

EMBER 4 2008

city

EARTH MOTHER

THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL
ACTRESS JENNIFER CONNELLY

RED ALERT

EXCLUSIVE LOOK AT
COACH STATION ART

WHAT'S THE STORY?

OASIS MEMORIES OF PHOTOGRAPHER
MICHAEL SPENCER JONES

> WHO'S DOING WHAT, WHERE AND WHEN THIS MONTH...

EDITOR'S LETTER

with Jen Perks



Send your letter off to Santa yet?

If not, then it's not too late to make a few last minute additions from our Budget and Blow-out Christmas gift guide. There's sure to be something to put a smile on anyone's face.

Christmas stockings of a different kind feature in this month's Fashion, with lingerie experts Honey's supplying the clothes for our gorgeous models to wear.

Elsewhere in the mag this month, we speak to Oasi photographer Michael Spencer Jones, film star (and homebody) Jennifer Connelly - and look ahead to the public art that will help make our new coach station an embellishment, not an embarrassment to the landscape.

Richard McCartney visits the lobsters at Chung Ying Garden, while I made a call to the new-look Victoria. Shiraz Naqvi went a little further afield, to the delights of sunny Senegal. It's alright for some - perhaps I'll add that to my own letter to SC...

Have a great Christmas and Happy New Year.

Jen

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A TASTE OF HONEY'S PB9 A lingerie range to linger over



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Exclusive look at 'fencescape' artwork for new coach station

This is an exclusive first look at the public art which will help transform Birmingham's much-maligned coach station into a new city landmark.

Artists Rob Colbourne and Stuart Muggidge will create a stunning 190 metre long perimeter for the coach station (the third busiest in the country - a 'fencescape' which is a nod to the site's past as both HQ for Midland Red coaches and former home to scales manufacturer Avery).

The 320 steel haunches' form and curve are designed to give notions of balance, flow and transition, while the colour is a reference to both Avery's weighing apparatus and the famous Midland Red.

The boundary is designed to allow glimpses both into and out of the station, rather than being a solid 'fence'.



but was also contemporary looking. It's about continuing references," he said. The £300,000 art project, which National Express are funding with 'sizeable' contributions from Birmingham City Council and arts organisations, will also include a video installation inside the station building itself, where passengers' visitors can watch footage showing the site's rebirth and development.

The film, along with a visual installation on the side of architect Glen Howells' offices in Bradford Street, adjacent to the new building, have both been developed with the involvement of a group of local schoolchildren as part of their Arts Awards studies.

Claire Farrell from EC Arts, who was commissioned by National Express to appoint the artists and implement the project, told CityLiving: "National Express have invested a huge amount of money in the coach station and public art strategy. By engaging within the arts, rather than installing irrelevant off the shelf art, the coach station and Birmingham will be getting public art that has a sense of place."

Clive Dutton, director of Planning and Regeneration at Birmingham City Council, said: "This is an early and brilliant visual project that relates to what the Big City Plan is all about. It's great that we can polish the design for the new coach station and complement the £1 million environmental enhancement scheme; all that demonstrates our contribution to Digbeth, one of the real jewels in the crown of the city."

The new £15 million station is scheduled to be completed in August.

■ To see a video on this story, go to www.birminghampost.net

> THREE THINGS TO DO THIS MONTH...



Früh Weihnachten at the Frankfurt Christmas Market

From next week (December 23) to the end of the month...



Dress to Impress - at Clothes Show Live

Billie on the latest fashion and beauty news...



Go care

No Christmas...