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[Junior Football](#)
[Travel](#)
[Weather](#)
[Entertainment](#)
[Message Board](#)
[Video Nation](#)
[Civic Life](#)
[In Pictures](#)
[Features](#)
[Faith](#)
[Fun Stuff](#)
[Leeds Festival](#)
[Student Life](#)
[All 2gether now](#)
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[Voices](#)
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Where I Live Leeds

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You are in: [Leeds](#) > [Entertainment](#) > [Visual Arts](#) > [Features](#) > (re)collect



Jonathan Shaw: Victoria Gardens
 (detail)

About The Artist

Jonathan Shaw studied photography, graphic design and computer graphics at the University of the West of England between 1990 and 1996 and then completed a Masters degree at the University of Central England in 1997.

During this time he developed a fascination with the conceptual, theoretical and mechanical relationships which exist between time, movement and the still image.

His work has been shown at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Lanchester Gallery (Coventry), the Howard Gardens Gallery as part of the International Festival of Contemporary Time Based Arts, Cardiff and most recently at the Goethe Institute, Dresden, Germany.

Shaw was short listed for the Paul Hamlyn Award in 2003.

(re)collect The latest exhibition at Leeds Met Gallery shows two new works responding to the city of Leeds.

Photographic artist Jonathan Shaw explores the themes of time and motion by building his own mechanically driven cameras. In the two new works he has been able to take his methods even further.

In October 2005 Shaw spent several days in Victoria Gardens observing and selecting local people to feature in his work.

These people were then brought together choreographed and photographed, condensing the passage of several days time into a single image. The final image (Victoria Gardens) will stand an impressive two metres high by nine metres long.

For the second work, Corn Xchange, Shaw mounted a video camera on a pedestal in the Corn Exchange, where Leeds' shoppers were able to interact with the camera.

For the (re)collect exhibition, several hours of footage are edited down into a 15 minute interactive projection, which the viewer is able to scroll through. Control over the digital projection lies with the spectator, allowing them to be both observer and director, determining which aspects of the projection are played, paused or bypassed.

The two new works were commissioned by Leeds art organisation Pavilion. The exhibition also contains earlier works by Shaw including Crash 7, New Street and the expansive Gallery 13.

(re)collect is at Leeds Met Gallery, Friday 20 January – Saturday 25 February 2006.
 Gallery opening hours, Mon-Sat 11am-5pm, Wed 11am-7pm.
 Admission free.

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