language within a scrying ritual. Central to alchemy, scryers often used bridges and towers as portals to access visions of the past or future. It was also considered as a way to communicate with God through Angels, which John Dee famously turned into the Enochian Dictionary in the 16th century. In this radical new work Csihar connects together the North East landscape from Lindisfarne to the Tyne Bridge with past, present and future. Limited capacity and advance booking recommended. Commissioned by AV Festival, produced by Paul Smith. World Premiere.

**Tyne Bridge North Tower, Sat 24 March, 7–9pm and Sun 25 March, 8–10pm, £12 individual/£20 both**



Attila Csihar, 2011. © the artist.

# Exhibitions

**Thu 1 March – Sun 31 March**

**22 exhibitions and installations run throughout the Festival month and beyond, including 10 UK premieres and 5 new commissions. Time is unfolded, marked, measured, stretched and frozen across the region. Work moves at slow, often imperceptible speeds, or is stretched to gallery opening hours; 14 seconds become 31 minutes; an hour of time elapses each minute; and for others duration is infinite. All exhibitions are FREE. See p.32–34 for venue details and diary.**



*One Million Years*, installation view at David Zwirner, 2009. Courtesy David Zwirner, New York

### **On Kawara: One Million Years**

*One Million Years* is an epic work of conceptual art. It speaks simply and directly about a subject relevant to us all: the passage and marking of time. The monumental 20-volume work comprises of *Past*, a typewritten record of every year from 998,031 BC to 1969 AD, while *Future* accounts for 1996 AD to 1,001,995 AD. *Past* is dedicated to 'all those who have lived and died' and *Future* is 'for the last one'.

Conceived in 1969, live readings of the work have been performed across the world, with a man and a woman alternating the reading of *Past* and *Future* dates in numerical order.

This exhibition is the opportunity for you to participate by reading, with hundreds of others, from this landmark work. To take part, email [onemillionyears@avfestival.co.uk](mailto:onemillionyears@avfestival.co.uk). Co-curated by AV Festival and BALTIC.

**BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art,  
Gateshead**

**Thu 1 March – Sun 29 April**

## Exhibitions



*Cuban School (Community 5th of October) 2010.*  
© the artist. Courtesy Thomas Dane Gallery, London and Simon Preston Gallery, New York

### John Gerrard

The UK premiere of two recent works by Gerrard consolidates his reputation as one of the most innovative artists working today. *Cuban School (Community 5th of October) 2010* and *Cuban School (Sancti Spiritu) 2011* are meticulous slow-moving virtual portraits of schools constructed in the 1960s Cuban countryside that are now decaying functional ruins. Both works are infinite in duration based on a continuous real-time 365-day solar cycle, and powerfully mark the melancholic demise of a political vision. Curated by AV Festival, in partnership with mima.

**mima, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art**  
**Thu 1 March – Sun 1 July**



*Cities of Gold and Mirrors, 2009.* © the artist.  
Courtesy Laura Bartlett Gallery, London

### Cyprien Gaillard

In his largest UK exhibition to date, award-winning artist Gaillard presents two major film installations. The works show contemporary architecture as a modern ruin on the verge of being taken over by nature. *Real Remnants of Fictive Wars (Part V)* is a 35mm film depicting a cloud of smoke engulfing a romantic landscape, as a violent yet mesmerisingly beautiful act. *Cities of Gold and Mirrors* brings together archaeological and human ruin in its hypnotic depiction of the ancient city of Cancun. Curated by AV Festival, in partnership with mima.

**mima, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art**  
**Thu 1 March – Sun 1 July**



*Milwaukee/Duisburg, 2010.* © the artist  
>> See screening p.6 and exhibition p.21

### James Benning: Milwaukee/Duisburg

Benning is a key figure in American avant-garde film. In 1971 he made *Time and a Half* including a 14-second shot of a working class man leaving a Milwaukee factory: in 2010 he slowed it down 133 times stretching the 14 seconds to 31 minutes. In 2009 he filmed trains at the HKL Steelworks in Duisburg collecting slag and pig iron, the shot is 31 minutes in real time. This installation brings together both of these former industrial zones. Curated by AV Festival. UK Premiere.

**Platform A Gallery, Middlesbrough**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March**



*An adapted bagpipe with sympathy II, 1979.*  
Photo © Phill Niblock

>> See performances and talk p.6–7

### Yoshi Wada

Part of the American minimalist music and Fluxus scenes in 1960–70s New York, Wada was influenced by George Maciunas, La Monte Young and Pandit Pran Nath. This debut UK commission continues his pioneering practice of making musical instruments from plumbing pipes and electronics. The immersive sound installation is constructed from organ pipes, sheet metal, steel pipe, sirens, foghorns, alarm bells and a ship's ventilator. Tuned to the architecture of the Great Hall, the work produces sustained, long drones reverberating through space. Commissioned by AV Festival. World Premiere.

**Great Hall, Discovery Museum, Newcastle**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March**



Chart of the Fire Phases from the Chinese Book of Changes. Courtesy the artist

>> See talk p.6 and performances p.6 and p.12

### Susan Stenger: The Structures Of Everyday Life: Full Circle

This sound installation unites Western harmony and Eastern philosophy to mark both the birth and death of John Cage. It responds to the unique acoustics of the Civic Centre entrance dome by slowly building and dismantling dense drones in evolving cycles. Across a six-hour day, time is unfolded on multiple scales, across clock time, lunar waxing/waning, and seasonal celestial cycles. *Full Circle* embodies the unity of constancy and change reflected in the *I Ching*. Commissioned by AV Festival. World Premiere.

**The Civic Centre, Newcastle**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March**



*Slowplayer, 2005/11.* © the artist

>> See live mix p.6

### Jem Finer: Slowplayer

At extreme slow speeds, the spin of a record player is reduced to a glacial crawl, the music to seismic rumbling. A beat may last a minute, and the tiny slices of silence between them become ambient voids. On each day of the Festival a different record is played, from Ravel to The Sex Pistols to Ornette Coleman, slowed down to the length of the gallery opening hours. With this work Finer continues his interest in long-duration processes and extremes of scale. Curated by AV Festival.

