

see, be

The latest news about CB1 | Summer 2018



Photo: Chris Lubina

The Metaphysical Cyclist – CB1 brings live art to Cambridge

You may have seen some unusually colourful bicycles around the city this summer. These were part of *The Metaphysical Cyclist*, an art project which brought together two of Cambridge's finest traditions - cycling and sculpture - to create a spectacle of art appreciation. Members of the public who were quick enough to snap up the free tickets took part in three rides during June and July, taking to the saddles of a fleet of 20 bicycles designed by Gavin Turk, part of the Young British Artists movement.

Following an illustrated map drawn by the Cambridge-born artist, Adam Dant, the riders took to the city streets and college courts on a three-hour tour, stopping off at pieces of public art. Starting in CB1 with *Continental Drift* by artist-collective, Troika, and William Boyle's 1961 *Ceres*, the goddess of agriculture, the fleet went on to see works by some of the most loved sculptors of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries: Henry Moore at the Fitzwilliam, Anthony Gormley in Downing College, Barbara Hepworth at Murray Edwards College and Edmund de Waal at Clare College.

Cycling from sculpture to sculpture, riders were encouraged to see the city with renewed interest. Cambridge today is all about innovation, but the historic city is famous for art and architecture. As well as celebrating Cambridge's art, the project conceptually links existing works to a new sculpture that has been commissioned from Gavin, which will be unveiled in Station Square in the future. Each ride became an art 'event', and at the end of the tours, riders were presented with certificates to prove their participation in a Gavin Turk art work.

Don't worry if you missed the fun - the events were filmed by Aid & Abet, CB1's artists in residence and filmmaker Rob Hill. The film, a record of the temporary art project, will be shared on the CB1 website later this year. *The Metaphysical Cyclist* also lives on through Adam Dant's map. Pick up a copy from Kettles Yard, the Fitzwilliam Museum or Cambridge City Council, or download a copy on the CB1 website, and follow the sculpture tour on your own bike, in your own time!



Adam Dant interview

Meet the acclaimed artist behind the new map of Cambridge's public art, as curated by Gavin Turk.

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An interview with artist, Adam Dant

Adam, tell us a bit about yourself and your connection to Cambridge?

I was born just outside Cambridge on the meridian which cuts through a village called Swavesey. I grew up on the Fens – flat, boggy, windy – and went to school in Cambridge. The Dant family were originally Cam watermen. One of my ancestors, known as ‘Cuckoo Dant’, ran the cutter ferry at Midsummer Common and used to hibernate during the winter months.

You worked with fellow artist, Gavin Turk, on the Metaphysical Cyclist project this summer. How did the collaboration come about and how did you decide which artworks to visit?

I’ve known Gavin for years: we met as students at the Royal College of Art. I’ve often produced unusual maps as works of art, and Gavin needed a map, so he asked me. He didn’t realise that I was from Cambridge, though, which was a happy coincidence.

We wanted to highlight public art that could be animated by discussions of metaphysical aesthetics, in the same fashion that a bicycle is animated when you ride it.

What was your inspiration for the map?

The starting point for my map was Gavin’s idea that the railway station is straight out of a Giorgio de Chirico painting. I took the distinctive perspective of the Italian painter’s urban landscapes as the template for this map of Cambridge. A rope on the map connects all the sculptures, indicating the route, like Ariadne’s thread that guided Theseus through the labyrinth. From my childhood home, we had a view to Ely cathedral, so I drew it on the horizon, along with the American cemetery at Madingley and Castle Hill. For me, growing up in Cambridge was like a fairy tale, so in the map we wanted to reflect that.

Your drawings are very distinctive – how would you describe your style?

It’s intuitive. I am fond of using a ‘nostalgic’ palette; watercolour, sepia, and I sometimes use antique papers. The idea of creating ‘mockuments’ appeals. English Heritage once mistook a wall painting I did as Jacobean.

What’s the connection between cycling and Cambridge for you?

Cycling is how I got to school, and a little later in life, you did all your courting on bicycles. Cambridge’s cycle culture is more like Amsterdam than London – there’s less lycra here luckily! The idea of the bicycle tour was to capitalise on Cambridge being such a bicycle-friendly place. The fleet of bicycles becomes a work of art in itself – the riders animate the bikes. It’s a brilliant spectacle. As with the map, riding a bike is more than a means of getting from A to B.

Both you and Gavin are leaving your mark on the city through your art. Would you like to see this tradition continue to shape the city?

There definitely seems to be a lot more public artworks in Cambridge than in other cities. Some come and go, like the Henry Moore outside the Fitzwilliam which is on loan, and others stay for good – one hopes! *The Metaphysical Cyclist* is really the warm up act to Gavin’s commission for Station Square, which will be a fantastic addition to CB1 and the whole city when it is unveiled.

