

## OUT AND ABOUT



### An asparagus ballet?

5:12pm Thursday 1st February 2007

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Strange things are afoot at Pump House Gallery, writes Paul Fleckney.

Whereas one normally goes to an exhibition to see the fruits of the artists' labour, the gallery has made the process the art instead, by putting five artists inside to work and be viewed.

And the artists Pump House have relocated are working on some pretty unusual projects.

Take Central Saint Martins College graduates Pil and Galia Kollektiv. They are currently surrounded by green felt and sewing machines making costumes for an asparagus ballet. I know what you're thinking: what?

To cut a long story short, the Israeli pair fell head over heels for a New Jersey band called XCX on internet radio and, on writing an article about them, were exasperated by the lack of information they could find. Instead, they made up a surreal, whimsical biography for the band.

Now they plan to recreate this mythical event.

Of the very public set-up, Pil says: "It is like a hippy commune. On each floor there is another nutter doing some outrageous project. It's weird, but we are completely isolated which helps us to focus."

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Further down the line, a documentary is to be filmed about the making of *Asparagus: A Horticultural Ballet*, which takes to the stage at Conway Hall Humanist Centre, Holborn, later this year.

Another artist beavering away is Jon Ford, who has reconstructed his research lab to carry out investigations into the pied wagtail.

Jon's hypothesis is that this seemingly unextraordinary bird has actually been sent to find out about the world by a higher power - a mechanical creature called Meth.

Through fieldwork in Battersea Park and using various stimuli such as the sound of old-fashioned typewriters, Jon interprets the wagtail's behaviour to test his theory.

Also uprooting for your entertainment will be painter Robert Stone, sculptor David Kefford, who uses old household cast-offs to make his sculptures, and Fiona Jardine, whose inspirations range from ancient Greek architecture to 1980s yuppie films.

Pump House Gallery, Battersea Park, until February 18, Weds-Sun 11am-5pm (closed Mon-Tues); call 020 7350 0523 or visit [wandsworth.gov.uk/gallery](http://wandsworth.gov.uk/gallery).

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### New Eagle Jedinak out to impress

Australian international Mile Jedinak became Dougie Freedman's third Crystal Palace signing of the summer on Monday and promptly pledged to be a hit.

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### Conroy wishes he was still at AFC Wimbledon

Sutton United new boy Jay Conroy says he is proud to have been part of AFC Wimbledon's rise, but admits he wishes he was still at Kingsmeadow.



### Game review: The Green Lantern: Rise of the Manhunters - Xbox 360

I rarely hold my breath for movie tie-ins and I have to say, DC's The Green Lantern has not been an exception to that rule.

**Sutton**

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