**The NewBridge Project, Newcastle**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March**

## Exhibitions

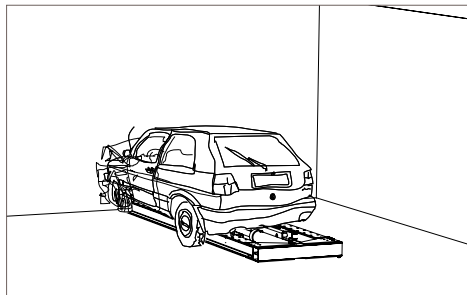


*The Inverted Cone*, 2010. © the artist.  
Photo © Roman Maerz

### Julien Maire

The first UK solo exhibition by this leading new media artist revisits ideas of slow motion and duration. Making his own cinematic machines using old technology, Maire reflects on illusion, memory and the passage of time. Including work made since 1995 alongside new commissions, the exhibition features low-resolution projection, high-voltage photographs with ten-hour exposures, live transmissions of disintegrating slow motion material, and the slowly rotating flip of a coin that stops completely in mid-air. Curated by AV Festival. UK Premiere. Supported by Northern Rock Foundation.

**Hatton Gallery, Newcastle**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 19 May**



Preparatory Sketch, 2011. © Locus+ Archive/the artist

### Jonathan Schipper

Schipper's work provides an alternative way of experiencing the world by slowing down physical events to almost imperceptible movement. This slow motion car crash sculpture is actually moving at a speed of 7mm per hour in a choreographed collision. The spectacular moment of the car crash is rendered safe and almost static. With a dramatic inevitability that reflects our own mortality, over the course of the Festival month, the car is eventually destroyed. Co-commissioned by Locus+ and AV Festival. UK Premiere.

**16 Saville Row, Newcastle**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March**

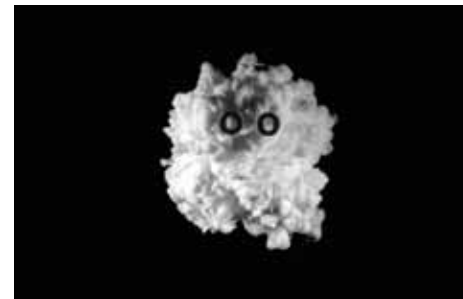
### Torsten Lauschmann

Lauschmann's critically acclaimed work has been described as too slow to be film, and too fast to be photography. Working across old and new technologies, he creates magical installations that reference pre-cinematic optical entertainment and the power of illusions. This solo exhibition responds to the context of the Laing, continuing his interest in the history of image technology from paintings to game engines. Commissioned by AV Festival, DCA Dundee and Film and Video Umbrella.

**Laing Art Gallery, Newcastle**  
**Thu 1 March – Sun 6 May**



*House of the Rising Sun (Panoramic Version)*, 2008/11.  
© the artist. Photo © Ruth Clark



*The Persuaders* (Detail), 2011. © the artist

### Benedict Drew: *The Persuaders*

A single screen video gives breathing instructions that induce a sense of calm and well being. Sculptures act as empathetic mascots. Faces greet you with a smile. Old technology mimics slightly newer technology. A complaint about the world is lodged. Drew's work aims to both create and destabilize systems, playfully referencing the history of film, music and conceptual art. Curated by CIRCA Projects. Courtesy James Taylor Gallery.

**CIRCA Site, Stephenson Works, Newcastle**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March**

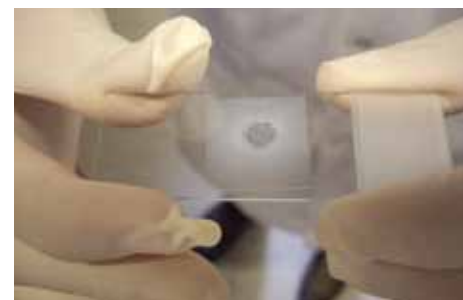


*The Moon Goose Colony, Pollinaria*, 2011. © the artist

### Agnes Meyer-Brandis: *The Moon Goose Analogue: Lunar Migration Bird Facility*

Meyer-Brandis' work weaves together history, popular science and fiction. It is inspired by *The Man in the Moone* (1638) by English bishop Francis Godwin, in which the protagonist flies to the moon in a chariot towed by moon geese. The artist has made this a reality by raising 11 moon geese from birth, giving them astronauts' names and training them to fly. A control room in the museum broadcasts a live stream of the geese. Commissioned by The Arts Catalyst and FACT, part of Republic of the Moon.

**Great North Museum: Hancock, Newcastle**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March**



*Synthetic Biology Lab Research*, 2011. © the artist

### Sneha Solanki: *Super-natural*

*Super-natural* connects two points in time, the historical pre-enlightenment and genetic science of today, both periods signaling the onset of revolutionary or accelerated technological change. Integrating the practice of witchcraft with the emergent science of synthetic biology, Solanki highlights the rifts between science and experimental folk culture. Working in residence in a synthetic biology wet-lab, she has constructed a synthetic life viewed through a scrying device. Supported by the Synthetic Biology Research Group, Newcastle University.

**Vane, Newcastle**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March**

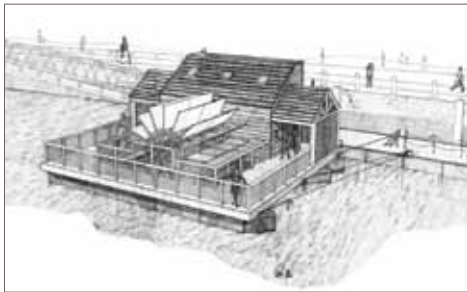


Heraldic Crests for Invasive Species: American Bullfrog, 2011. © the artist

**Marina Zurkow: Mesocosm (Northumberland UK)**

*Mesocosm* (Northumberland UK) is a 146-hour animated portrait of the Northumberland moors. One hour of time elapses each minute: the work continuously changes over time in response to software driven data inputs, influenced by the simulated ecosystems of environmental science. Also on view are *Heraldic Crests for Invasive Species*, designed for twelve of the most successful modern invaders of North East England. Developed during an ISIS Arts residency.

**Vane, Newcastle**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March**



~Flow illustration by Nicky Kirk, 2011. © the artist

**Owl Project and Ed Carter: ~Flow**

~Flow is a tidemill: a floating building on the River Tyne that generates its own power using a tidal water wheel. The building houses electro acoustic musical machinery and instruments that respond to the constantly changing environment of the river, generating sound and data. ~Flow is part of *Artists taking the lead*, one of twelve extraordinary public art commissions funded by the UK Arts Councils for the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad.

