

Witamy! Welcome! – Artists Welcomes Polish Scottish Cultural Exchange

27th October – 5th December 2008

Monday – Friday 9am – 9pm and Saturday 9am – 4.30pm

Admission Free

An exciting exhibition of new artworks opened at the Lochgelly Centre Galleries, Lochgelly, Fife, on Monday 27th October. The exhibition, called Witamy! The Polish word for welcome, will run until Saturday 5th December.

Fife Polish Arts Group with the support of the Arts and Theatres Trust Fife, has brought together a dynamic group of Polish artists and Scottish artists with Polish links. The exhibition will feature site specific artworks by Karen Strang, Carol Mason and Peter Russell, video art by Polish artists Alicja Lukasiak and Gzregorz Drozd, 3-dimensional installations by Karol Cebula and Robert Mach and artwork by Stephen Ratomski and Eugen Jarych.

Stephen Ratomski, founder of Fife Polish Arts Group said: “This is a very stimulating and exciting exhibition which brings together a fusion of Polish and Scottish culture and arts. The artists are using a variety of media to express themselves – video and film, music, 3-D painting, collage and constructed textiles. I believe very strongly that Witamy! will benefit the local community by promoting intercultural contact, co-operation and friendship between ourselves and Polish immigrants living and working in Fife. It’s also extending the development of local, national and international artistic partnerships and enriching the experience and practise of local artists. The artists involved with Fife Polish Arts Group certainly find the cultural exchanges between the two countries very stimulating”.

Fife Polish Arts Group was set up in 2004 by Stephen Ratomski and has previously exhibited at Café Fresh, Dunfermline and Kirkcaldy Art Gallery and Museum.

There is also a photographic exhibition in the Corridor Gallery by Poles living in Fife. The two exhibitions have been organised with input from the Fife Polish Association group MOST who provide support and advice to the Polish Community in Fife.

Fife Polish Arts Group receives funding from the Esmee Fairbairn Foundation, FRAE Fife, Fife Council and the Arts and Theatres Trust Fife.

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