

<http://peoplelikeus.org/2008/documentation-of-the-people-like-us-retrospective-at-alt-gallery/>

People Like Us Retrospective at alt.gallery

alt.gallery (entry via alt.vinyl) 61/62 Thornton Street, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4AW.

Curated by Rebecca Shatwell

16 May-12 July 2008



MEMORY STICKS



Every week during the exhibition a different collection of special downloads from the People Like Us archive will be available from the gallery, bring your memory stick along for a free take away!

ESSAY BY DR DREW DANIEL

A specially commissioned essay by Dr. Drew Daniel of Matmos accompanies the exhibition. [Download pdf here.](#)



PEOPLE LIKE US WE EDIT LIFE

Opening Night: 15 May 2008, 6 – 8pm
Exhibition: 16 May – 12 July 2008

This is the first retrospective exhibition of work by People Like Us (aka Vicki Bennett). For the past seventeen years British artist Vicki Bennett has been an influential figure in the field of audio visual collage, through her innovative sampling, appropriating and cutting up of found footage and archives.

Using collage as her main form of expression, she creates audio recordings, films and radio shows that communicate a humorous, dark and often surreal view on life. The exhibition will show an edited selection of her work, including twenty album releases, numerous singles and remixes, live sets, seven films and over a hundred and fifty radio shows.

These collages mix, manipulate and rework original sources from the experimental and popular worlds of music, film, television and radio. People Like Us believe in open access to archives for creative use, and have made work using footage from the Prelinger Archives, The Internet Archive, and A/V Geeks. In 2006 she was the first artist to be given unrestricted access to the entire BBC Archive.

People Like Us have previously shown work at Tate Modern, Sydney Opera House, Pompidou Centre and Sonar, and performed radio sessions for John Peel and Mixing It. For more information and downloads see www.peoplelikeus.org

A specially commissioned essay by Dr. Drew Daniel of Matmos accompanies the exhibition.

People Like Us Special on WFMU

15 May, 11pm-midnight (UK time), www.wfmu.org/playlists/ER
To celebrate the exhibition opening Ergo Phizmix hosts a People Like Us Special on his show *Phuj Phactory* on US radio station WFMU.

Vicki Bennett Talk and Screening

16 May, 7:30pm, Star and Shadow Cinema, Stepney Bank, Newcastle
Vicki Bennett presents a selection of films by People Like Us.

The Late Shows: *Smiling Through My Teeth*

Saturday 17 May, 7pm-11pm, alt.gallery
Launch of the new CD *Smiling Through My Teeth*, a compilation of humorous music and sound art. Guest curated by Vicki Bennett for Sonic Arts Network. www.thelateshows.org.uk



WIRE
www.thewire.co.uk

alt.vinyl

SONIC ARTS NETWORK
www.sonicartsnetwork.org



alt.gallery

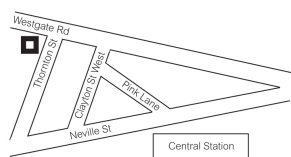
alt.gallery presents work by international artists working at the intersection of visual art, sound and music. Based within alt.vinyl record shop it is the only gallery in the UK with a specific focus on this exciting area of contemporary culture.

61/62 Thornton Street,
Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 4AW
(entry via alt.vinyl record shop)
t: +44 (0) 191 222 1213
e: mail@altgallery.org
www.altgallery.org

Visitor Information

Opening times:
Monday to Saturday 10 am – 6 pm
Thursday 10 am – 8 pm

Admission Free



PEOPLE LIKE US WE EDIT LIFE

16 May – 12 July 2008



The exhibition also included a framed essay by Rick Prelinger on The Virtues of Preexisting Material. Here is an excerpt:

On the Virtues of Preexisting Material

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- 1 Why add to the population of orphaned works?
- 2 Don't presume that new work improves on old
- 3 Honor our ancestors by recycling their wisdom
- 4 The ideology of originality is arrogant and wasteful
- 5 Dregs are the sweetest drink
- 6 And leftovers were spared for a reason
- 7 Actors don't get a fair shake the first time around, let's give them another
- 8 The pleasure of recognition warms us on cold nights and cools us in hot summers
- 9 We approach the future by typically roundabout means
- 10 We hope the future is listening, and the past hopes we are too
- 11 What's gone is irretrievable, but might also predict the future
- 12 Access to what's already happened is cheaper than access to what's happening now
- 13 Archives are justified by use
- 14 Make a quilt not an advertisement



The exhibition will also launch a new CD curated by Vicki Bennett for [Sonic Arts Network](#) called 'Smiling Through My Teeth', a compilation of humorous music and sound art.



SPECIAL EVENTS

People Like Us Special on WFMU

Thursday 15 May, 11pm-midnight (UK time) www.wfmua.org/playlists/ER – To celebrate the exhibition opening Ergo Phizmiz hosts a People Like Us Special on his show 'Phuj Phactory' on **WFMU**, both on terrestrial radio and live internet stream.

People Like Us Talk and Screening

Friday 16 May, 7:30pm

Star and Shadow Cinema, Stepney Bank, Newcastle

Vicki Bennett presents a selection of films by People Like Us.

The Late Shows: Smiling Through My Teeth CD Launch

Saturday 17 May, 7pm-11pm

alt.gallery

www.altgallery.org



The Late Shows form part of NewcastleGateshead's world-class festivals and events programme. www.thelateshows.org.uk



Many thanks to Rebecca Shatwell for inviting us to do this retrospective, it was great fun to work together. Rebecca is now director of [AV Festival](#).

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The Late Shows: *Smiling Through My Teeth* CD Launch: 17 May, 7 – 11pm



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mail@altgallery.org Open: Monday to Saturday 10 am – 6 pm, Thursday 10 – 8 pm



