

Friday, November 2, 2001

**UNDERGROUND METRO TRAVEL**  
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Thought provoking: John Cooper Clarke and Joe Rush are among artists who will enjoy an unusual platform for their work

# The Exhibition Line

Piccadilly train to be gallery for the stars

THE TUBE will have more than 40 cars travelling together this month on the world's first art train.

Yoko Ono, artist Damien Hirst, fashion queen Vivienne Westwood, poet John Cooper Clarke and 39 others have all contributed pieces of their work for

BY TOM JAMES

a special exhibition. Every advertising space on a Piccadilly Line train has been donated by London Underground for the display, sponsored by global finance house Bloomberg.

There are 84 images, ranging from painting to photography and fashion - each artist was asked for two pieces.

The mix is varied: two white panels from Yoko Ono, Aidin Higgins' take on old London Transport posters, Joe Rush's video stills, John Cooper Clarke's verses...

It's the idea of Canadian artist Gordon McHarg, who now lives in London.

"I don't drive, so I use the Underground a lot," he said.

"The advertising spaces are some of the most exciting places to show any piece of art."

"I like the idea of putting the show where it wasn't meant to be - a moving gallery travelling 45 miles through London."

The Tube's Liz O'Sullivan said the train fitted in with the company's Platform For Art series of station exhibitions.

"The whole project has been



ARTISTS: YOKO ONO, DAMIEN HIRST, VIVIENNE WESTWOOD, JOHN COOPER CLARKE, JOE RUSH, GORDON MCHARG, AIDIN HIGGINS, AND 39 OTHERS. SPONSORED BY BLOOMBERG

Cost of 42: The artists whose work will be on display

exciting and art on a moving train is the most original part so far."

Gordon said the artists were given free reign.

"The only requirements they were given was that they had to create two pieces and all of them would be the same size so they would fit in the ad spaces."

"The idea is to encourage people to look at artwork in different ways

in public spaces and not just in galleries."

The Art train will run through the line's 52 stations from Cockfosters to Heathrow or Uxbridge until the end of the month.

Even if you can't catch the train, you can still see the exhibits on a special website with a link from [www.thetube.com](http://www.thetube.com).

## What does London mean to you?

Whatever it is, if you can put it in a photograph you could win a top digital camera and a public exhibition of your pictures. BBC London is looking for images that capture the personal side of the capital for those who live, work or just visit. The winners will feature in a special show at Piccadilly Circus Tube station.

Details are on BBC website [www.bbc.co.uk/london](http://www.bbc.co.uk/london).

