Kathryn Dyer. Public and Commercial Services Union UK

Culture Sector

Trade union barriers to Organsing UK Young workers:

UK young workers are in the following sectors:

- 1 million are in retail with a density of 12 per cent.
- 500,000 in accommodation and food services where density is 3 per cent,
- 200,000 are in manufacturing where density is 18 per cent
- Union density amongst 16 24 Year olds is low in UK overall
- Why? Youth face many issues
- Youth are de politicised.



Who do UK young workers turn to?

Trade unions

- Not accessible
- Non visible alternatives sought
- Bureaucratic barriers
- Replicates bad practice
- Non political Trade union Education

Community/ Campaign groups.

- Flat structure
- Direct action
- Political
- Issue based (sometimes single)
- Social media

PCS Culture sector

Addressing 3 main barriers:

- 1. Bridging the gap between unions and community / Campaign / non for profit groups
- 2. Misconceptions of political apathy and lack of politics in trade union education.
- 3. Bureaucratic mechanisms blocking actions and results

How we are addressing barriers

Working with Community groups & non profit organisations :

- Artists assembly Against Austerity
- Art not Oil
- Lost Arts
- BP or not BP
- Joint conferences, Joint actions and messages

Disobedient protest – Victoria and Albert Museum

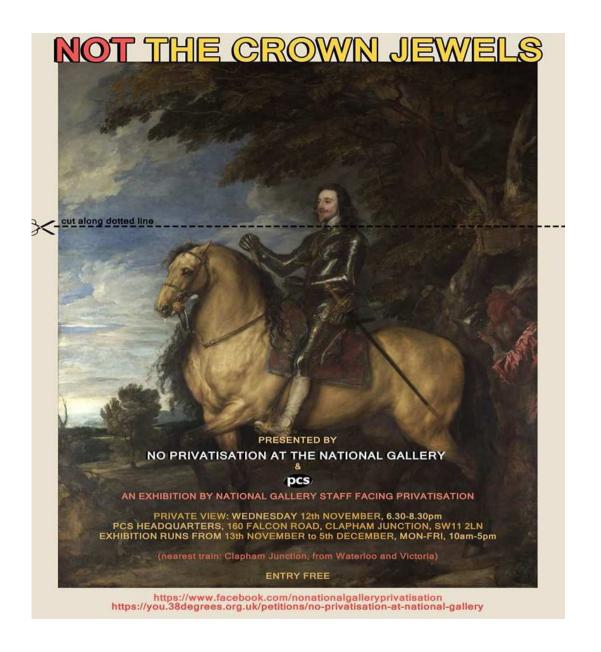




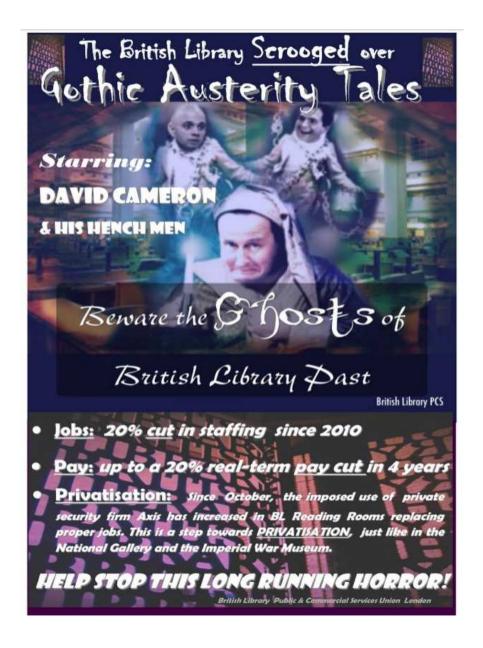


Human chain National Portrait Gallery London.

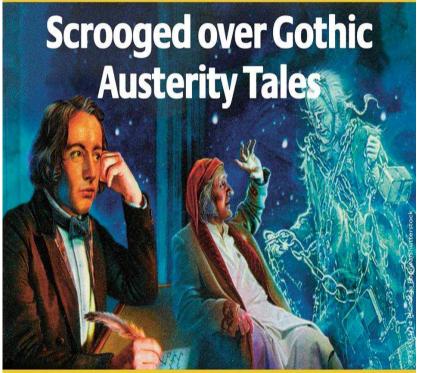




https://you.38degrees.org.uk/petitions/no-privatisation-at-national-gallery



THE BRITISH LIBRARY



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PCS Culture sector recent results & Next steps

- Changing perceptions of trade unions and making PCS accessible to youth.
- Bridging the gap between unions and community / campaign groups - large conference.
- Quicker transition between engaging young workers and action in campaigns
- Consolidating good practice and running New education programme with GLI – bringing back politics.