



GET INVOLVED IN THE BIG SHOOT!

**Outdoor Portrait Event at Aberdeen Football Club, Pittodrie Stadium,
Aberdeen, 1pm – 3pm, Saturday 9th April, 2011**

Silver City Soul:

A video portrait of the City of Aberdeen

A National Galleries of Scotland Outreach Project in partnership with Aberdeen City Council (Arts Development and Aberdeen Art Gallery)

Silver City Soul kicks off with a mass portrait event outside Aberdeen FC's Pittodrie Stadium (at the home end) before the Scottish Premier League game against Hibernian on Saturday 9 April. The National Galleries of Scotland, working in partnership with Aberdeen City Council, are creating a collaborative video portrait of the city and we are inviting all Aberdonians, and supporters of the football club, to join us on that day to add their portrait images to film.

Pittodrie's spectacular position provides a great setting to portray the people of Aberdeen, and supporters of the club, who represent a proud tradition at the heart of the city - one that has made Aberdeen famous around the world. The event will be led by the filmmaker Adam Proctor, director of this inclusive film to document life in Aberdeen.

Silver City Soul aims to create a moving film portrait of the city through the faces of its people. This portrait will reveal Aberdeen's past, present and future, its character and its role in Scottish and world history.

Adam Proctor, who is based in Aberdeen, is leading participants in this collaborative project to represent a rapidly changing city, which will be exhibited in the National Gallery of Scotland in Edinburgh from April 28 – June 6, 2011, and subsequently in

Aberdeen Art Gallery, 11 February - 24 March 2012. Communities, organisations and individuals in Aberdeen will be offered the opportunity to represent themselves and the issues facing them through this project which is part of Aberdeen City Council's cultural strategy.

The project began in November 2010, taking inspiration from figurative paintings of individuals and groups by 19th-century Aberdonian artists, William Dyce and John Phillip, that are held in the national art collection and in Aberdeen Art Gallery.

Robin Baillie, NGS Senior Outreach Officer, said, "We're really excited about inviting the people of Aberdeen to our mass portrait event at Pittodrie Stadium. This iconic structure will form a dramatic backdrop for individual and group portraits that will go into our film presenting the city to a national audience. We want as many people as possible to get involved to help us represent the people of Aberdeen through these portraits and be part of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery's *Portrait of the Nation: Live!* Education project."

The National Galleries of Scotland and Aberdeen City Council would like to thank Aberdeen Football Club for their support and contribution to the staging of this event.

For further information please contact the National Galleries of Scotland press office on 0131 624 6314/6325/6332/6247 or pressinfo@nationalgalleries.org

ENDS

Notes to editors:

- Adam Proctor's previous work can be viewed at www.fortsunlight.co.uk
- visit www.silvercitysoul.me where there is more information about the project.
- Aberdeen residents are also invited to send us in their portraits as digital stills and films by visiting the website www.silvercitysoul.me
- *Portrait of the Nation: Live!* is the National Galleries of Scotland's nationwide Education programme complementing the major refurbishment of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery, due to reopen in November 2011