**Newcastle Quayside, NE1 3DX**  
**Sun 25 March – September**



*Inertial Frame*, 2009. © the artist

**Bob Levene: Inertial Frame**

Filmed in South West Finland, *Inertial Frame* captures the moving sea, sky and islands of the beautiful Finnish Archipelago. Consisting of five shots between the Islands Pargas and Nauvo, the film explores the artist's interest in our perceptions of time, distance and speed in relation to memory, technology and human scale. Starting in daylight and ending in darkness as the light fades the movement slows to an imperceptible level. Co-curated by AV Festival and Emma Dean.

**Project Space, Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art, Sunderland**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 26 May**



*One Way Boogie Woogie* 2012. © the artist  
 >> See screening p.6 and exhibition p.16

**James Benning: One Way Boogie Woogie 2012**

In summer 2011, Benning returned to his hometown of Milwaukee to make a third version of his seminal 1977 film *One Way Boogie Woogie*. In 1977 he filmed 60 locations in Milwaukee's industrial valley each for 60 seconds, creating short, minimal, playful narratives. In 2004 he remade the film as *Twenty Seven Years Later*, with the same 60 camera positions. This 2012 installation version, presents 18 locations similar to, and reminiscent of, the original. Curated by AV Festival. World Premiere.

**Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art, Sunderland**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 9 June**



*Square Describing a Circle (10th May)*, 2010. © the artist.  
 Courtesy Laura Bartlett Gallery

**Elizabeth McAlpine**

McAlpine's work explores the two essential elements of all film: light and time. This exhibition brings together her 8mm sculptural film works that physically mark the passage of time. *Square Describing a Circle (10th May)* was filmed using a square stencil during a 12-hour day. The result is a flickering square beam of light, following the movement of the sun, which, when rotated references a circle. *Tilt (in 6 Parts)* is composed of six projectors, projecting six white frames punctuated by colour every sixth of the way through the film. Curated by AV Festival.

**Reg Vardy Gallery, Sunderland**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March**



*Standard Time*, 2010. © the artist

**Mark Formanek: Standard Time**

*Standard Time* functions as a new civic clock. Projected in an empty shop window, this 'digital clock' tells the exact time of day. However it is actually a film of a 4 x 12 metre structure made of wooden planks rebuilt 1,611 times over the course of four shifts by 72 workers to create a physical 24-hour clock. *Standard Time* shows calendrical time quite literally as a man-made construct. Curated by AV Festival.

**50 Fawcett Street, Sunderland**  
**Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March**

## Exhibitions

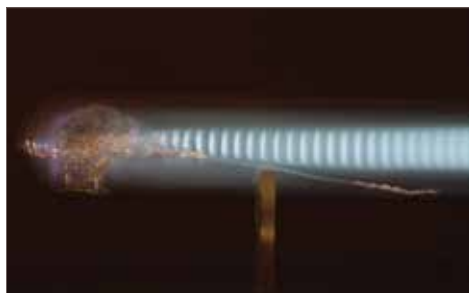


John Smith, *Frozen War (Hotel Diaries 1)*, 2001.  
© the artist. Courtesy the artist and LUX, London  
>> See screening p.27

### John Smith, Manon de Boer, Martin Arnold, Ben Russell

This exhibition focuses on artists whose work involves repetition, duration and the long-take, with a single work presented each week. John Smith's *Frozen War* narrates the TV news frozen at 1.41am. Manon de Boer's *Think about Wood*, *Think about Metal* is a sound portrait of composer Robyn Schulkowsky. Martin Arnold's *Soft Palate* is a manipulation of Mickey Mouse sleeping. Ben Russell's *Trypps#7 (Badlands)* is a sublime trip in the Badlands National Park. Co-curated by AV Festival and CIRCA Projects.

**CIRCA Screen, Sunderland**  
**Thu 1 – Sat 31 March**



Catherine Richards, *I was scared to death / I could have died of joy (Detail)*, 2000. © the artist

### Mirror Neurons

This group exhibition, including work by Catherine Richards, Scott Rogers, Michael Snow and others, draws on ideas of scientific experimentation, media processing, and time delay. Each work acts to slow down our senses of perception, causing within us an awareness of both time passing and our experience of it. The title refers to the fact that we often watch other people interact with responsive art, and mirror their behaviour, consciously or not. Curated by Sarah Cook. Supported by CRUMB and The University of Sunderland.

**The National Glass Centre at the University of Sunderland**  
**Thu 1 March – Sun 20 May**



Untitled model for a history of light (red horizon), 2010. © the artist

### Joe Winter

Joe Winter's series ...*A History of Light* involves fading pigmented papers with either natural or artificial light to produce seemingly photographic, long duration exposures. His new site-specific installation uses glass objects to reflect, refract or focus ambient light. A series of abstract images slowly evolve through the interaction of light, paper, glass, and time. Curated by Sarah Cook. Supported by CRUMB and The University of Sunderland.

**The National Glass Centre at the University of Sunderland**  
**Sat 25 February – Sun 20 May**

## Films

Sun 4 March – Thu 29 March

Throughout the Festival this series of films provides an introduction to slowness and cinema across the world. From early pioneers to new releases, they are devoted to stillness, contemplation and the everyday. Providing a retreat from cinematic speed, these films create a more relaxed rhythm, making us aware of every minute and second spent watching. You can attend one or all of the films, see back page for special loyalty card details.



Dir. Andrei Tarkovsky. 161mins, 1979, Russia

### Stalker

One of the most enigmatic films ever made about time, *Stalker* depicts an expedition led by the Stalker, an outlaw able to safely navigate the decayed landscape of the Zone, to visit the Room where visitors innermost and unconscious desires are fulfilled. The Stalker plus the Writer and the Scientist become pilgrims walking a slow, desolate quest for hidden truth.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Sun 4 March, 9pm,**  
**£5/£3.50**



Dir. Alexander Sokurov. 99mins, 2002, Russia

### Russian Ark

*Russian Ark* is a unique journey through time and Russian history. Filmed entirely in the Hermitage Museum, Sokurov's breathtaking film recreates 300 years of culture, narrated by the filmmaker and Marquis de Custine, his on-screen time traveller accomplice. Featuring more than 2,000 actors, the entire film was shot in a day in one unedited single take unfolding in real-time.

**Tyneside Cinema, Mon 5 March, 5.45pm,**  
**£8/£6.95**



Dir. Cristi Puiu. 181mins, 2010, Romania

**Aurora**

*Aurora* is the story of the fall of an ordinary man, set in contemporary post-Communist Romania. We follow protagonist Viorel, played by Puiu himself, as he wanders around Bucharest for one long day. With extremely long takes, elliptical narrative and dry humour, this slow-burning *tour de force* is a study of what moves us to commit the ultimate act.

