

# Thursday in Edinburgh – What's On Today



**Portrait Gallery Curator's talk: *Ponte City*.** A chance to chat to Portrait Gallery curators about current exhibitions: this month **Anne Lyden**, International Photography Curator, will talk about *Ponte City*. 5.30-6pm, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free and unticketed.

The Edinburgh Reporter interviewed the photographers when the exhibition was first opened:

[The Edinburgh Reporter NEWS Ponte City](#) from [Phyllis Stephen](#) on [Vimeo](#).

**The Drawing Room:** an informal, artist-led, drawing session, developed by a contemporary artist and reflecting concerns in that artist's work. All materials supplied: no experience necessary. 5.30-6.45pm, [Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art ONE](#), Belford Road. Free, but booking is required: contact the Education Department on 0131 624 6410 or email [education@nationalgalleries.org](mailto:education@nationalgalleries.org).



**A Sycamore Sings: Danny Miller and Ancuta Nite-Doyle.** Danny Miller (violin), accompanied by Ancuta Nite-Doyle on piano, plays music evocative of the First World War and the Edwardian period on the **Wilfred Owen Violin**, which was made in Edinburgh in 2014 as a tribute to Owen and his generation and an envoy for peace and reconciliation. The violin's wood came from a limb of a sycamore tree growing in the grounds of Craiglockhart, where Owen and other officers came to convalesce and recover from shell-shock. With readings from

Owen's poetry by the violin's maker, **Steve Burnett**, including *Written in a Wood, September 1910*, the words of which are glued to the inside of the instrument. 6-6.45pm, [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](#), 1 Queen Street. Free and unticketed.

**Magic Carpet Minis:** especially for very little ones – a trip on the Magic Carpet to explore the fantastic things in the National Museum of Scotland. 20 minutes of stories, songs and activities for children aged 0-2 years and their parents and carers (for older children, see *Magic Carpet* on Wednesdays). 10.30-10.50am *or* 11.30-11.50am today and every Thursday until 12th February 2015, meet at the Lighthouse Lens, Grand Gallery, Level 1, [National Museum of Scotland](#), Chambers Street. No advance booking required: sign up on the day at the Information Desk in the Entrance Hall. Free.

**Scotland-Russia Forum:** sparkling Russian/English conversation over tea and cakes. Open to all, no need to book – you will be warmly welcomed by the group. 11am, Summerhall Cafe, [Summerhall](#). No charge apart from the cost of any food or drinks you may wish to purchase. For more information contact [info@scotlandrussiaforum.org](mailto:info@scotlandrussiaforum.org) or tel: 0131 560 1486.

**Barnton & Cramond Community Club: Mr Bill Simpson** – *The Battle of the River Forth*. 2pm, Kirk Hall, [Cramond Kirk](#), Cramond Glebe Road.

**Simply Singing:** a group singing songs from all around the world in 3 or 4-part harmony, purely for the joy of singing. No need to be able to read music or understand musical terminology, songs are taught by ear in the traditional way. 7-9pm, tonight and every Thursday, Lounge, Ground Floor, [St Margaret's House](#), 151 London Road. £4 per session.

**Ecumenical Friends at St Cuthberts: Isobel Reid** speaks on *Mamie Martin: A Glowing Brand*. 12.30-2pm, [St Cuthbert's Church Hall](#), 5 Lothian Road. Bring your own packed lunch, tea and

coffee provided. All very welcome: £1.50 per person. Organised by Edinburgh City Centre Churches TOGETHER.

