

**Mould the Universe**  
**Simon & Tom Bloor**

**Window Box, The New Art Gallery Walsall**  
**18 September - 23 November 2008**

Birmingham-based artists Simon and Tom Bloor are Artists in Residence at The New Art Gallery Walsall until 28 November 2008. As part of their project, they have created a new installation for the gallery's Window Box.

The background of their installation features a large black and white photograph taken from a 1960s educational book of a young girl looking inquisitively at an object in front of her. Replicas of this shape are suspended from the ceiling of the Window Box and on the glass pane, a series of letters written out in a square suggest another form of puzzle - a sentence waiting to be unravelled.

The sentence reads 'Mould the Universe' and is a quote from the book *Idle Thoughts of an Idle Fellow* by Walsall-born writer Jerome K Jerome:

*We are so bound together that no man can labour for himself alone.  
Each blow he strikes in his own behalf helps to **mould the universe**.*

By extracting the phrase, the artists present a utopian sound-bite: a call for action for the town, its residents and the gallery itself. As the young girl discovers the world through educational play, we're reminded of how we're all building blocks in the construction and moulding of our universe - and this enlightenment can take place anywhere; in the gallery, at school or at home, or simply when just walking down the High Street.