

## New Kettle's Yard building reaches milestone

### Kettle's Yard and SDC celebrate Topping Out on 9 February.

Progress on the Kettle's Yard extension is being celebrated on 9 February with a topping out ceremony, as the building reaches its highest point. The project, designed by architect Jamie Fobert, encompasses: a four floor Education Wing – including two new learning spaces and an archive and project space; two remodelled and environmentally controlled galleries; and a new entrance space and café.

The contractor, SDC, has invited guests from the University of Cambridge, Kettle's Yard and major funders of the scheme: Arts Council England, Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and Cambridge City Council to celebrate this moment. Also invited is a student from North Cambridge Academy who has helped us fill a time capsule which will be placed in the roof during the topping out ceremony.

**John Orna-Ornstein, Director, South East and Museums, Arts Council England:** "I'm really excited about this project, not just for what it will enable Kettle's Yard to do in terms of presenting high-quality exhibitions and its educational work with children and young people, but also for the opportunities that it will offer to audiences in Cambridge and beyond. It is really important that everyone has the opportunity to experience great art, irrespective of their age, background or circumstance, and developments like this are a significant part of making that happen. I'm pleased to be able to celebrate this important moment in the build with Kettle's Yard and look forward to its opening."

**Robyn Llewellyn, Head of HLF East of England:** "Thanks to money raised by National Lottery players we were delighted to invest £2.5m into revitalising the display and care of Kettle's Yard's nationally important collections. What's really exciting about this project is the way they are engaging with so many people of all ages to truly bring to life the fascinating stories and heritage held here. It's fantastic to see the future of Kettle's Yard really taking shape and I look forward to celebrating further milestones."

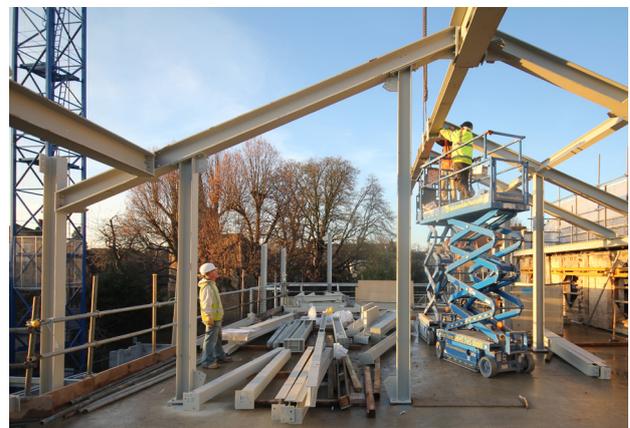
**Clr Richard Johnson, Executive Councillor for Communities, Cambridge City Council:** "It is great to see this important building project progress to its next stage. The Kettle's Yard team have been using their time away from home continuing to build strong links with the local community. Having a time capsule placed into the roof, that has been put together with a student from nearby North Cambridge Academy, is a very appropriate way to mark those strong and developing relationships, and indicates a real commitment to ensure the local community come back to Kettle's Yard when the building reopens."

The new Kettle's Yard will transform how the gallery can work with children, young people and community groups, allowing Kettle's Yard to curate exhibitions with major artists from around the world, display 20th and 21st century art in the best conditions, and have the facilities to enable even more people to enjoy Kettle's Yard.

**SDC Managing Director Francis Shiner:** "It is a rare experience to be involved with the construction of a building where there is so much energy and enthusiasm. All of the stakeholders care deeply about how the completed development will feel and how it will perform. For our team it has become impossible for us to do anything other than become heavily involved with matters which go far beyond "being the builder".

**Andrew Nairne, Director of Kettle's Yard:** "Being able to stand in what will be the new galleries and education spaces is so exciting, we can now get a real sense of what the new Kettle's Yard will feel like and all the opportunities it will bring to welcome new audiences."

Work began on the project in July 2015 and is expected to be completed about a year from now. The Kettle's Yard extension reaches its highest point on 9 February.



Kettle's Yard building site, December 2016

## Editors Notes

The project has been generously supported by Arts Council England, Heritage Lottery Fund, University of Cambridge, Clore-Duffield Foundation, DCMS-Wolfson Museums & Galleries Improvement Fund, Edlis-Neeson Foundation, J P Getty Jr Charitable Trust, The Monument Trust, The Sackler Trust and Sir Sigmund Warburg's Voluntary Settlement as well as a number of other trusts, foundations and individual donors.

## Kettle's Yard

Kettle's Yard is one of Britain's best galleries - a beautiful and unique house with a distinctive modern art collection, and a gallery exhibiting modern and contemporary art. Supporting this is an established learning programme, archive, and programme of chamber and new music concerts. Kettle's Yards' mission is to contribute to society by inspiring and engaging audiences through art, learning and research of the highest quality. It is committed to realising its potential within the University and the community; presenting programmes of local, national and international importance. Attracting over 70,000 visitors a year, Kettle's Yard is one of eight University of Cambridge Museums. On 22 June 2015 Kettle's Yard closed for a major redevelopment to greatly improve facilities for visitors, artists and children and young people. The plans include a four-floor Education Wing, remodelled and environmentally controlled exhibition galleries and a new entrance space with a cafe. For more see the website: [www.kettlesyard.co.uk/about/development-plans/](http://www.kettlesyard.co.uk/about/development-plans/)



Clore Learning Studio in the Education Wing

## Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)

Thanks to National Lottery players, we invest money to help people across the UK explore, enjoy and protect the heritage they care about - from the archaeology under our feet to the historic parks and buildings we love, from precious memories and collections to rare wildlife.

[www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk)

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## Arts Council England (ACE)

Arts Council England champions, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to digital art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2010 and 2015, we will invest £1.9 billion of public money from government and an estimated £1.1 billion from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country.

[www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)



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