

## E8: The Heart of Hackney

### Transition Gallery Exhibitions

'Consumer avatars operating ghoulishly under the supervision of a giant plastic Ronald and a hundred hidden cameras... The burger stink that clogs the street becomes a signifier of decay.' The Dalston masterplan the *Savage Messiah* envisages is not much different to Hackney Wick, a place where some of the streets 'ain't even on the map, they ain't even got names, all them little streets running through the estates, terra incognita... transient architecture.'

The *Savage Messiah* is a psychogeography- fixated fanzine by Laura Oldfield Ford, and one of the works featured in the group exhibition 'E8: The Heart of Hackney', that takes the area as its inspiration.

Art collective walkwalkwalk combines its exploration of E8 with a paean to the chip, that sublime, guilt-soaked com-



DAVE BURTON

*Have you seen a bigger chip than this in E8? walkwalkwalk want to know about it*

ination of mouth-filling fat, lip-stinging salt and instantly absorbed, serotonin-triggering carbohydrate. The walkwalkwalk flâneurs have printed a map of local chip shops on chip-wrapping paper, which you use to find shops that will give you specially created wooden forks with your bag of the good stuff. On June 21 you can join them for a night walk encompass-

ing all the shops on the route. Its entertaining blog of all things potatoey and fried is at [www.chipwalk.blogspot.com](http://www.chipwalk.blogspot.com).

Also showing are Hackney's prodigal son Tom Hunter, who was the first photographer to be exhibited in the National Gallery with his staged shots that recreated old masters and crimes from the *Hackney Gazette*, now offering an eerie photo of London Fields; Barbaresi & Round with paintings based on reminiscences of the area's senior residents; and Gary O'Connor with writing triggered by being trapped in a lift, accompanied by a terrifying sounding audio piece of a lift dropping. An accompanying publication (£4.50) features writing by Iain Sinclair and *Time Out's* Ruth Jarvis. *Natasha Polyevon 'E8: The Heart of Hackney', Transition Gallery, Unit 25a Regent Studios, 8 Andrews Rd, E8 (020 7254 4202) Bethnal Green tube. June 16-July 15. Adm free.*