Your map is quite a work of art. How can we get hold of it?

Well I’ll be releasing a limited edition print soon. There’s so much detail in my maps, so they’re best seen at full scale, on the wall. But the PDF is available on the CB1 website so that you can download it and follow the route in your own time.

So, what’s been going on in CB1 this summer?

This summer, we’ve made the most of the clear blue skies and long warm days. The cycling sculpture tour led by artist Gavin Turk brought colour to the city’s streets and invited the community to see public art with fresh eyes. Every Friday, foodPark has opened its hatches, bringing stellar street food (and occasional cold treats!) to people working in and around Station Road – our favourite way to welcome the weekend.

Of course sport has been a big fixture in this summer’s calendar. The Cambridge BID brought us Wimbledon on the big screen and lots of people took the opportunity to sit back and watch the live tennis in the sunshine behind One Station Square. We can’t wait to see more fabulous businesses and new bars and eateries come to CB1 over the coming months so that next summer we can draw an even bigger crowd!

Construction at 50/60 Station Road has now reached its highest point, and was marked with a topping out ceremony in early May. Designed by Grimshaw, this is the latest in a series of state-of-the-art office buildings in CB1 supporting the thriving Cambridge economy and attracting top employers to join the likes of Amazon, Thales, Deloitte, Carter Jonas, Birketts and Mott MacDonald which are already here. The building is due to complete in spring 2019 and we’re excited to welcome more innovative businesses in the coming months and years.

Over in Mill Park, landscape enhancement works have been undertaken over spring and summer and the team have been working hard to keep it green! Now the heatwave is starting to abate, the park has re-opened, providing a pleasant green space at the heart of the CB1 Estate for the community to enjoy.

Tech giant Samsung takes space at 50/60 Station Road

The next new office building in CB1, 50/60 Station Road, has taken shape and construction is steaming ahead towards completion in spring 2019. 50/60 is the latest building in a masterplan to create a new community with office space within minutes of the train station, shops and cafes and homes for locals and students.

The new building offers 156,000 sq ft of Grade A office space with the ground, first and second floors reserved for a co-working centre, and quality office facilities on the upper floors, supporting both new and existing businesses at CB1 at all stages of growth. As reported in the last newsletter, the first firm to sign for space was Cambridge-based Costello Medical, which offers scientific support to the healthcare sector. Since then, several other professional and financial services firms have committed to set up Cambridge offices at 50/60, further anchoring the CB1 business district – more to follow in future newsletters!

Tech companies have followed suit, with Samsung Electronics recently taking 16,500 sq ft of space to complement its existing Cambridge operation. Samsung’s new office will house a team dedicated to developing Artificial Intelligence (AI) machine learning technologies. The New York Times picked up on this trend, publishing a piece in July about how leading tech companies are setting up base here to fish from the pool of talented graduates who want to continue living in Cambridge. The connectivity of CB1 is attracting innovative companies, acting to retain Cambridge’s talent, as well as enticing great minds from further afield.

With the finishing touches will come shops, restaurants and cafes at street level, and the maturing landscaping will make this a popular spot for a drink, and a well-designed environment to greet commuters and visitors to the city.