**Tyneside Cinema, Tue 6 March, 7.45pm, £8/£6.95**



Dir. Abbas Kiarostami. 74mins, 2003, Iran

**Five**

This radically minimalist film features five extended, seemingly single-take sequences, shot on hand-held DV camera along the shores of the Caspian Sea: a piece of driftwood is broken; people stroll along the promenade; a group of dogs gather; ducks nosily waddle by; and the full moon is reflected. In homage to Yasujiro Ozu, *Five* is calm, meditative and funny in equal measure.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Wed 7 March, 7.30pm, £5/£3.50**



Dir. Richard Fenwick. Commissioned by AV Festival. In partnership with the Division of Sport Sciences, Northumbria University and Animate Projects. Supported by a Wellcome Trust Arts Award

**Exhaustion**

The UK premiere of this newly commissioned film chronicles a professional athlete's journey from rest, to exhaustion, and recovery. *Exhaustion* was filmed in epic detail and extreme slow motion at 4,000 frames-per-minute, with Chris Watson's recording capturing real-time data from both inside and outside the athlete's body. A Q&A follows the screening.

**Tyneside Cinema, Sun 11 March, 6.30-8pm, £8/£6.95**



Dir. Nuri Bilge Ceylan. 157mins, 2011, Turkey

**Once Upon a Time in Anatolia**

Winning the Grand Prix at Cannes 2011, Ceylan's hypnotising crime film follows the search by police, prosecutors, a doctor and the alleged culprit for the body of a man buried in the Anatolian steppes. Starting at dusk and ending the following day, the slow passage of time mirrors the gradual uncovering of the body itself plus new secrets and guilt.

**Tyneside Cinema, Mon 12 March, 8pm, £8/£6.95**



Dir. Bruno Dumont. 110mins, 2011, France

**Hors Satan**

*Hors Satan* is a mesmerising and brutal drama set in the sparse grandeur of Northern France's Opal Coast. A nameless outsider develops a close bond with a local young woman, sealed in a dramatic act of violence. Wandering across the hyper-real landscape they remain apart from everything through a mix of religion, spirituality and wordless detachment.

**Tyneside Cinema, Tue 13 March, 5.45pm, £8/£6.95**



Dir. Pedro Costa. 155mins, 2006, Portugal

**Colossal Youth**

Hailed as the Beckett of cinema, Costa has produced a staggering trilogy observing the demolition of the Fontainhas housing complex in Lisbon. *Colossal Youth* focuses on Ventura, an elderly immigrant from Cape Verde Islands, who has assumed the role of surrogate father to the dispossessed. An intimate epic, where present and past move as one.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Wed 14 March, 7.30pm, £5/£3.50**



Dir. Albert Serra. 95mins, 2006, Spain

**Honor of the Knights**

Serra's striking, controversial adaptation of Cervantes' *Don Quixote*, is a revelatory portrait of the relationship between Quixote and his loyal scribe Sancho. Played by first-time non-professional actors, they wander the earth aimlessly day and night searching for adventure. Staged long-takes envelop us in their slow, meditative quest.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Thu 15 March, 7.30pm, £5/£3.50**



Dir. Sergio Caballero. 80mins, 2010, Spain

**Finisterrae**

Two Russian-speaking ghosts leave the Sonar Festival, along the pilgrim path to Santiago de Compostela then on to Finisterre: the end of the world, to seek rebirth. Inspired by Garrel's 1972 film *The Inner Scar*, this humorous debut feature has a stunning soundtrack including Nico and Suicide.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Sun 18 March, 7.30pm, £5/£3.50**



Dir. Pablo Giorgelli. 86mins, 2011, Argentina/Spain

**Las Acacias**

Winner of the Camera d'Or at Cannes 2011, this slow paced road movie tells the story of a long distance truck driver, who agrees to drive a woman and her baby 1,500km from Paraguay to Buenos Aires. Exploring loneliness and the pain of loss, *Las Acacias* delicately reveals the unlikely bond that grows between them.

**Tyneside Cinema, Mon 19 March, 5.45pm, £8/£6.95**



Dir. Carlos Reygadas 136mins, 2007, Mexico

**Silent Light**

Sublimely shot on location in the Mexican Mennonite community near Chihuahua, *Silent Light* opens and closes with slowly unfolding images of dawn and sunset. This story of one man's inescapable, passionate love for two women, and the spiritual crisis, redemption and miracle that follows, is acclaimed for its visual brilliance.

**Tyneside Cinema, Tue 20 March, 5.45pm, £8/£6.95**



Dir. Rirkrit Tiravanija. 149mins, 2011, Thailand

**Lung Neaw Visits His Neighbours**

Debut feature by visual artist Tiravanija is a portrait of the slow passage of time and simplicity of everyday life in a small village near Chiang Mai. The artist follows old uncle Lung Neaw with a 16mm camera during his daily routines. With compassion and humility, we see him walk, talk, eat, pray, cook, drink and visit his neighbours.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Wed 21 March, 7.30pm, £5/£3.50**



Dir. Jia Zhang-ke. 111mins, 2006, China

**Still Life**

*Still Life* is set in Fengjie, 150 miles from the Three Gorges Dam, the hydroelectric project on the Yangtze River that submerged thousands of towns and displaced more than a million people. Shot while Fengjie was being demolished, the film has a powerful documentary impact, as two people travel there to look for their missing spouses.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Thu 22 March, 7.30pm, £5/£3.50**



Dir. Sivaroj Kongsakul 105mins, 2010, Thailand

**Eternity**

This debut feature won the prestigious Tiger Award at Rotterdam 2011. Evoking the traditional Thai belief that the spirit of the dead returns, *Eternity* follows a man through three stages of being: as a ghost in his childhood home, as a young man falling in love, and absent in the life of his family in the days following his death.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Sun 25 March, 7.30pm, £5/£3.50**



Dir. Apichatpong Weerasethakul. 105mins, 2006, Thailand

**Syndromes and a Century**

Described as a hospital comedy with a metaphysical bent, *Syndromes and a Century* is inspired by the filmmaker's memories of his doctor parents, and of growing up in a hospital environment. This Buddhist meditation on the mysteries of love is a film in two halves with scenes playfully repeated, plus a surreal subplot involving a singing dentist.

