



Hammerson

NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release

11th May 2009

LOCAL ARTISTS NEED U - BE PART OF THE ART AT UNION SQUARE -

Local artists, commissioned by Hammerson, developers of Union Square, are calling on the people of Aberdeen City and Shire to help create the Union Square community art project: 'U be part of the art'.

Artists Gudrun Bombosch and Iain Gildea launched the 'U be part of the art' local tour on 9th May, at the George Street Open Day on St Catherine Street. Local people were encouraged to suggest items which, to them, represent the City and Shire, at this and a number of other events to be held between now and the beginning of August.

Photographs of the shortlisted objects, as well as an explanation of why they are important to their owner, will be uploaded onto the Union Square website and local people will be encouraged to vote for their favourite items.

Following the public vote, 14 items – which can be no bigger than a shoe box – will be cast into resin blocks by the local artists. These blocks will be inserted into a wall in the north atrium area of Union Square and become a permanent feature in the city centre retail and leisure development.

Commenting on the opportunity Gudrun said: "We are so excited about this project. It is a chance for local people to play a part in this fantastic new development and bring a little piece of their community to Union Square.

"The public vote is another way we plan to encourage people to help put their stamp on this huge scale retail and leisure scheme and we'd like to invite as many people as possible to get involved."

Penny Godfrey, marketing manager for Hammerson Union Square commented:

“Union Square will be one of the largest retail and leisure developments to be built in Scotland in recent years and we want the people of Aberdeen City and Shire to have the chance to be involved in its development.

“The public artwork will add to the unique identity of Union Square and is something that shoppers, and the Aberdeen community, can enjoy.”

Events will be held in areas such as Seaton, George Street, the Beach area, , Thainstone, Torry, Banchory, Turriff and Northfield. If they wish to get involved in the Union Square community art project, members of the public are encouraged to bring along their item to these events so that it can be photographed and uploaded onto the website. For event details, please visit www.unionsquareaberdeen.com/public-art

ENDS

For more information contact Hannah Murray or Kirsty Grant at Trimedia

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Notes to Editors:

'U be part of the art' events:

Event Name	Date	Location
George Street Open Day	9 th May 2009 (10am-1pm)	George Street / St Catherine Street Community Centre
Tillydrone 'U be part of the art' family session	16 th May 2009 (10am-11:30am)	Riverbank School, Dill Rd
Seaton 'U be part of the art' family session	14 th May 2009 (12noon -4pm)	Seaton Community Project within Linksfield Community Centre
Baker Hughes 10k Race	24 th May 2009 (starts 9:30am)	Beach/Harbour Area
Taste of Grampian – Union Square Stand	6 th June 2009 (9.30am-4.30pm)	Thainstone Centre, Inverurie
Torry Gala	6 th June 2009 (all day, 10am-5pm)	Tullos Community Centre
Gordon Highlanders Museum 'U be part of the art' family session	Saturday, 13 th June 2009, (11am-3pm)	Gordon Highlanders Museum, Viewfield Rd Aberdeen
Banchory Show	25 th July 2009 (all day event)	King George V Park, Banchory
Turriff Show	2 nd August 2009 (7:00am-6pm)	The Showfield, Queens Road, Turriff
Northfield 'U be part of the art' family session	30 th May (12noon-4pm)	Northfield Community Centre

Union Square

Union Square is a £250 million mixed use, regeneration scheme creating a new retail and leisure quarter for Aberdeen. Developed by Hammerson, the scheme includes 56 retail units, comprising a range of national and international brands, up to 12 restaurants and cafés, a 203 bed hotel and 10 screen multiplex, set to be Aberdeen's largest cinema. The scheme will also provide visitors with a new civic square. Union Square will be Aberdeen's most accessible retail and leisure offer with 1,700 car parking spaces, easily reached from all major routes and integrated with the city's bus and rail stations - providing a gateway to the region and encouraging sustainable travel to the city.

www.unionsquareaberdeen.com

Hammerson plc

Hammerson plc is a FTSE-100 Real Estate Investment Trust which operates principally in the retail sector in the UK and France. Its £6.5 billion portfolio, which provides 1.4 million m² of retail space and 255,000 m² of offices, includes 15 major shopping centres and 19 retail parks.

Hammerson has a track record of successfully delivering major city centre regeneration projects. Award-winning developments include Bishops Square in London and Bullring in Birmingham. In September 2008 the Company opened three major retail-led developments: Highcross, Leicester; Cabot Circus, Bristol and an extension to Parinor, an existing centre in Paris. This autumn, Hammerson will open its latest retail-led regeneration scheme, Union Square in Aberdeen.

The Company is currently working with several councils across the UK to deliver retail-led mixed-use projects in cities including Leeds, Southampton and Sheffield.

For more information, visit www.hammerson.com.