



PRESS RELEASE

Sign up for Manchester's first 'Open City' photography day

Five renowned Manchester photographers are taking part in an afternoon which is aimed at working towards Manchester being an 'open city' for photography. Organised by Cityco, Manchester's city centre management company, up to 100 people will be taken on a free two hour photography tour around the city on Sunday 23 May.

Photographers, who include Aidan O'Rourke, Andrew Brooks, Len Grant, Paul Herrmann and Mark Page will each take a group of budding amateur snappers on a themed photography workshop and a selection of the best images will form an exhibition to be held in the Triangle shopping centre in June. Each photographer has his own unique style, and is passionate about the city, and together they are helping to make Manchester a destination for photography.

Vaughan Allen, chief executive of Cityco said: "Manchester aspires to be a photography-friendly and accessible place where people don't get hassled or arrested for taking pictures. We're talking to the authorities to work together to move towards us becoming an 'open city'. This initiative is all about celebrating Manchester through the lens and we're delighted to be working with some of the city's most notable photographers to make this happen. We want today to really inspire many more people to get out and about and capture the essence of our wonderful city."

Photographer Paul Herrmann, who runs Redeye, the photography network, said: "Redeye's very keen that cities are safe and enjoyable places to take photographs. We work nationally with other photography organisations to try and reduce the number of times that photographers are stopped unnecessarily by the police and private security guards, and we'd like our home city of Manchester to lead the way in this respect. We're very pleased to be working with Cityco to achieve this goal."

Those taking part must be 18 years old or older on 23 May, bring their own photography equipment, be willing to take part in publicity and allow their images to be published and used in the exhibition if selected.

To apply please send your name, age, email address and a day-time phone number quoting ' Cityco Open City' in the subject header to info@cityco.com by the 14 May. This opportunity is on a first come, first served basis and all successful applicants will be contacted with further details by 17 May.

You can find out more about the five photographers by visiting the following websites: Aidan O'Rourke www.aidan.co.uk; Andrew Brooks www.andrewbrooksphotography.com; Len Grant www.lengrant.co.uk; Mark Page www.manchesterphotography.com; Paul Herrmann www.redeye.org.uk.

For more information on Cityco visit www.cityco.com

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For further information please contact Roz Hughes on T: 0161 838 3262 or M: 07967 800395 or Laura Dyson on T: 0161 838 3250 or M: 07917 261177

Notes to editors

Cityco works in partnership to manage and market city centre Manchester. It is an independent, not-for-profit, company funded by both public and private sector.