**Tyneside Cinema, Mon 26 March, 5.45pm, £8/£6.95**



Dir. Kim Ki Duk. 103mins, 2003, Korea

**Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter... and Spring**

This simple and serene film shows the life of a monk as he passes through the seasons of his life, from childhood to old age. The Buddhist inspired fable takes place on a small floating monastery, the centre of existence for the monk and his young apprentice. *Spring, Summer...* shows the passage of cyclical time and transcendence.

**Tyneside Cinema, Tue 27 March, 5.45pm, £8/£6.95**



Dir. Ben Russell, 135mins, 2009, US

**Let Each One Go Where He May**

Russell's stunning feature debut draws from documentary and ethnography. Set in Suriname and shot with 16mm steadicam, in 13 extended ten-minute shots it follows two brothers as they trek from Paramaribo to rainforest villages of the Maroons. The journey mirrors their ancestors' escape from slavery 300 years earlier.

**Star and Shadow Cinema, Thu 29 March, 7.30pm, £5/£3.50**

# Walks

Thu 15 March – Sat 31 March

**These artist-led urban and rural walks, take you on different, slow journeys across time and space, culminating in an unmissable large-scale mass participation Slowwalk with Hamish Fulton, marking the end of the Festival. All walks are FREE. Limited capacity, advance booking required. Curated by AV Festival in partnership with WALK at the University of Sunderland.**

## **Iain Sinclair:** **Middlesbrough Talk**

Sinclair is a leading writer, filmmaker, poet and psychogeographer, renowned for his walks in the borderlands of cities, derelict sites and urban redevelopments. His solitary walk in Middlesbrough will be the focus of a public talk at *mima*. Sinclair previously walked the M25 to write *London Orbital*, and his new book, *Ghost Milk*, is a road map of post-Olympics landscapes. **mima, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art**  
**Thu 15 March, 6–7.30pm**

## **Laura Harrington:** **Layerscape (peat bogs)**

This peatlands walk leads to a bothy screening of the film *Layerscape*, created collaboratively by Harrington with Sarah Bouttell, Debbie Bower and sound artist Lee Patterson. *Layerscape* is a slow, immersive journey filmed over a year and inspired by the decomposition and layering of vegetation over thousands of years in the North Pennines and Northumberland peatlands. Developed in collaboration with The North Pennines AONB Partnership. Supported by VARC and Arts Council England. **Moor House, Upper Teesdale National Nature Reserve**  
**Sun 18 March, 11am–4pm**

## **Chris Watson:** **Teesside Sound Walk**

Watson is one of the world's greatest sound recordists, famed for capturing the natural world for Sir David Attenborough. This sound walk encourages you to listen, not just to hear, this unique post-industrial environment. Timed on an incoming tide, the slow tidal rhythms reveal seals and migrating birds. You may bring portable, lightweight, sound recording kit. Binoculars recommended. **Seal Sands Nature Reserve, Teesside**  
**Sat 24 March, 1–4pm**

## **Tim Brennan:** **Taking Coals to Sunderland**

Over the past 20 years, Brennan has developed a walking-based art practice. Following the former route of the world's first railway line, Brennan's selected readings en route collide historical and aesthetic quotations creating a web of contradictions and political dilemmas. The 8-hour journey culminates at 6am on the banks of Sunderland's River Wear. Refreshments and head torches provided. **Colliery Inn, Hetton-le-Hole, Houghton-le-Spring, Durham**  
**Sat 24 March, 10pm–6am**

Book tickets: [avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk)

## **Mike Collier:** **Street Flowers – Urban Survivors of the Privileged Land**

This circular walk with artist Mike Collier and natural historian Keith Bowey meanders along the banks of the River Wear, crossing the Wearmouth and Queen Alexandra Bridges. It celebrates the diversity of flora and fauna within our urban environment and the hidden histories of past social and industrial activity. The early start enables you to listen to birdsong before the traffic noise of the day begins. **Main Entrance, The National Glass Centre at the University of Sunderland**  
**Sun 25 March, 7.30am–11am**

## **Hamish Fulton: Slowwalk**

For the finale of AV Festival 12, this leading British artist devises one of his legendary slow walks for Newcastle.

Since the 1960s, Fulton has produced images and text pieces responding to his physical engagement with rural and urban landscapes. In 1973, he resolved to only make art resulting from individual walks. Devising group walks from the early 1990s onwards, he has completed over 30 across the world, including Japan, Norway and the USA. Most recently, he created slow walks for Margate's Turner Contemporary and Tate Modern.

Fulton's slow walks are mass participation events, bringing hundreds of people together to walk very slowly in silence as a meditative experience. For AV Festival, the artist leads a group walk on a landmark post-industrial site near the River Tyne. Participants are both the art and the audience.

To be part of this unique work, please book your FREE place in advance (over 18s only) by emailing [walk@avfestival.co.uk](mailto:walk@avfestival.co.uk)  
**Newcastle Quayside**  
**Sat 31 March, 1–3pm**



Hamish Fulton, *Kent Walk*, 2010. Courtesy Turner Contemporary, Margate

# Radio Boredcast

Thu 1 March – Sat 31 March

**Radio Boredcast is a 744-hour continuous online radio project, curated by artist Vicki Bennett (People Like Us) with AV Festival. In response to our ambiguous relationship with time – do we have too much or not enough? – Radio Boredcast celebrates the detail, complexity and depth of experience lost through our obsession with speed. You can listen continuously for a month, or for hours, minutes or seconds...**

**Online 24 hours each day, [avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk) / [thepixelpalace.org](http://thepixelpalace.org)**

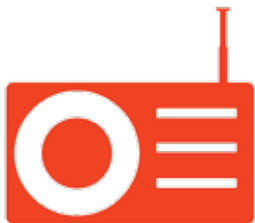
744-hours is a long time. It would be easy to think about how to fill up this time as quickly as possible. *Radio Boredcast* is curated slowly, avoiding the obvious, the short cut or the first hurdle; the aim is to make an engaging, entertaining and unpredictable a listening experience possible.

*Radio Boredcast* includes new and unpublished works, freeform radio shows, field recordings, interviews, monologues and much, much more. Thematic playlists will run throughout from "Acconci" to "Zzz..."

While listening, you will hear: adults talking for hours about slowness and children complaining about how boring it all is, mathematical experiments and time-based compositions, field recordings of nature's cycles and underwater rumblings, musical meanderings through memory and inner worlds of sleepless nights. Across landscapes and back through time, discovering the world of ritual and speaking in tongues by way of babbling poets and bubbling brooks full of musical elephants, a voyage into deep concrete through art gallery toilets, scientific discussions on insects and evolutionary biology,

ultrasound recordings of bats, journeys through very slow cheese, soundscapes from faraway lands with long phonecalls full of language removal, testcard music and shipping forecasts, vast sweeping summaries of the entire history of everything, and then... silence.

