

PRESS RELEASE

# *“It Was The Best Of Times, It Was The Worst Of Times”*

## **An exhibition by Twinkle Troughton and Tinsel Edwards**

**HeadSpace@EggSpace, The Egg, 2nd Floor, 16-18 Newington, Liverpool, L14ED**

**Exhibition** March 11th - April 5th **Private View** March 10th

Gallery opening hours Mon to Fri 9 - 22.30pm Saturday/Sunday 10 - 22.30pm

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London based artists Twinkle and Tinsel are coming to Liverpool. It is the girls' debut exhibition in the city, and the second exhibition for their tour 'It Was the Best of Times, it Was the Worst of Times'.

Twinkle and Tinsel work individually but have decided to join forces and put on a succession of shows exhibiting both of their works.

At 9 years old they met by a school pond, and after growing up together it's no surprise the artists, albeit unintentionally, share similar influences.

20 years on they both live in London and have lived together, worked together, even collaborated whilst at separate universities and had identical degree shows before artistically going their separate ways.

Both girls mainly use paint and have each developed distinct styles and techniques both from one another and within the art world. The approach which gives the work its most common denominator is that both Tinsel and Twinkle offer a social commentary and an observation of the culture we live in. It is also the approach to their subjects with their use of satire, humour, directness and bold colours which consistently arises within the work.

The title for the show itself was taken from a Charles Dickens novel and references their interest into British and English history. It's a title which also refers to how both artists feel about the state of modern British life today.

Twinkle's stance as an artist is observational, reflective and more increasingly political

"I use popular culture and media as a main resource for ideas, with Britishness being the main root of my inspiration. We are a media driven nation which has the ability to create a frenzy or uproar out of anything, with the media both reflecting us and driving us in equal measures. But I don't want my work to only represent what we are portrayed as via the media, so a lot of my own memories and observations are also drawn upon to trigger ideas or complete a picture.

Through my own observations I have witnessed that slavery still exists; Brits are slaves to celebrity, television, fast food, money, fast living and consumerism. I'm looking at how we treat each other, at our fixation with material objects and accumulation and consumption. These elements aren't inherently British, but as a British girl I'm looking at how they affect our culture

Tinsel's art is an on-going personal commentary, a series of anecdotes and slogans offering a narrative on modern life.

"My work is about the observations I make in my every day life. The subject of each painting varies, from protesting about the price of housing in London, to contemplating snogging Nicolas Serota. My work talks about personal freedom, hopes and fears, it can highlight social and cultural issues, other times it is an honest personal narrative. I'm interested in promoting the idea of Do.It.Yourself, and have always been inspired by the spirit of punk. My work often references this and can take the form of positive instruction and statements, I make work that campaigns for things, protests against things and poses questions, all using a cheeky humorous slant."

Tinsel and Twinkle have both frequently exhibited in London and have also shown work throughout the rest of the UK, Hamburg, Berlin, Dublin and NYC. They have had solo shows at The Dragon Bar and The Pure Evil Gallery and have sold work to Banksy, Bill Woodrow, Daimon Dash, Howard Marks and Rupert Grinch to name a few.

[www.myspace.com/twinkletroughton](http://www.myspace.com/twinkletroughton) [www.myspace.com/misstinsleedwards](http://www.myspace.com/misstinsleedwards)