No Pain Whatsoever

DEDA Arts Centre, Derby March 8th- April 7th 2013
Format Photography Festival
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By Benjamin Tee, ASX UK, March 2013

The FORMAT International Photography Festival (the 6th biennial incarnation of the event to date) began its month long residency over the city of Derby, UK in March. This year the curatorial theme is ‘factory’. This is an apt choice; the city itself was a pivotal location for Britain’s Industrial Revolution, with both important silk mills and railway works being heavily operative well into the twentieth century. If we fast forward to the present day, Derby is still renowned for its earlier silk mills (Derwent Valley Mills being a UNESCO world heritage site) and also still holds a little of its industrial prowess (notably with the Rolls Royce factory). However, Derby is also wrought with the evidence of Britain’s industrial closures. Format has creatively
Mersey beat: Ken Grant captured the spirit of Liverpool as it coped with two decades of distress

The photographer chronicled the turmoil in the north west in the 1980s and 1990s.

BRIAN VINER  SUNDAY 17 FEBRUARY 2013
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