*Radio Boredcast* has over 100 participants including: The Long Now Project, Touch, Language Removal Services, Matmos, Chris Watson, Radio Web MACBA, Leif Elggren, Jem Finer, Andy Baio, Carl Stone, Dave Soldier, Felix Kubin, Craig Dworkin, Jez Riley French, Daniel Menche, Gordon Monahan and Gudrun Gut to name but a few. Co-commissioned by AV Festival and Pixel Palace, hosted by BASIC.fm.



# Symposia, talks & tours

## As Slow As Possible

AV Festival's opening symposia explores the idea of slowness in contemporary art and culture. Including presentations from Festival artists and special guest speakers including philosopher Eric Alliez and media theorist Sean Cubitt. Advance booking recommended. Followed by our 24-Hour Launch.

**mima, Thu 1 March, 2–5pm, FREE**

## CRUMB Drop-in

During the 24-Hour Launch drop by the CRUMB office for a cup of tea, and to find out about their work on curating new media art, see [crumbweb.org](http://crumbweb.org)

**Ashburne House, the University of Sunderland, Fri 2 March, 3–4pm, FREE**

## CRUMB Seminar

Join CRUMB researchers and guest experts to discuss live distribution of new media art exhibitions online. Attendance by application, see [crumbweb.org](http://crumbweb.org)

**Lecture Theatre, The Literary & Philosophical Society, Mon 5 March, 9.30am–12.30pm, FREE**

## Exhibition tours

Informal one-hour FREE exhibition tours across the region, starting at 1pm, no booking required.

**Newcastle Tours: Meet at Hatton Gallery on Sat 10, 17 or 24 March**

**Sunderland Tours: Meet at NGCA on Sat 10, 17 or 24 March**

**Middlesbrough Tours: Meet at mima on Wed 7 or Sat 24 March**

## Datarama #17

*Datarama* is a democratic data-sharing event led by Polytechnic, an open show-and-tell session for people that like to make interesting things with technology. In partnership with Pixel Palace.

**Tyneside Cinema, Fri 16 March, 7–9pm, FREE**

## AV in Middlesbrough

Contemporary Art Society hosts an introductory tour of our Middlesbrough exhibitions, followed by an informal discussion about collecting film and digital art, with mima curators. Booking required, see [contemporaryartsociety.org/north-east](http://contemporaryartsociety.org/north-east)

**Starts Platform A Gallery, Sat 17 March, 11–1.30pm, FREE**

## Torsten Lauschmann tour

Clive Gillman, Director of DCA, Dundee, introduces the work of Torsten Lauschmann in this exhibition tour, organised by Contemporary Art Society. Booking required, see [contemporaryartsociety.org/north-east](http://contemporaryartsociety.org/north-east)

**Laing Art Gallery, Tue 27 March, 6.30–8pm, FREE**

## Duration

This international interdisciplinary conference explores the temporality of contemporary public arts practice, organised by Intersections at Newcastle University. Booking required, see [intersectionspublicart.org.uk](http://intersectionspublicart.org.uk)

**Culture Lab, Newcastle University, Thu 29 – Sat 31 March**

# Festival venues

## Middlesbrough

### **mima, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art**

Centre Square  
Middlesbrough TS1 2AZ  
visitmima.com  
Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat 10am–4.30pm, Thu 10am–7pm, Sun 12–4pm

### **Platform A Gallery**

Middlesbrough Railway Station  
Zetland Road  
Middlesbrough TS1 1EG  
platformagallery.net  
Tue – Sun 10am–4pm

## Newcastle Gateshead

### **Jonathan Schipper/Locus+ 16 Saville Row**

Newcastle NE1 8JE  
locusplus.org.uk  
Tue – Sat 12–6pm. This work can be viewed 24-hours daily, via the window

### **BALTIC Centre for Contemporary Art**

South Shore Road  
Gateshead NE8 3BA  
balticmill.com  
10am–6pm daily,  
Tue 10.30am–6pm

### **Centre for Life**

Times Square  
Newcastle NE1 4EP  
life.org.uk

### **CIRCA Site**

Stephenson Works  
20 South Street  
Newcastle NE1 3PE  
ccaprojects.org.uk  
Wed – Sun 12–5pm

### **Culture Lab**

Grand Assembly Rooms  
Kings Walk  
Newcastle NE1 7RU  
culturelab.ncl.ac.uk

### **Discovery Museum**

Blandford Square  
Newcastle NE1 4JA  
discoverymuseum.org.uk  
Mon – Sat 10am–5pm,  
Sun 2–5pm

### **Great North Museum: Hancock**

Barras Bridge  
Newcastle NE2 4PT  
greatnorthmuseum.org.uk  
Mon – Sat 10am–5pm,  
Sun 2–5pm

### **Hatton Gallery**

The Quadrangle  
Newcastle University  
Newcastle NE1 7RU  
hattongallery.org.uk  
Mon – Sat 10am–5pm,  
Sun 2–5pm during Festival

### **Laing Art Gallery**

New Bridge Street  
Newcastle NE1 8AG  
laingartgallery.org.uk  
Mon – Sat 10am–5pm,  
Sun 2–5pm

### **Morden Tower**

Back Stowell Street  
West Walls  
Newcastle NE1 4XG  
mordentower.org

### **Newcastle Quayside**

Newcastle NE1 3DX  
flowmill.org.uk

### **St Thomas the Martyr Church**

Haymarket  
Newcastle NE1 7PF

### **Star and Shadow Cinema**

Stepney Bank  
Newcastle NE1 2NP  
starandshadow.org.uk

### **The Civic Centre**

Barras Bridge  
Newcastle NE1 8PP  
Mon – Sun 12–6pm

### **The Literary & Philosophical Society**

23 Westgate Road  
Newcastle NE1 1SE

### **The NewBridge Project**

18 New Bridge Street West  
Newcastle NE1 8AW  
thenewbridgeproject.com  
Mon – Sun 12–6pm

### **The Sage Gateshead**

St Mary's Square  
Gateshead NE8 2JR  
+44 (0)191 443 4661  
thesagegateshead.org

