

# Jürgen Partenheimer

*Discontinuity, Paradox & Precision*

Off-site Project  
2 April – 25 May  
Perrott's Folly, Waterworks Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham

Ikon will also show Jürgen Partenheimer's work off-site, at one of Birmingham's most historic landmarks, Perrott's Folly. Built in 1758 by John Perrott, this building supposedly inspired local resident JRR Tolkien's *Two Towers*, the second book of *The Lord of The Rings* trilogy.

For Partenheimer, the tower operates as 'axis mundi', a vertical extension between heaven and earth, also giving rise to a consideration of architecture as sculpture. By climbing the long spiral staircase, viewers encounter six rooms, each containing a single work, pervaded by the sound of Kevin Volans' specially composed music.

Entry to Perrott's Folly is free and the Folly is open Thursday – Sunday, 1–5pm. Perrott's Folly is located 15 minutes walk from Ikon and 5 minutes from Hagley Road.

Ikon Family Day at Perrott's Folly  
Saturday 10 May



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## Events

**Meet the Education and Interpretation Team**  
Tuesday 1 April, 5–6pm – FREE

Group leaders, teachers and educationalists are invited to meet Ikon's Education and Interpretation Team on the opening night of Ikon's two new exhibitions. The team will provide a brief introductory tour of the show, before discussing how groups of all ages might fully engage with it. Attendees will be able to book free group tours during the event and are welcome to stay for a glass of wine with Ikon staff at 6pm. Places are free but should be reserved by calling the Education and Interpretation Team on TEL. 0121 248 0708.

**The Big Picture**  
Family drop-in sessions – FREE

Thursday 3 April, 2–5pm  
Friday 4 April, 2–5pm  
Saturday 5 April, 2–5pm  
Saturday 24 May, 2–5pm  
Sunday 25 May, 2–5pm  
Monday 26 May, 2–5pm  
The Big Picture is an arts project aiming to create a picture of the West Midlands region through the eyes of people who live here. Everyone can add their favourite photographs – family, friends, local landmarks, arts events or gigs. To be in the Big Picture visit [www.inthebigpicture.co.uk](http://www.inthebigpicture.co.uk)

As part of the Big Picture, join artist Liz Rowe for as little as 10 minutes or as long as 3 hours as we attempt to create a huge surreal landscape filled with miniature people and buildings that are both strange and familiar. No need to book, just drop in – please note that children should be accompanied by an adult at all times.

**Family Saturdays – FREE**

Saturday 5 April, 2–5pm  
Saturday 3 May, 2–5pm  
Join us for one (or both) of these creative afternoons, exploring the themes and ideas within the current exhibitions. Open to all ages (adults positively welcome), this series of creative activities will engage, challenge and inspire. No need to book, just drop in – please note that children should be accompanied by an adult at all times.

**Jürgen Partenheimer and Ikon's**  
Director Jonathan Watkins in conversation  
Thursday 3 April, 7pm  
Goethe-Institut, London

Join Jürgen Partenheimer and Jonathan Watkins as they discuss the current exhibition, including the off-site project at Perrott's Folly and Partenheimer's collaboration with acclaimed composer Kevin Volans. Tickets cost £3, to book please contact the Goethe-Institut on TEL. 020 7596 4045  
For more information visit [www.goethe.de](http://www.goethe.de)

**Performances by BCMG at Ikon**

*The Partenheimer Project* by composer Kevin Volans, commissioned as part of Jürgen Partenheimer's exhibition at Ikon.  
Saturday 19 April, 10am–1pm, Ikon – FREE  
Open rehearsal for public viewing, Ikon  
Sunday 20 April, 12.30pm and 3.30pm, Ikon – FREE  
Premiere live performances, Ikon  
Visitors are encouraged to move around the exhibition during the performances, places are free but should be reserved by calling Ikon on TEL. 0121 248 0708. For more information on associated events with Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, including workshops for young people, visit [www.bcmg.org.uk](http://www.bcmg.org.uk)

**BCMG Insight: Art and Music**

Saturday 3 May, 3–5pm – FREE  
Performance at CBSO Centre, includes 'Meet the composer and the artist' with Kevin Volans and Jürgen Partenheimer in conversation about their unusual collaboration. To book contact BCMG on TEL. 0121 616 2616, email [info@bcmg.org.uk](mailto:info@bcmg.org.uk) or turn up on the day (places are subject to availability).

