

Step into the future on the Tube

PASSENGERS using Notting Hill Gate and Bethnal Green stations on the Central line are getting an 'outer space' experience with space-age art displayed on the walls and futuristic-style station announcements.

Called Transporter, it is a new commission from Art on the Underground and features space travel imagery running the full length of the escalators, intergalactic-sounding travel announcements and a special musical riff.

The commission is the work of artist Harold Offeh (pictured, centre) and a group of young people aged 11 to 19

from West London and is part of the 150th anniversary celebrations of London Underground. The artistic brief was to imagine what the next 150 years would be like on the Tube.

Ghanaian-born Offeh spent six months working with two youth groups, the Canalside Activity Centre and the Baraka Youth Association, to put on the display and the children went on special educational visits to the Tube stations to develop their work.

As well as the wall art along the escalators, the young people wrote and recorded their own unusual announcements for broadcast over the station tannoy. The announcements ranged from giving advice such as 'please allow voyagers to depart the craft before boarding' and 'change here for the Lunar Express', to 'please watch out for meteorites while leaving the station'.

Louise Coysh, curator for Art on the



Underground, described the escalator artworks as 'striking' and praised the young people on their creativity: 'The future of

the London Underground, along with the young people's love of science fiction, was the inspiration for this artwork and I'm sure our

customers will enjoy this unusual project which should help to make their journeys more interesting.'

Get snappy at London Transport Museum

LONDON Transport Museum is hosting a series of events at its Acton Depot in West London to mark the 150th anniversary of the Tube.

Activities include animation workshops, photography sessions, guided tours and special 'behind-the-wheel'

experiences where visitors take the driver's seat on various vehicles including a steam train, a Tube train and a more recent A-stock Metropolitan line train.

Two of the workshops will focus on photography and will be presented by The Mango Lab, which is run by accomplished photographers Karl Grupe and Julia Massey Stewart. The adult workshop costs £35 (£33 concessions), and will cover a range of skills from low level lighting to considering composition as well as giving people the chance to work with studio lighting. The family workshops are suitable for children aged 8+ with their parents or carers. They cost £5 per person and offer an opportunity to develop creative photographic skills.

■ The workshops will run from October 28-30 and must be booked in advance as spaces are limited. For more information and to book your place, visit www.ltmuseum.co.uk

Tube improvement plan – post weekend update



IT was a busy weekend on the Metropolitan line. Four hundred metres of drainage was improved alongside the tracks between Harrow-on-the-Hill and Northwick

Park. Also, 270 metres of track was replaced between West Harrow and Harrow-on-the-Hill, and 540 metres of track between Uxbridge and Ickenham.

Keep up with the improvement plan and how it might affect you at tfl.gov.uk

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