

01 April 2011

## **mima scoops best event of the year award for third time in a row**

MIDDLESBROUGH'S flagship art gallery mima has scooped a top award for the best cultural event in Teesside during 2010.

The prestigious Best Event Teesside was awarded this week at The Journal's Culture Awards 2010, in association with the Arts Council England for *Temenos* and the Anish Kapoor exhibition at mima.

*Temenos* - the striking £2.7m striking contemporary sculpture launched in June - brings together art and the engineering and industrial heritage of the area.,

The sculpture at the heart of Middlesbrough's Middlehaven Dock and a stone's throw from the iconic Transporter Bridge stands almost 50 metres high and is 120 metres long. *Temenos* was created by internationally acclaimed sculptor Anish Kapoor and leading structural designer Cecil Balmond.

The Anish Kapoor Exhibition at mima opened ran from March 25 to August 15 last year and showed works never shown in the North East before. The excitement and energy that surrounded the exhibition created over 56,000 visits, making it one of mima's most popular to date.

Kate Brindley, director of arts and galleries for Middlesbrough Council, said: "This award is another fantastic coup for mima. The Anish Kapoor exhibition was hugely successful and it is fantastic to be so closely involved with *Temenos*, which is proving to be a strong icon for Middlesbrough."

Anish Kapoor added: "I am thrilled to have received the Journal Culture Award.

"I see the Tees Valley as an exciting region, in which I am involved in a significant way with the Tees Valley Giants.

"I hope that we will very soon be able to realise the second project in the region."

The creation of *Temenos*, which is part of a 15-year masterplan for the area, follows a £30m programme to remediate the former dock site and prepare it for development. The site also features the award-winning new Middlesbrough College building and new office buildings, while work is currently underway on Middlehaven's first eco-homes.

Anne Mulroy, head of area at the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), said: "*Temenos* is a world-class landmark, signalling the transformation of

derelict docks into a place of aspiration, with learning, jobs and eco-friendly homes for the future. The successful launch of *Temenos* has helped to bring Middlehaven's revival to the world's attention."

mima beat tough opposition from the other finalists for the award including the Stockton Riverside Fringe Festival and Apples and Empire, Middlesbrough.

It is the third year in a row mima has won the Best Event in The Journal's awards. Last year the Gerhard Richter: Modern Times exhibition and the young persons' group exhibition won and in 2008 Bauhaus 1919-1933 got the prize.

## **ENDS**

### **Notes to editors**

**Photo caption:** Kate Brindley receives the award from Kate Fox. Please credit to The Journal.

### **Other awards mima has won:**

#### **Journal Culture Awards 2006**

(Runner Up) – Best Event Tees Valley  
Make Your Damn Art World

#### **Royal Institute of British Architects**

A North East Winner of RIBA 2007

#### **RICS**

Winner RICS North East Renaissance Awards 2007  
'Tourism and Leisure' category

#### **Art Fund Collect 2008**

Winner of a share of £50,000 for contemporary craft at Collect 2008

#### **Journal Culture Awards 2007**

(Runner Up) – Best Event Tees Valley  
mima Launch Event

#### **Art Fund International 2007**

£1 Million towards boosting mima's collection

#### **Journal Culture Awards 2008**

Winner - Best Event Tees Valley  
Bauhaus 1919-1933

#### **Civic Trust Award 2009**

Commendation for mima and Centre Square

**Art Fund Collect 2009**

One of the five winners of Art Fund Collect, a £75,000 award to acquire a piece of contemporary craft at Collect 2009

**Hadrian Award 2009**

mima was one of six winners from over 50 entries. The award celebrates the best in architecture and the design of the built environment in the North East and Cumbria.

**Arts Award Welcome venue 2009 – present**

mima offers Bronze & Silver Arts Award programme

Through Arts Award at Bronze, Silver and Gold levels, young people aged 11-25 can explore any of the art forms including performing arts, visual arts, literature, media and multimedia.