



The trustees of Monnow Valley Arts have the pleasure of inviting you to the exhibition

Britain's Hard 60s: John Bulmer's Colour Photographs of a Changing Britain

The exhibition opens at
3 pm on Saturday 28 April
until 24 June 2012

Open Thursday and Friday 11 am–5 pm
Saturday & Sunday 2–5 pm and
other times by appointment

All works are for sale

Entrance to the exhibition is free.
A donation is required for entry to the
gardens and Art & Memory Collection

John Bulmer was a pioneer of colour photography in the early 1960s, working for the *Sunday Times Magazine* from the very first issue in 1962. He shared the first cover with David Bailey.

From the early sixties John Bulmer had travelled across the north of England recording everyday life in its industrial centres. With the advent of the *Sunday Times* came the decision to use colour. In those days, photographers still preferred black and white and the north of England was very much associated with that. Colour was usually used under good light conditions, either of a sunny day or in studios.

Bulmer however decided to shoot under lesser light conditions, capturing the colour of fog, pollution and winter in the industrial north. The resulting images portray the harsh reality of daily life, a contrast to the prevailing image of the colourful 'swinging' sixties.

Having been able to make the change to colour so rapidly, John became one of the most prolific contributors of colour reportage to the *Sunday Times* colour section. Many of Bulmer's most important assignments were abroad, but he was also acknowledged as an adroit recorder of provincial Britain. His reputation as a recorder of the industrial cityscape was probably gained at *Town*, where he was responsible for stories on Nelson, Lancashire, The Black Country, and The North.

In the seventies, the *Sunday Times* colour supplement changed course and John Bulmer moved into documentary film making. He will introduce and show one of his films at Monnow Valley Arts on Friday 11 May at 6.30 for 7, as part of the Monnow Valley Academy programme.

To mark its 50th Anniversary, the *Sunday Times Magazine* will be touring a special exhibition celebrating the supplement's history to galleries in Bristol, Manchester and Birmingham.



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