

**Figuring Speech
Launching the project at Hollytrees Museum,
Colchester
9th June 4.30-5.30pm**

Hollytrees Museum, Colchester FREE

The exhibition Figuring Speech is opening in Hollytrees Museum on Monday 9th June at 4.30pm for 5pm and open to the next day. For this exhibition Colchester and Ipswich Museum Service has worked with artist Catherine Watling and filmmaker Toby Roberts and a number of young people with Asperger's Syndrome to create 2 films, which explore metaphor. The young people are pupils at Marketfields School and Thomas Lord Audley School, and some are home educated.

Asperger's Syndrome (AS) is a hidden disability and an aspect of this disability is communication difficulties. Many people with AS have difficulty understanding metaphors and common phrases because of an often-literal interpretation of language. If you say to a child with AS "You're full of beans today.", you may get the reply, "No I am not, I don't eat beans." Young people with AS have to be taught this and several other social skills often taken for granted. Through a series of workshops the artists have worked with the young people to create animations, which help them understand some of these common phrases.

Along with the two films the exhibition seeks to explain Asperger's Syndrome further and highlight not only the difficulties of living with it, but also the talents many people with Asperger's Syndrome have.

Don't miss this inspiring exhibition, which can be enjoyed free of charge in the beautiful surroundings of Hollytrees Museum.

Open Mon – Sat 10am – 5pm
Sun 11am – 5pm

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