

# Tube train becomes a gallery

**COMMUTERS** riding on the Piccadilly Line are in for a cultural treat next month.

Throughout November, the world's first art train will run, transformed into a gallery exhibiting 84 works by famous artists and designers.

Those passengers lucky enough to catch the right train will be able to enjoy creations by Yoko Ono, Vivienne Westwood, Damien Hirst, Corinne Day and Tessanna Hoare.

For every advertising space on the train will be replaced with a work in the form of painting, photography and fashion.

The idea for the Art Train was dreamt up by Canadian Gordon McHargh, the artist best known for his portrait of Damien Hirst in which he wears a pair of bull's horns.

Having tried the idea of art on the move, on a bus in Vancouver, he decided that the scheme deserved a bigger audience.

McHarg, who now lives in London and travels frequently

on the Tube, chose the pieces to feature in the Underground exhibition, to be seen by the Piccadilly Line's daily 615,000 customers.

He said: "The idea is that it will encourage people to look at artwork in different ways in public spaces and not just in galleries.

"Someone might be pleasantly surprised to step onto the train and notice all the artwork."

London Underground's Liz O'Sullivan was delighted to accept the project as part of the Underground's Platform for Art series of art exhibitions.

She said: "London is a cultural hot bed above ground and by taking art underground in Art Tube 01 we hope to make the experience seamless.

"Platform for Art has been an exciting initiative and art on a moving train is the most original project to date.

"The Piccadilly Line has a particularly diverse customer base, with travellers from Heathrow as well as regular customers who use the service every day".