A COLLECTION OF WORK INSPIRED BY BARRY HINES AND HIS ARCHIVE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD BY PATRICK MURPHY ANTON WANT

UNTAMEABLE

21 OCT–20 DEC 2019

Exhibition & Installation
Western Bank Library
The Arts Tower
Untameable is an exhibition and installation at Western Bank Library and the Arts Tower curated by artists Patrick Murphy and Anton Want.

It is inspired by Barry Hines’s writing and the contents of his archive held at The University of Sheffield Library. The artists have also worked closely with Dr David Forrest from the School of English whose work with Professor Sue Vice on Hines has drawn widely on the archive.

The project title highlights Hines’s dogged determination over three decades to write about the changing personal and political landscapes of working-class life in South Yorkshire. Hines was a man who wrote for and from his community, and unflinchingly chronicled the social injustices he witnessed: from the failure of the education system and lack of opportunity found in A Kestrel for a Knave, and the examination of land ownership and alienated labour in The Gamekeeper, to the devastating effect that Thatcherism had on Sheffield in Looks and Smiles, and the increasingly toxic climate of nuclear threat during the 1980s in Threads.

Including reworkings of rare documents and material from the archive this collection also illustrates the relevance of Hines’s writing in the twenty-first century, as new political, cultural and social divides open up in Britain and beyond.