



## Culture this August! By Piers Inkpen

God's House Tower has travelled 35 years into the future with its new exhibition, 'GHT.2058: Asylo-جنت' by London-based, Iranian artist Bijan Moosavi. Bijan's vision of the future is dystopian. His exhibition reimagines Southampton's historic venue as a refugee centre from 2058, where Middle Eastern asylum seekers find refuge after our governments fail to deal with the Climate Crisis. Audiences can immerse themselves by exploring nauseating neon lights, weary weather warnings, mad marketing overhype, and intense Islamic Kitsch – it's like being inside a science fiction film. Although Bijan's exhibition is certainly a spectacle to behold, it shouldn't be enjoyed lightly but instead taken as a warning. Let's keep 'GHT.2058: Asylo-جنت' as an exhibition rather than allow it to become our future!

Visit to prevent a dystopia.

**Until 13 August** [www.godshousetower.org.uk](http://www.godshousetower.org.uk)

The Arc in Winchester is showing a shadowy series of 30 original John Constable artworks in their exhibition, *Constable: The Dark Side*. Constable was famously influenced by the contrast between light and dark, which he explored throughout his many moody landscapes. In this unique exhibition, however, it's Constable's private life that's given the spotlight, presenting us with a new perspective to view his work. Constable's personal lights and darks, such as his family life, professional struggles, and periodic battles with anxiety and depression, are expressed through paintings, drawings, and prints depicting rainstorms, overgrowth, and hilltops. Art, Constable reminds us, can still be made throughout difficult times and can be used as an effective, reflective remedy when we need emotional support.

Visit to illuminate the life and work of a master painter.

**Until 16 August** [www.arcwinchester.org.uk](http://www.arcwinchester.org.uk)

A brand-new gallery has opened in Southampton. Bedford Place's old community notice board is now Southampton's Tiniest Art Gallery, also known as S.T.A.G. For the gallery's first exhibition, the artist Not Just Trash has created 'Litter Bugs', a collection of critters made from litter. These new species of butterflies, beetles, ladybugs, and dragonflies all glisten green and gold, strangely resembling Thatcher's cider – perhaps this is a form of evolution, or were they caught in camouflage?

Visit Southampton's newest gallery.

**Until September** [www.stagsouthampton.wixsite.com](http://www.stagsouthampton.wixsite.com)