

THE EDITOR

IN THIS ISSUE

Editor Ric thumps a tub (p3); What makes The Irrepressibles an Army of Passion? (p4); Don't Get Hooked on Me (p5); Catrin Davies' tribute to the late Anna Piaggi (p12); Nordic synth goddess Karin Park explains why she breaks into buildings (p13); Writer John Harrison in the cold South Atlantic (p16); Photographer David Barnes shares a preview of *King Tide* (p18); Artist S Mark Gubb sees his romantic notions crumble (p22); Anne Lauppe-Dunbar's dark tale of the Stasi, swimming and self-harm (p23)

STOCKISTS

Alicja sobczak www.alicjasobczak.com | **Beyond Retro** www.beyondretro.com | **Calvin Klein** www.calvinklein.com | **Charlie May** www.charlie-may.co.uk | **Craig Lawrence** www.craiglawrence.co.uk | **Culietta** www.culietta.com | **Dr. Martens** www.store.drmartens.co.uk | **Elsa Smith** www.elsasmith.com | **Haizehn Wang** www.haizhenwang.co.uk | **Intimissimi** www.intimissimi.com | **James Shock** www.jameshock.co.uk | **Jayne Pierson** www.jaynepierson.co.uk | **John Rocha** www.johnrocha.ie | **Maria Piana** www.mariapiana.com | **Mint Vintage** www.mintvintage.co.uk | **My Tights** www.mytights.com | **Petra Metzger** www.petra-metzger.blogspot.co.uk | **Rellik** www.rellik.com | **Rokit** www.rokit.co.uk | **Sick** 105 Redchurch St, London E2 7DL

Riding the crest of the argument, I extended my arms for balance, rebaptising the communicants to my left in 30 or 40ml of water and saliva from my delegate's cup. I forget the exact point of my message but it was my first time on a discussion panel and I was excited. The debate centered on how best to support young creatives as they germinate. The panel, myself aside, comprised of highly experienced, good looking and handsomely paid curators and gallerists, pillars in the temple of art. There were many worthy propositions posited: grander exhibitions, whizzier websites and more nauseatingly earnest personal statements, to name but a few. It was clear to me at the time that these amounted to no more than gestures, pointless tub-thumping. 'It should be illegal...' I shouted, '...to exhibit for at least three years after leaving college'. 'Both Jesus and the spirit of Richard Rorty had told me...', I continued, '...that what was needed here was a giant squat, a *New Christiania*, where the young creative could queue for soup once a day, nurture a state-funded narcotics addiction, fight, write manifestos and generally develop the two ingredients necessary for a successful career in the arts: a sense of community and strong personal narrative'.

David Barnes, from whose wonderful body of work, *King Tide*, we have distilled a small edit for this micro-edition of *blown*, refused to show his work for a decade. It was finally unveiled for the first time at Ffotogallery last year. Like a good wine he has fermented in the terroir of his community. When he made his pilgrimage to Arles this year he was ready. I found I could not help but engage with his disjointed fables. They are exquisite but elusive, never quite unfolding. The rigours he subjects himself to in the editing process are savage. He talks of needing to preserve *himself*, because making the work is so totally immersive; he can disappear off grid for days at a time whilst shooting. Echoes are of course present, not just from the more obvious Mikhailovs and Clarks, but lighter intonations of Millais and Courbet surface given time. With a book in the offing, Barnes' will no doubt demonstrate his well-considered maturation and we will be first in line to pick one up when it does.

Upon re-reading the invitation email in the car on the way home I realised I had been invited to the debate. Not to sit on the panel but to be part of the audience. - b

Ric Bower



Cover image:
Karin Park on the stairs @ Bloody Gray
Photography: Avis&Bower
Styling: Joanie Myburgh
Necklace with safety pins - Maria Piana
Clear plastic and chain necklace - Maria Piana
Leather cropped vest - Jayne Pierson
Patent trousers with braces - Petra Metzger
Hand piece - Maria Piana
Ankle boots - Petra Metzger

Editorial & Strategic

Editor **Ric Bower**
Executive Editor **Ed Pereira**
Deputy Editor **Emma Geliot**
Art Director **Russell Britton**
Sub-editing assistance **Margaux Smale**

blown Ltd, Chapter, Market Rd,
Canton, Cardiff CF5 1QE

Distribution: Comag Specialist
Brand Management: russell-britton.com
Submissions: info@blownmag.com
Advertising enquiries: ads@blownmag.com

Section Heads

Photographic Director **Paul Avis**
Literary Director **Jon Gower**
Fashion Director **Danielle Rees**
Music Director **Jayne Pierson**
Performance Director **Richard Huw Morgan**

All material in this issue is exclusive to *blown* magazine and may not be reproduced without prior consent.

All copyright remains with the contributors.

Partners:



This magazine is part funded by the European Regional Development Fund through the Interreg 4a Ireland/Wales Programme

CHAPTER

isca DENTAL

blown would like to thank ISCA Dental, Coracle and Chapter for their support, creativity and friendship. Without these wonderful folk none of the pages that follow would exist.