### **Tyne Bridge North Tower**

Entrance on Lombard Street  
Newcastle NE1 3AE

### **Tyneside Cinema**

10 Pilgrim Street  
Newcastle NE1 6QG  
0845 217 9909  
tynesidecinema.co.uk

### **Vane**

First Floor,  
Commercial Union House  
39 Pilgrim Street  
Newcastle NE1 6QE  
vane.org.uk  
Wed – Sun 12–5pm

## Sunderland

### **50 Fawcett Street**

Sunderland SR1 1RF  
Mon, Wed 10am–7pm, Tue, Thu, Fri 10am–5pm, Sat 10am–4pm

### **CIRCA Screen**

The Place, Athenaeum Street  
Sunderland SR1 1QX  
ccaprojects.org.uk  
Tue – Sat 10am–5pm

### **CRUMB**

University of Sunderland  
Ashburne House, Ryhope Road  
Sunderland SR2 7EF  
crumbweb.org

### **Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art (NGCA)**

City Library and Arts Centre  
Fawcett Street  
Sunderland SR1 1RE  
ngca.co.uk  
Mon, Wed 9.30am–7.30pm,  
Tue, Thu, Fri 9.30am–5pm,  
Sat 9.30am–4pm

### **Reg Vardy Gallery**

University of Sunderland  
Ashburne House, Ryhope Road  
Sunderland SR2 7EF  
regvardygallery.org  
Tue – Sat 10am–5pm

### **The National Glass Centre at the University of Sunderland**

Liberty Way  
Sunderland SR6 0GL  
nationalglasscentre.com  
Mon – Sun 10am–5pm

# Festival diary

Date / Time	Title	Venue	Page
<b>Throughout Festival</b>			
1 March – 29 April	On Kawara	BALTIC	15
1 March – 1 July	John Gerrard	mima	16
1 March – 1 July	Cyprien Gaillard	mima	16
1–31 March	James Benning	Platform A Gallery	16
1–31 March	Yoshi Wada	Discovery Museum	17
1–31 March	Susan Stenger	The Civic Centre	17
1–31 March	Jem Finer	The NewBridge Project	17
1 March – 19 May	Julien Maire	Hatton Gallery	18
1–31 March	Jonathan Schipper	16 Saville Row/Locus+	18
1 March – 6 May	Torsten Lauschmann	Laing Art Gallery	18
1–31 March	Benedict Drew	CIRCA Site	19
1–31 March	Agnes Meyer-Brandis	Great North Museum	19
1–31 March	Sneha Solanki	Vane	19
1–31 March	Marina Zurkow	Vane	20
25 March – Sept	Owl Project and Ed Carter	Newcastle Quayside	20
1 March – 9 June	James Benning	NGCA	21
1 March – 26 May	Bob Levene	NGCA	20
1–31 March	Elizabeth McAlpine	Reg Vardy Gallery	21
1–31 March	Mark Formanek	50 Fawcett Street	21
1–31 March	Smith / de Boer / Arnold / Russell	CIRCA Screen	22
1 March – 20 May	Mirror Neurons	National Glass Centre	22
1 March – 20 May	Joe Winter	National Glass Centre	22
<b>Thu 1 March</b>			
2–5pm	Symposia: As Slow As Possible	mima	31
6–9pm	24 Hour Launch: Middlesbrough	Various venues	4
12am–12am	Leif Inge: 9 Beet Stretch	Star and Shadow Cinema	4
<b>Fri 2 March</b>			
9am–3pm	24 Hour Launch: Newcastle Gateshead	Various venues	4
3–6pm	24 Hour Launch: Sunderland	Various venues	4
7.45–10.15pm	Phill Niblock: The Movement of People Working	The Sage Gateshead	5
12–12am	Leif Inge: 9 Beet Stretch	Star and Shadow Cinema	4
<b>Sat 3 March</b>			
11am–12pm	Talk: Wada, Niblock, Stenger	Tyneside Cinema	6
12–6pm	Jem Finer: Slowplayer Live Mix	The NewBridge Project	6
1.30–3.20pm	Daly and Waugh: The Art of Time	Tyneside Cinema	6
3.50–6pm	James Benning: Nightfall	Tyneside Cinema	6
8–10.30pm	Lament for John Cage	The Sage Gateshead	6
<b>Sun 4 March</b>			
11–2pm	Kenneth Goldsmith: The English Weather (1920)	Morden Tower	7
2.30–3.15pm	Yoshi Wada Live	Discovery Museum	7
4–6pm	Sharon Lockhart: Double Tide	Tyneside Cinema	7
8–10pm	Hanne Darboven: Requiem	St Thomas the Martyr	7
9pm–12am	Andrei Tarkovsky: Stalker	Star and Shadow Cinema	23
<b>Mon 5 March</b>			
9.30am–12.30pm	CRUMB Seminar	The Literary & Philosophical Society	31
5.45–7.45pm	Alexander Sokurov: Russian Ark	Tyneside Cinema	23

## Book tickets: avfestival.co.uk

Date / Time	Title	Venue	Page
<b>Tue 6 March</b>			
7.45–11pm	Cristi Puiu: Aurora	Tyneside Cinema	24
<b>Wed 7 March</b>			
1–2pm	Exhibition Tour	mima	31
7.30–8.50pm	Abbas Kiarostami: Five	Star and Shadow Cinema	24
<b>Thu 8 March</b>			
6–7.45pm	Fred Kelemen: Fate	Tyneside Cinema	9
8.30pm–12am	Fred Kelemen: Frost	Star and Shadow Cinema	9
<b>Fri 9 March</b>			
11am–12pm	Panel: Slow Cinema	Tyneside Cinema	8
1.45–3.20pm	Lisandro Alonso: La Libertad	Tyneside Cinema	10
3.30–5.15pm	Lisandro Alonso: Los Muertos	Tyneside Cinema	11
6–8.30pm	Fred Kelemen: Nightfall	Star and Shadow Cinema	9
9.30–11pm	Lav Diaz: Elegy To The Visitor From The Revolution	Star and Shadow Cinema	9
<b>Sat 10 March</b>			
11am–12pm	Ben Rivers: Slow Action	Star and Shadow Cinema	11
1pm–11pm	Lav Diaz: Melancholia	Star and Shadow Cinema	10
1–3pm	Exhibition Tours	Various Venues	31
7.45–11pm	Bela Tarr: The Turin Horse	Tyneside Cinema	9
<b>Sun 11 March</b>			
11am–12.30pm	Ben Rivers: Two Years At Sea	Star and Shadow Cinema	11
1–7.30pm	Lav Diaz: Century of Birthing	Star and Shadow Cinema	10
6.30–8pm	Richard Fenwick: Exhaustion	Tyneside Cinema	24
9–11pm	Lisandro Alonso: Liverpool	Star and Shadow Cinema	11
<b>Mon 12 March</b>			
8–11pm	Nuri Bilge Ceylan: Once Upon a Time in Anatolia	Tyneside Cinema	24
<b>Tue 13 March</b>			
5.45–8pm	Bruno Dumont: Hors Satan	Tyneside Cinema	25
<b>Wed 14 March</b>			
7.30–10.15pm	Pedro Costa: Colossal Youth	Star and Shadow Cinema	25
<b>Thu 15 March</b>			
6–7.30pm	Iain Sinclair: Middlesbrough Walk	mima	28
7.30–9.15pm	Albert Serra: Honor of the Knights	Star and Shadow Cinema	25
<b>Fri 16 March</b>			
7–9pm	Datarama	Tyneside Cinema	31
<b>Sat 17 March</b>			
11am–1.30pm	Contemporary Art Society Tour	Platform A Gallery	31
1–3pm	Exhibition Tours	Various venues	31
5–6pm	Music to Play in the Dark: Rob Young Talk	Tyneside Cinema	12
8pm–12am	Peter Christopherson: Wishful Thinking	Tyneside Cinema	13