**Ruth Claxton in conversation**

with Richard Deacon – FREE  
Thursday 1 May, 6–7.30pm  
Join exhibiting artist Ruth Claxton and acclaimed British sculptor Richard Deacon as they continue their conversation about each others' practice. Last time they met, the conversation touched on the tension between material and concept, whilst also exploring the relationship between real and virtual space. Places are free but should be reserved by calling Ikon on TEL. 0121 248 0708.



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**Afternoon Tea – FREE**  
Thursday 8 May, 2.30–4.30pm

Join Ikon's Education Team for a special tour of the current exhibition before an informal, lively facilitated discussion about the work on show. Tea and cake will be provided. Places are free but please reserve a place by calling Ikon on TEL. 0121 248 0708.

**A Pub Quiz**

Yara El-Sherbini  
Sunday 25 May, 7.30pm  
Café Ikon  
Join the quiz mistress, test your knowledge and win a star prize in this playful pub quiz.

Over the past two years Yara El-Sherbini has been using the popular and entertaining format of *A Pub Quiz* to playfully ask questions about art and life. Maximum 6 people in a team, £1 per person, spaces are limited so please call Ikon on TEL. 0121 248 0708 to book. Presented in collaboration with the Fierce Festival, [www.fiercetv.co.uk](http://www.fiercetv.co.uk)

**Late night openings**

Every Wednesday from 28 May, 6–8pm  
Ikon will be open until 8pm every Wednesday throughout the summer months from Wednesday 28 May – 10 September, giving visitors an extended opportunity to see the exhibitions and visit the bookshop. Our late nights will be accompanied by a schedule of events – visit the website [www.ikon-gallery.co.uk](http://www.ikon-gallery.co.uk) for more information.

**Museums and Galleries Month**  
ArtBus

Wednesday 28 May, 5–9pm  
As part of Museums and Galleries Month, board the free ArtBus to travel between Ikon, the Barber Institute of Fine Arts and the RBSA Gallery for a special late night opening on 28 May. You can visit the three venues in one evening to enjoy the exhibitions and collections. Ikon closes at 8pm whilst the other two venues close at 9pm. For details of the ArtBus pick up a timetable from any of the three galleries, check the gallery websites nearer the event or call Ikon on TEL. 0121 248 0708.

# Saburo Teshigawara and KARAS

Off-site Project  
Thursday 15 and Friday 16 May, 8pm  
Fazeley Street, Digbeth, Birmingham

Acclaimed Japanese choreographer Saburo Teshigawara presents his only UK performance in 2008, dancing on a massive square of thousands of broken glass pieces.

Tickets cost £12.50, £9.50 concessions (booking fees apply), to book please contact Birmingham Hippodrome on TEL. 0870 730 1234 or book online at [www.birminghamhippodrome.com](http://www.birminghamhippodrome.com)  
Running time approximately 70 minutes.

Fazeley Street is located 10 minutes walk from Moor Street Station and 5 minutes from the Custard Factory or Digbeth High Street.

This performance forms part of the first International Dance Festival Birmingham, a joint venture between DanceExchange and Birmingham Hippodrome, which takes place across the city between 28 April and 24 May. For more information about the Festival visit [www.idfb.co.uk](http://www.idfb.co.uk)

- 6 Perrott's Folly
- 7 Jürgen Partenheimer *Kiwa* 2000  
Bronze  
Installation, Perrott's Folly
- 8 *Soi Project Fruits* 2007
- 9 Ikon Education
- 10 Lutz and Guggisberg *Population* 2007  
Charcoal on wood  
Installation view, Sharjah Biennial 8, 2007

## Ikon Shop

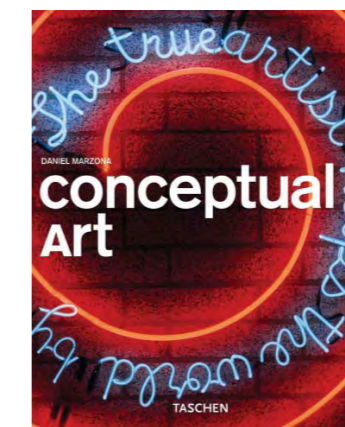
Visit Ikon Shop for an extensive range of books, catalogues, magazines, cards and gifts. Ikon Shop is open 12–6pm on Mondays and 10.30am–6pm Tuesdays to Sundays. You can also shop online at Ikon's website, visit [www.ikon-gallery.co.uk/shop](http://www.ikon-gallery.co.uk/shop)

**Basic Art Series Books – only £5**

Titles include *Land Art*, *Conceptual Art*, *Video Art*, *New Media Art*, *Pop Art*, *Minimal Art*, *Realism* and *Surrealism*. Limited stocks available.

