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#### VisitBritain

VisitBritain is the authority for tourism in Britain, created from the merger of the British Tourist Authority and the English Tourism Council. This has put in place a new domestic marketing force for England and will improve the promotion of tourism overseas as well as reducing costs by £1.74 million per year. VisitBritain launched a major European city breaks campaign in 2008 attracting £1.8 million in private sector support.

#### Susie Wright

Susie was asked to produce an illustration celebrating tourism in the UK and the creation of VisitBritain. "I created an imaginary landscape based on English and Welsh scenery, some of which has personal meaning for me."

Susie has plenty to look forward to in the near future, with plans to continue building on her reputation for a distinctive, contemporary illustrative style. "At present I am enjoying working on a number of commissions and am developing large scale screen prints for a solo show in London in August."

#### Liverpool – European Capital of Culture 2008 nomination

In June 2008, the Secretary of State announced that Liverpool had been chosen as the UK's nomination for European Capital of Culture 2008. The competition galvanised a cultural programme in all 12 cities participating in the competition, which DCMS will support up to 2008 and beyond. Judges chose Liverpool for its stunning architecture, strong representation of the visual arts and its people, who show a strong commitment to the bid to win Capital of Culture status in 2008.

#### Lizzie Collcutt

Lizzie's illustration picks out some of Liverpool's landmark sights – the Tate, the renovated Docks and the Walker Art Gallery. "I wanted to capture the flair and distinction of a city which certainly deserves its nomination; a place people want to be." Lizzie has just completed a stint in Ethiopia with a charitable arts group. She graduated in June last year and has since been awarded with the Royal Society of Arts (RSA) prize for Design for her illustrations for a collection of postage stamps for the UK as a 'celebration of rural Britain'.

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*Susie Wright*

# Liverpool – European Capital of Culture 2008 nomination

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