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Art

Exhibition #3

The Museum Of Everything

13/10/2010 till 11/02/2011

Wed to Sun 10:30am - 6:30pm

Regent's Park Rd. and Sharpleshall St. NW1 8YL



Free (£2 donation suggested)

Links

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[Walter Potter + Damien Hirst](#)

[More On Peter Blake + Exhibition #3](#)

[Peter Blake Interview](#)

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[Tate: Peter Blake + James Brett](#)

[Peter Blake + Jarvis Cocker BBC Audio Interview](#)

[More Intelligent Life: MOE](#)

Sir Peter Blake, in case you're unfamiliar with his particular [brand](#) of [Pop art](#), is famous world-wide for [his cover design](#) of [The Beatles' Sgt Pepper's](#) album. His Pop iconography has always been indebted at a certain level to Americana, rock and roll, and folk roots.

But this exhibition is not really about Pop, the nice people at The Museum Of Everything have put on a show of [Blake's collection](#). It's not quite art, but as with everything staged by this little gem of a museum, Blake's love of carnival culture, folk art and other eccentric human activities is there for all to see. For those who are keen readers of wall-texts, Blake has kindly provided commentary about some of the objects on show. These include funny little anecdotes and are very, very human -- particularly those accompanying [Ted Wilcox's](#) embroideries, which help us understand the life of the creative instinct. The collection itself goes some way towards explaining the artistic mindset that Blake himself inhabits.

Also [on display](#) upstairs is the art of [Walter Potter](#) (1835-1918). Potter is renowned for his [taxidermy dioramas](#), and there can be no better microcosm of Victoriana than this. [Squirrels play cards](#), a [drinking den](#) is [broken up by coppers](#) (all rats!), while the most famous work is his [Death And Burial Of Cock Robin](#) which included some 90 species of local birds. It's a world-view that [Beryl Bainbridge](#) would have been proud of...

The air itself in this exhibition feels like that of another era. This is partly why we visit museums -- to gain a better understanding of our times and humanity by being exploring other eras. Museums like The Museum Of Everything are [dotted](#) the world over; they are small, [eccentric testaments to human creativity](#), and MOE is our own cultural version of the [Museum Of Jurassic Technology](#).

NB: [runs](#) till 11/02.

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