**Lomographic Cameras**

Ikon Shop continues to stock the full range of lomographic cameras. New cameras just arrived are the Holga35mm and the Holga35mm Pinhole. Also in stock are a new range of fun imported Japanese cameras which use 110 film; the demekin – the one and only Pop Eyed Fish lens; a selection of unusual keyring cameras; and The Golden Half, an ingenious camera that doubles the amount of photographs you can take with standard 35mm film. Prices start from £12.95.



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## Soi Project

*Fruits*

Off-site Project  
24 and 25 May  
Brindleyplace, Birmingham

*Soi Project*, a collective of artists from Thailand and Japan, bring their popular fruit stand to Brindleyplace. Similar in style to those commonly found on street corners around Bangkok, visitors to the stand will be invited to make paper fruit from specially designed template cut-outs which are then added to the display, and in return, will be given real fruit to take away. *Soi* are concerned with the increasing simulation of the world and the gradual proliferation of imagery and man-made substitutes that replace concrete reality. In addition, the stand becomes the centre for exchange of both international culture and creativity, and in the process, grows into something beautiful for its own sake, as it fills up with the brightly coloured paper shapes.

## Pamela Scott Wilkie

*Passing Through*

Exhibition  
Continues to 25 April  
City Inn Birmingham, 1 Brunswick Square  
Brindleyplace, Birmingham B1 2HW  
[www.cityinn.com](http://www.cityinn.com)

*Passing Through* is a survey of paintings and prints by Pamela Scott Wilkie, an artist closely involved with the development of Ikon in the 1960s and 1970s. This exhibition combines works from *Journey*, a series of silk screen prints previously exhibited at Ikon in 1972 and inspired by an overland expedition she made through the Middle East to Pakistan, and *Horizons*, a new collection of 18 limited edition prints especially produced for this exhibition.

*Passing Through* will tour to City Inn Bristol in June.



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## Future Ikon Exhibitions

**Lutz and Guggisberg**

28 May – 20 July 2008  
Ikon Gallery  
This will be the first exhibition of work in the UK by Swiss artists Andres Lutz and Andres Guggisberg. Consisting of video, painting, installation and sculptural pieces, made since these two artists began their partnership in 1996, alongside new work, it will exemplify the absurd, humorous nature of their practice.

**Cornelia Parker**  
8 April – 27 May  
MADRE, Naples  
Installation, sculptural pieces and video.

**Ryan Gander** *Heralded as the new black*  
25 April – 22 June  
South London Gallery  
[www.southlondongallery.org](http://www.southlondongallery.org)  
New installations, objects and film.

## Also Showing

**Utagawa Hiroshige** *The Moon Reflected*  
8 March – 26 April  
Grundy Art Gallery, Blackpool  
[www.blackpool.gov.uk/grundyartgallery](http://www.blackpool.gov.uk/grundyartgallery)  
Later woodblock prints from the British Museum.

**Alice Cattaneo**  
23 February – 19 May  
MADRE, Naples  
[www.museomadre.it](http://www.museomadre.it)  
Installation and video.



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towards an atomised, dislocated future. It exemplifies the artist's concern with the impact of passive consumption, and how a new kind of insulation from reality might effect the way we apprehend and interpret the world we live in.

A fully illustrated catalogue, including installation photographs, will be available in May, for £15, special exhibition price £12. Visit the gallery's new online shop at [www.ikon-gallery.co.uk/shop](http://www.ikon-gallery.co.uk/shop) for the full range of Ikon catalogues.

To coincide with her exhibition at Ikon, Ruth Claxton will also show a series of new postcard pieces at the Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham (Print Room 1, 2 April – 6 July). Visit [www.barber.org.uk](http://www.barber.org.uk) for more information.

Following Ikon, the exhibition will tour throughout 2008–9 to Oriol Davies, Newtown, Powys (October – November 2008); Spike Island, Bristol (January – February 2009) and The Grundy Art Gallery, Blackpool (March – April 2009).



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## Ruth Claxton

Lands End

Exhibition  
2 April – 18 May  
Second Floor Galleries

Ikon presents the first major museum exhibition by British artist Ruth Claxton. Based in Birmingham, Claxton has become widely known for her constructed installations, populated with porcelain figurines, collected from car-boot sales, junk shops and internet auction sites. Claxton 'blinds' these figures through sculptural intervention so that their vision is obscured, paradoxically, by what it is they would otherwise see.

The entire second floor of Ikon is transformed by Claxton into a new topography of countless painted steel circles, suspended in a mass of metalwork. The sightless figurines thus stand adrift in a world in flux. Many of the circles are open hoops; others contain coloured and mirrored glass discs, precariously balanced, creating visual complexity as their reflected imagery merges with our real space. They also act to implicate viewers through reflections of reflections, immersing and enveloping them in this disorientating environment.