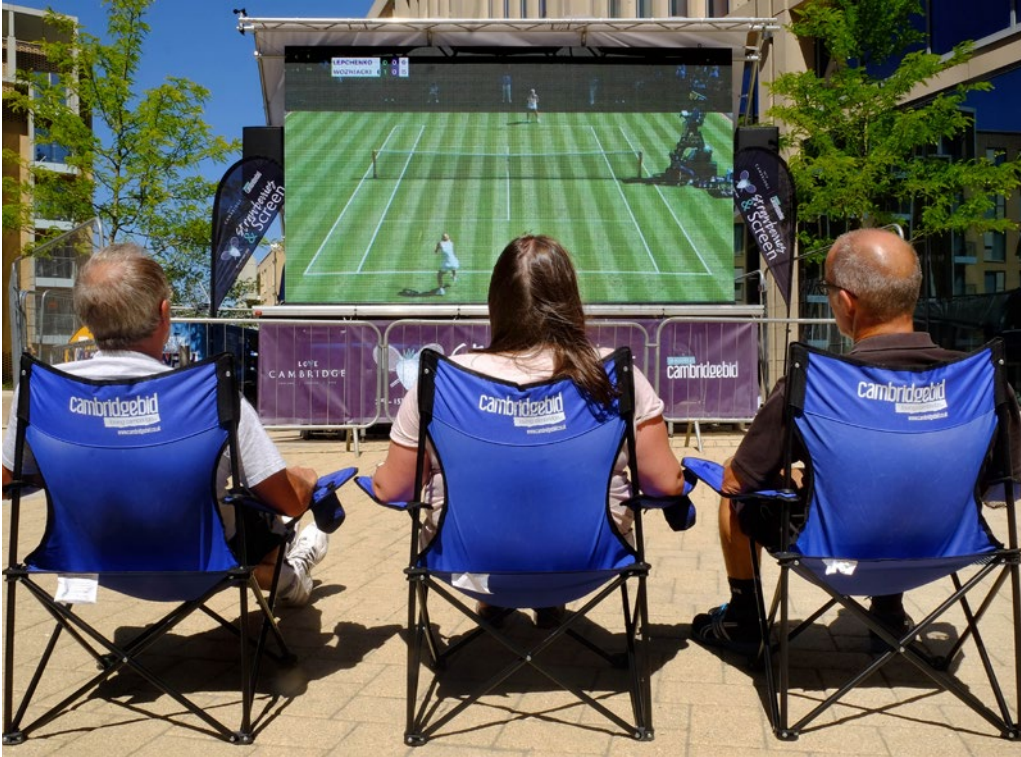
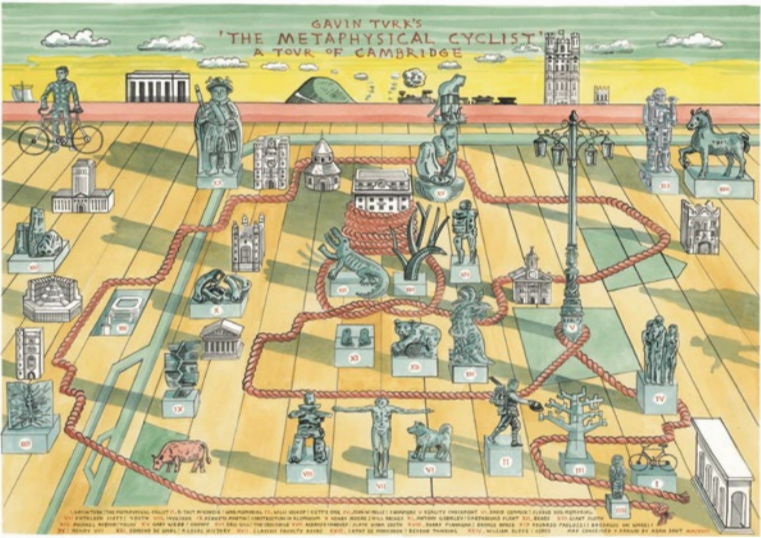


Photo: R&G Photography



Above from left to right Cambridge BID’s Wimbledon on the big screen, Smart Cambridge wayfinding screen, the newly revamped Mill Park, Adam Dant’s map and 50/60 Station Road ‘topping out’ ceremony and progress photograph.



Smart people, smart city

Smart Cambridge has installed a wayfinding screen outside the station to help residents, commuters and visitors plan their journeys around the city. The screens display the latest travel updates and useful visitor information to allow people to travel around the city more easily.

Cambridge-based Building Intellect has also developed a free to download travel app called MotionMap. The app uses real-time and local timetable information to more accurately predict travel times and suggest the best routes using a mix of buses, trains, walking and cycling.

Cambridge recently won the accolade of being one of Britain’s top ten smart cities. These new wayfinding measures utilise data and emerging technologies to help Cambridge tackle congestion and cut vehicle pollution.

To download the app, search for MotionMap in the app stores and download it for free, chose Cambridge and get started. There is also a feedback facility on the wayfinding screens at Cambridge Station, so why not get involved and add your views on how well the system works?

Abandoned bikes go to charity

With the support of Cambridge City Council, we have launched a management scheme to remove abandoned bikes in CB1’s Station Square.

Bikes that appear abandoned will be tagged using a warning tag, which asks the person responsible for the bike to call the CB1 Estate Office urgently on 07930 734836 to report it as claimed. For each day a bike remains uncollected, it will be monitored and those bikes left for seven days will be removed.

All removed bikes will be held by the City Council for two weeks, and if unclaimed after that period, will be donated to a local charity for recycling.

Please park bikes responsibly in the places provided across CB1, and if you are travelling by train please use the 3000-space, free-to-use CyclePoint building, located by the IBIS hotel adjacent to the Station entrance.

A fresh face for Mill Park, a place for the whole community

Mill Park has reopened for everyone to enjoy. We spoke to James Dee, the lead landscape architect from Robert Myers Associates (RMA), about the new look park.

Having been involved with the CB1 area since the original masterplan by Lord Rogers was approved in 2010, RMA was delighted to be asked to redesign Mill Park, and could draw on the same palette of plants and hard materials used elsewhere to stitch the new park into the fabric of the wider CB1 area.

