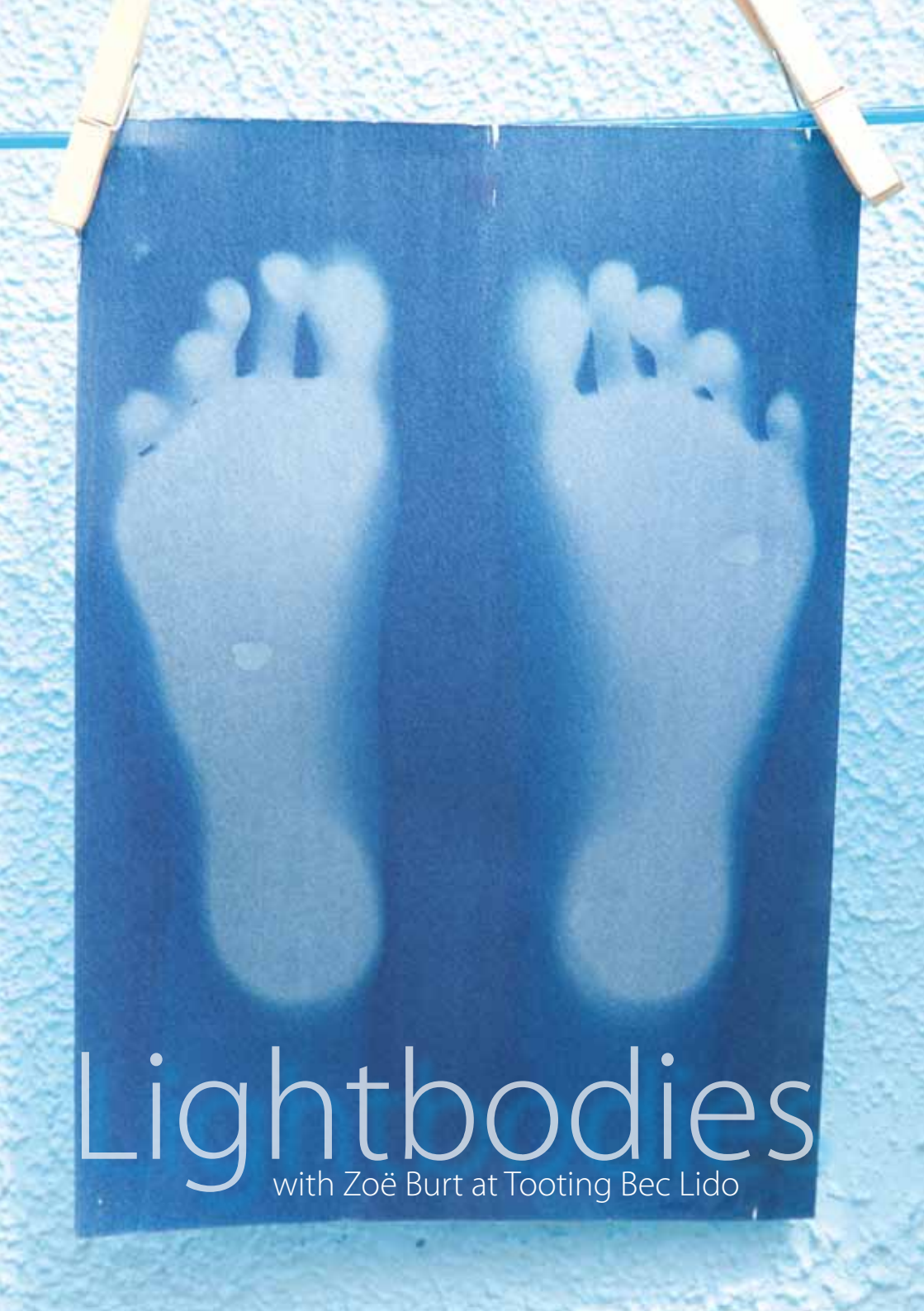

Lightbodies

with Zoë Burt at Tooting Bec Lido

Tim

Lives in Putney.

Swims in the Serpentine and the Lido.

Training for the London triathlon.

"I have to practice, as I keep entering triathlons to keep fit."

Phil, Nicky, Louis, Alfie
Live in Tooting.
Enjoying a weekend swim.

Rory (6)

Rory's dad said: "We swim at the Lido as a family every weekend. The atmosphere is amazing. The community at the Lido is very inclusive and I am always amazed that more people don't use it in the off season."

Archie (10) and **Amanda**

Reading a book poolside.

"The art event BLUE our mind... our little family loved it!

At Tooting Bec Lido, this event was cool by the pool."

Alice and **Sarah**

Live in Tooting.

Enjoying the sunshine at the Lido.

Graziela

Graziela's name means grace and thank you.

"It was such fun you being there and making such wonderful images of everyone."

Grace and **Elliot**

Grace "I thought it was fun lying down on the paper. I like swimming at the Lido, I like getting used to it when it's cold sometimes."

Elliot "It was interesting to know that we were making a piece of art. I enjoyed helping to shower off the chemicals. I like keeping fit going to the Lido."

Oscar, **Poppy**, **Tilly** and **Daisy**

Came from Cardiff to visit family in Streatham.

Lucy

Yoga instructor and jewellery maker.

"I always feel amazing after a swim. No matter what!"

Carol, **Laurie**, **Vince** and **Nathaniel**

Laurie says "I'm doing ballet in the picture."

Daisy, **Olivia** and **Elvis**

Olivia:"It was a great idea and a great place to do it."

Hilary and **Laura**

Hilary had just won the SLSC Plunge cup by diving in and floating for 56 feet. This competition has been running since 1926.

"Lightbodies and the Plunge were similarly strange experiences – involving lying face down, trying to keep absolutely still whilst listening to the comments of people around you and wondering how big your bum looked."

Ivan

"Glitter and twisted or
how to create a waistline
out of a coastline."

Vernon

"A wonderful and amazing experience – both the swim and creating a lightbody."

Ramona and **George**

"We don't visit the Lido as often as we'd like but it's one of London's few oases where the people are friendly and, in a swim suit, all are equal."

Susannah and **Claire**

Susannah is a regular swimmer at Tooting Bec Lido and it was the first time for Claire. "It's an image that works both ways... an underwater image of movement... or water cherubs."

Anil, **Zaki**, **Kaif** and **Yasmin**

"I came for a swim and quickly ran home to get my wife... I really like the immediate process, so simple."

"It's like a scan, more beautiful and less technical."

Kaif

"It's cool – you're making a photo without using a camera."

Margaret

"It fits in brilliantly with the atmosphere of the Lido, with the colour and movement of water. The process is intriguing – you don't know what it is going to look like – it's a surprise – a revelation as it develops."

Faith, **Tia** and **Paige**

Alice and **Claire**

Lido regulars and winter swimmers.

"I swim all the time at the Lido and can't do without it, physically and mentally."

For the Lightbodies project at Tooting Bec Lido participants were invited to lie down on light sensitive paper. After an exposure of about five minutes the subjects' shadows began to react with the paper which was then washed to fix the image.

It was magical watching the different figures appearing, often in unexpected ways. The resulting forms, seemingly painted by light, emerge from a deep watery blue.

Cyanotype is a form of camera-less photography, invented by the astronomer Sir John Herschel in 1842.

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