Through its allusion to our increasing engagement with information technology, Claxton's works encourage our consideration of a societal shift



- A International Convention Centre
- B REP Theatre
- C The Mailbox

About Ikon  
Ikon is the internationally acclaimed contemporary art venue situated in central Birmingham. Housed in the neo-gothic Cozells Street School, it is an educational charity and works to encourage public engagement with contemporary art through exhibiting new work in a context of debate and participation.

The gallery programme features artists from around the world. A variety of media is represented, including sound, film, mixed media, photography, painting, sculpture and installation.

Ikon's off-site programme develops dynamic relationships between art, artists and audiences outside the gallery. Projects and events vary enormously in scale, duration and location, challenging expectations of where art can be seen and by whom.

Education is at the heart of Ikon's activities, stimulating public interest in and understanding of contemporary visual art. Through a variety of talks, tours, workshops and seminars, the Education and Interpretation Team aim to build a meaningful relationship with Ikon's audience that enables visitors to engage with, discuss and reflect on contemporary art.

Ikon gratefully acknowledges financial support from Arts Council England and Birmingham City Council. Registered Charity no. 528892

**Access**  
Ikon aims to be fully accessible for disabled visitors. A wheelchair is available, a lift operates throughout the building and guests with guide dogs are welcome. There is a fitted induction loop to enhance the sound for hearing impaired visitors and disabled parking is located outside the gallery on Cozells Street. Large print versions of the Ikon bulletin and exhibition guides are available on request. Perrot's folly is only accessible via a long spiral staircase.

**Ikon online at [www.ikon-gallery.co.uk](http://www.ikon-gallery.co.uk)**  
Visit Ikon's website for full details of our forthcoming exhibitions and events; download gallery guides, visit our media gallery to watch installation videos and listen to interviews with artists; and shop online for Ikon catalogues and limited edition prints.

**Opening Times (Admission is free)**  
Ikon Gallery, 1 Cozells Square  
Birmingham B1 2HS  
TEL: +44 (0) 121 248 0708  
WEB: [www.ikon-gallery.co.uk](http://www.ikon-gallery.co.uk)

Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Sun
Gallery Closed	12pm-2pm	11am-6pm	11am-6pm	11am-6pm	11am-6pm	11am-6pm
Café	11am-11pm	11am-11pm	11am-11pm	11am-11pm	11am-11pm	11am-6pm
Shop	10am-6pm	10am-6pm	10am-6pm	10am-6pm	10am-6pm	10.30am-6pm

Galleries closed Mondays.  
Ikon is open Bank Holiday Monday 5 May and Bank Holiday Monday 26 May (First Floor Galleries only).  
Ikon runs guided tours and workshops. Contact the Education Department on TEL: 0121 248 0708  
Café Ikon is a popular laid-back tapas bar with excellent food and wine. Fillings are welcome. Events Monday 22nd. Visit [www.ikon-gallery.co.uk](http://www.ikon-gallery.co.uk) to download a menu.

**Venue hire**  
If you are interested in hiring the galleries, the Marketing Department on TEL: 0121 248 0708.



4 Ruth Claxton  
Lands End 2008 (detail)

5 Ruth Claxton  
Lands End 2008 (detail)

**Getting to Ikon**  
Pedestrian route from Birmingham New Street Train station  
From New Street station walk to Chamberlain Square, then up the curved steps to the Central Library, through Parade Forum and into Centenary Square. Bear left onto Broad Street, passing the Square. Head left onto Broad Street, passing the Hysatt Hotel on the left, then turn right onto Cozells Street. This walk takes approximately 15 minutes.

**By Road**  
A comprehensive motorway network system including the M5, M6, M40 and M42 links Birmingham with the rest of the country. Drivers should follow signs to Birmingham City Centre then look for the brown tourist signs to the International Convention Centre, National Indoor Arena, Canals and Brindleyplace.

**Car and Bicycle Parking**  
The nearest car park is Brindleyplace NCP on Sheppeck Street. Orange and blue badge holders may park on the double yellow lines on Cozells Street in accordance with badge guidelines. There is a bicycle rack outside Ikon.



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The disciplines of nothingness,  
Leaves of the shamans,  
collected paths and clearings.  
The jungle of the city,  
endless expanse  
in the confines of the skull.  
The space between eye and hand,  
the body between sleep and sleep.