Date / Time	Title	Venue	Page
<b>Sun 18 March</b>			
11am–4pm	Laura Harrington: Layerscape (peat bogs)	Upper Teesdale Nature Reserve	28
7.30–9pm	Sergio Caballero: Finisterrae	Star and Shadow Cinema	25
<b>Mon 19 March</b>			
5.45–7.35pm	Pablo Giorelli: Las Acacias	Tyneside Cinema	26
<b>Tue 20 March</b>			
5.45–8.20pm	Carlos Reygadas: Silent Light	Tyneside Cinema	26
<b>Wed 21 March</b>			
7.30–10pm	Rirkrit Tiravanija: Lung Neaw Visits His Neighbours	Star and Shadow Cinema	26
<b>Thu 22 March</b>			
7.30–9.30pm	Jia Zhang-ke: Still Life	Star and Shadow Cinema	26
<b>Fri 23 March</b>			
5.30–6pm	Susan Stenger and Attila Csihar: Full Circle Live	The Civic Centre	12
8–9pm	:zoviet*france: The Newcastle Tour	Morden Tower	14
9pm–9am	Steven Stapleton: Sleep Concert	Centre for Life	14
<b>Sat 24 March</b>			
1–4pm	Chris Watson: Teesside Sound Walk	Seal Sands Nature Reserve	28
1–3pm	Exhibition Tours	Various venues	31
7–9pm	Attila Csihar: A Srying: First Action (NCL)	Tyne Bridge North Tower	14
9pm–2.30am	The Time is out of Joint	Star and Shadow Cinema	14
9pm–9am	Steven Stapleton: Sleep Concert	Centre for Life	14
10pm–6am	Tim Brennan: Taking Coals to Sunderland	Hetton-le-Hole	29
<b>Sun 25 March</b>			
7.30–11am	Mike Collier: Street Flowers – Urban Survivors of the Privileged Land	National Glass Centre	29
8–10pm	Attila Csihar: A Srying: Second Action (NCL)	Tyne Bridge North Tower	14
7.30–9.30pm	Sivaraj Kongsakul: Eternity	Star and Shadow Cinema	27
<b>Mon 26 March</b>			
5.45–7.50pm	Apichatpong Weerasethakul: Syndromes and a Century	Tyneside Cinema	27
<b>Tue 27 March</b>			
5.45–7.50pm	Kim Ki Duk: Spring, Summer, Autumn, Winter... and Spring	Tyneside Cinema	27
6.30–8pm	Contemporary Art Society Tour	Laing Art Gallery	31
<b>Wed 28 March</b>			
7.30–8.30pm	Lav Diaz: Butterflies Have No Memories	Star and Shadow Cinema	10
8.45–10pm	Raya Martin: Independencia	Star and Shadow Cinema	10
<b>Thu 29 March</b>			
2pm	Symposia: Duration	Culture Lab	31
7.30–9.45pm	Ben Russell: Let Each One Go Where He May	Star and Shadow Cinema	27
<b>Sat 31 March</b>			
1–3pm	Hamish Fulton: Slowalk	Newcastle Quayside	29

# Booking & information

## How to book tickets

The easiest way to book tickets is online at [avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk). There is a small booking fee.

Advance tickets for events at The Sage Gateshead and Tyneside Cinema are also available from their box offices.

Many events are limited capacity, so please book in advance to avoid disappointment. Tickets will be available on the door for all events.

## Special ticket offers

**Opening weekend: £3 Off\*** Hanne Darboven's *Requiem* with a pre-booked ticket for *Lament for John Cage*, see p.7

**Opening weekend: 2 for 1\*\*** on pre-booked film tickets for James Benning's *Nightfall* and Sharon Lockhart's *Double Tide*, see p.6-7

**Slow cinema weekend: pass\*\*\*** make sure you don't miss anything this weekend, buy a Festival Pass now. Individual tickets are available from 1 February.

1-31 January: Slow Cinema Pass: £40 / £25  
1-29 February: Slow Cinema Pass: £50 / £35

**Films: loyalty card\*\*\*\*** collect 4 stamps on our special Film Loyalty Card and the 5th film is FREE. Offer applies to all films from p.23-27 only

All offers are subject to availability.

\*Offer available at The Sage Gateshead.

\*\*Offer available at [avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk) and

Tyneside Cinema. \*\*\*Offer available at

[avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk). \*\*\*\*Offer available at Star and Shadow and Tyneside Cinema.

## Visitor information

For city maps and where to eat, sleep and drink during the Festival go to: [avfestival.co.uk/visit](http://avfestival.co.uk/visit). For more information on visiting the region go to:

[www.visitnortheastengland.com](http://www.visitnortheastengland.com)

A FREE coach runs from Newcastle to Middlesbrough on Thu 1 March for our 24-Hour Launch. To book at seat email [visit@avfestival.co.uk](mailto:visit@avfestival.co.uk)

## Contact us

[visit@avfestival.co.uk](mailto:visit@avfestival.co.uk)

+44 (0)191 227 5512

[avfestival.co.uk](http://avfestival.co.uk)

#AV12

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