

PUBLIC ART PROJECT
STIRRING THE CITY
The Lighthouse, Glasgow, 24–27 Aug.



For the third time this century, the Gorbals are in the process of being rebuilt from the ground up. *Stirring the City* is the first stage of a five-year project in which artists engage with the Gorbals community, architects and developers to record the process of transformation and engage with the district's culture. Co-ordinated by the curatorial partnership Heisenberg – aka Dan Dubowitz and Matt Baker – the project has collaboration as its central theme.

'We don't want to do this patronising thing of trotting out the clichés of Gorbals life,' says Baker. 'It's about working with local people to find out what's important to them, what they want to remember about the place, what they want to forget, what their lives are about now, and what their hopes for the future are.'

'We're recognising that there's a new breed of artists that see social space and public space as their canvas and who are interested in works growing out of a place rather than imposing their own agendas. We've commissioned artists rather than works, and they are very much a part of the process of regeneration.'

The works on show at the inaugural exhibition reflect the three strands of the Gorbals project as a whole, which range from permanent installations to fleeting interventions.

'We're running three programs,' Baker explains. 'Integral, which is works integrated into the fabric of the buildings, Itinerant, which are very much temporary, responding to the situation as it happens, and Public Realm, works which occupy the streetscape and the parks. What we're doing is emphasising the cultural aspects of the development. In most of these regeneration projects the only concerns are construction and economics, but we're at the centre of this development waving the cultural flag.' (Jack Mottram)