The mix of herbaceous and evergreen planting is low growing, hardy, and interesting all year round, and the materials used, like the oval ‘Corten’ steel planters, will mature with time and ‘turn a handsome rust orange’, said James. The most striking feature of the redesign is the criss-cross of paths which intersect at diagonals leading to and from the station and Station Road in the opposite direction. James said: ‘We knew from our studies of the site that people were going to walk in these directions, so we put in permeable gravel footpaths so the heavier footfall routes wouldn’t get worn out when it’s hot and dry, or muddy when it rains.’ Mill Park is now an attractive landscaped park with the paths forming dramatic sight lines for people passing through or whose homes overlook it.

RMA also looked beyond CB1, drawing inspiration from their wealth of experience working on many green spaces and college courts, which anchor so much of Cambridge. ‘Robert is a graduate of Girton College, so he knows the city like the back of his hand. As a practice, we have an in-depth understanding of how the green areas in Cambridge work. So we applied this to Mill Park’, said James.

While Parker’s Piece and Abbey Leisure Complex are great open spaces for organised sports, James wants Mill Park to be an adaptive space at all times of day: ‘Rather than rolling out a lawn for 11-a-side football matches or installing a playground, we’ve created a landscape adaptable for play’ with space to relax, have a picnic or dash through if you’re late for the train. Mill Park is more of a place now; a canvas for various types of activities.’

Safety is important too: there are wardens regularly patrolling CB1 to maintain security but as James points out it is intended to be ‘safer by design’. We hope that the community will develop a sense of the ownership, and look out for one another and their new park.

For updates about Mill Park and photos tracking its development, follow @CB1_Development on Twitter.





Roberto's Uncle Mario working for the family business in Italy and some of the delicious traditional dishes available at Zio Mario.

CB1 Personality: Roberto, Owner of Zio Mario

Roberto, tell us a bit about yourself and the cafe.

I was born into a family of bakers in Italy, but my career developed quite differently. I worked in various industries and I travelled all across Europe for work. I moved to Cambridge in 2009, both for personal and business reasons.

I knew I wanted to start up my own business at some point, so I qualified as a chef before working in restaurants and food businesses for a couple of years before investing in my own cafe. I signed for this spot in October 2016 and fitted it out as an artisan coffee shop and bakery before opening in January 2017.

What does 'Zio Mario' mean?

It means 'Uncle Mario' – Mario is my mother's brother. He's the last one running the family business in Italy. As a child I went to Mario's pizzeria for my breakfast. I always thought that if I were to start up a food business one day, I would name it after him.

What are your signature bakes?

Our menu is inspired by Liguria, the region where I was born. Our speciality would be *farinata*, a savoury pancake made from chickpea flour. I haven't seen it anywhere else in England: it's totally unique. Something I created for the cafe is the 'pizza muffin', a muffin-shaped pizza-bite for either veggies or meat eaters. As for the pasta, we do *tortiglioni*, and also spinach and ricotta *gnocchi* with the choice of Bolognese ragu, or mushroom and five cheese sauces. We also serve home-made artisan ice cream and smoothies, which have been especially popular this summer.

What do you like about CB1?

It's a new area. I like that there has been an effort to build something for all, where there was nothing before. Cambridge is a small place so everything is close by.

Does the bakery feel part of the community?

We've got a lot of returning customers who like the atmosphere, the food, and our friendly staff. But, being near the station, there are also a lot of people coming and going, commuting. It's a great mix!

What's the atmosphere like?

It's a bright space because it's glass fronted. We're always playing jazz music, and there's good Wifi. We're a small team, mostly Italians. Mediterranean tiles decorate the interior, all the counter tops and tables and chairs are wooden, and a big window shows straight through to the kitchen, so the public can see the chefs at work. We are child-friendly and like dogs and bike-riders too!

We are huge fans of your coffee. Do you encourage drinking at the bar?

We've got great reviews for our coffee! People are busy around here, so if they do have time, they'll take a seat, but often people come knowing they can get a proper coffee to take away before getting the train.

What do you hope for the future of the cafe and the CB1?

That it keeps developing, that the pavement is always busy, and that there's ever more reason for people to come this way, regardless of where they're heading next.

Zio Mario is at 21 Station Place, CB1.

One Station Square takes the prize!

One Station Square has won a number of industry awards. The British Council for Offices (BCO), The Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) and Local Authority Building Control (LABC) have all recognised the building in awards for the commercial category. The Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE) also awarded the One Station Square project a Team Achievement Award. It's great to see CB1 representing Cambridge in national awards.



Follow @CB1_Development on Twitter

Are you following the latest developments on Twitter? Find us @CB1_Development where we share the latest news from CB1. Lately, we've been following the landscape works in Mill Park – on the ground, and from a bird's eye view –

and the Metaphysical Cyclist project led by artist Gavin Turk. This is also where you'll find updates about buildings and public spaces in CB1. If your business is based in CB1, or you're interested in the new business district, or you stop off here on your way to the station, then please follow us or send us a tweet!