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- Jürgen Partenheimer  
The space between (from the Copan diary)  
Powder coated aluminium, 55x55x5cm  
Edition of 9, 6 of 9
- Jürgen Partenheimer Vessel  
36x 96x 100cm  
Stoneware, apple green glaze, applied  
aubergine glaze drawing
- Jürgen Partenheimer Reforzate 2005  
Ink, watercolour, pencil on paper

## Jürgen Partenheimer

Discontinuity, Paradox & Precision

Exhibition  
2 April – 18 May  
First Floor Galleries and Tower Room

Internationally acclaimed German artist Jürgen Partenheimer holds his first solo UK exhibition at Ikon. Comprising new and recent painting, works on paper and sculpture, Partenheimer's work also embraces poetry, music and literature, to assert a continuity between them and an experience of daily life. His artistic proposition is philosophical, encouraging us to challenge the distinction normally made between reality and imagination.

Partenheimer's work is essentially abstract. The drawings and paintings shown here, caught seemingly on the verge of dissolution, are remarkable for their fragile beauty, whilst sculpture and ceramic work, suggesting some usefulness, remain elusive with respect to any specific function.

Such 'aspiration to the condition of music' – abstraction, in other words – is signified by the artist's collaboration with Irish composer Kevin Volans, resulting in a new piece of music entitled *The Partenheimer Project*. A recorded version will be incorporated into a sculptural installation located in the gallery. Premiere live performances by Birmingham Contemporary Music Group will

take place at Ikon with a 10-player ensemble of strings, woodwind and brass taking cues from Partenheimer's practice and that of the interconnected galleries, creating physical displacement that provides exciting and surprising opportunities within the overall musical structure. See Events for more information.

A fully illustrated catalogue, including installation photographs, will be available in April, for £25, special exhibition price £20, also including a CD recording of *The Partenheimer Project*. Visit the new online shop at [www.ikon-gallery.co.uk/shop](http://www.ikon-gallery.co.uk/shop) for the full range of Ikon catalogues.

To coincide with his exhibition at Ikon, Jürgen Partenheimer has produced a limited edition, *The Space between (from the Copan diary)*. Available in an edition of 9, for £680 from Ikon Shop. Shop online at [www.ikon-gallery.co.uk](http://www.ikon-gallery.co.uk) or TEL: 0121 248 0708.



**For a large print version of this programme text please telephone 0121 248 0708 or ask at reception.**

**Individual Patrons**  
Ross and Jane Bendall; Adrian Bland; Nigel Butler; Patzi Hasilman; Tom Jones; Stephen Morris; Stephen Pallister; Midge Skene; Mr and Mrs A E Taylor

**Corporate Patrons**  
Argent; City Inn Contemporary Hotels; Goodyear Junipor Tyres UK; Clenn Howells Architects; Meridian Wealth Management  
The Douglas Turner Trust; Unite; Waterstones  
Soi Projects Fruits is kindly supported by Minor West Midlands.

**Exhibition Supporters**  
Developed in collaboration with Kunstmuseum Bonn, Jürgen Partenheimer's exhibition *Discontinuity, Paradox & Precision* is kindly supported by West LB, Arts Council of Ireland, Culture Ireland, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, Birmingham Contemporary Music Group, The Hinrichsen Foundation, The Britten-Bears Foundation, the Goethe-Institut, Trustees of Perrot's Folly, Trident Care Affairs and International Trade, The Elephant Trust, Creative Partnerships, Department for Foreign Trade, European Regional Development Fund; Ethos Urban; Kevin Volans' composition is co-commissioned by Ikon, BCMC and Kunstmuseum Bonn. BCMC would particularly like to acknowledge financial assistance through its Sound Investment Scheme.

**Individual Patrons**  
Ruth Claxton's exhibition *Lands End* is kindly supported by the Arts Council England National Touring Programme, The Henry Moore Foundation Ltd; ISIS; Italian Cultural Institute; The Japan Taylor Ltd; Heidi Local Child; Industrial Busware Habita; The Paul Hamlyn Foundation; Hashimam Grantham York Trust; The Gulbenkian Foundation; Charles Henry Foye Trust; Gateley Wareing LLP; The Jumeirah Foundation; Kwi; MADE; MITES; The Mondriaan Foundation; The Henry Moore Foundation; Numan; Okdale Trust; Cary O'Brien; Oxford Exhibition Services; Pago Fruit Juices; Pictorial Vanguard Industrial Engineering; The Ractiff Foundation; Ruby Owen Holdings Ltd; The Sainsbury Trust; Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation; The Douglas Turner Trust; Unite; Waterstones

Programme  
April – May 2008  
[www.ikon-gallery.co.uk](http://www.ikon-gallery.co.uk)  
Admission free

