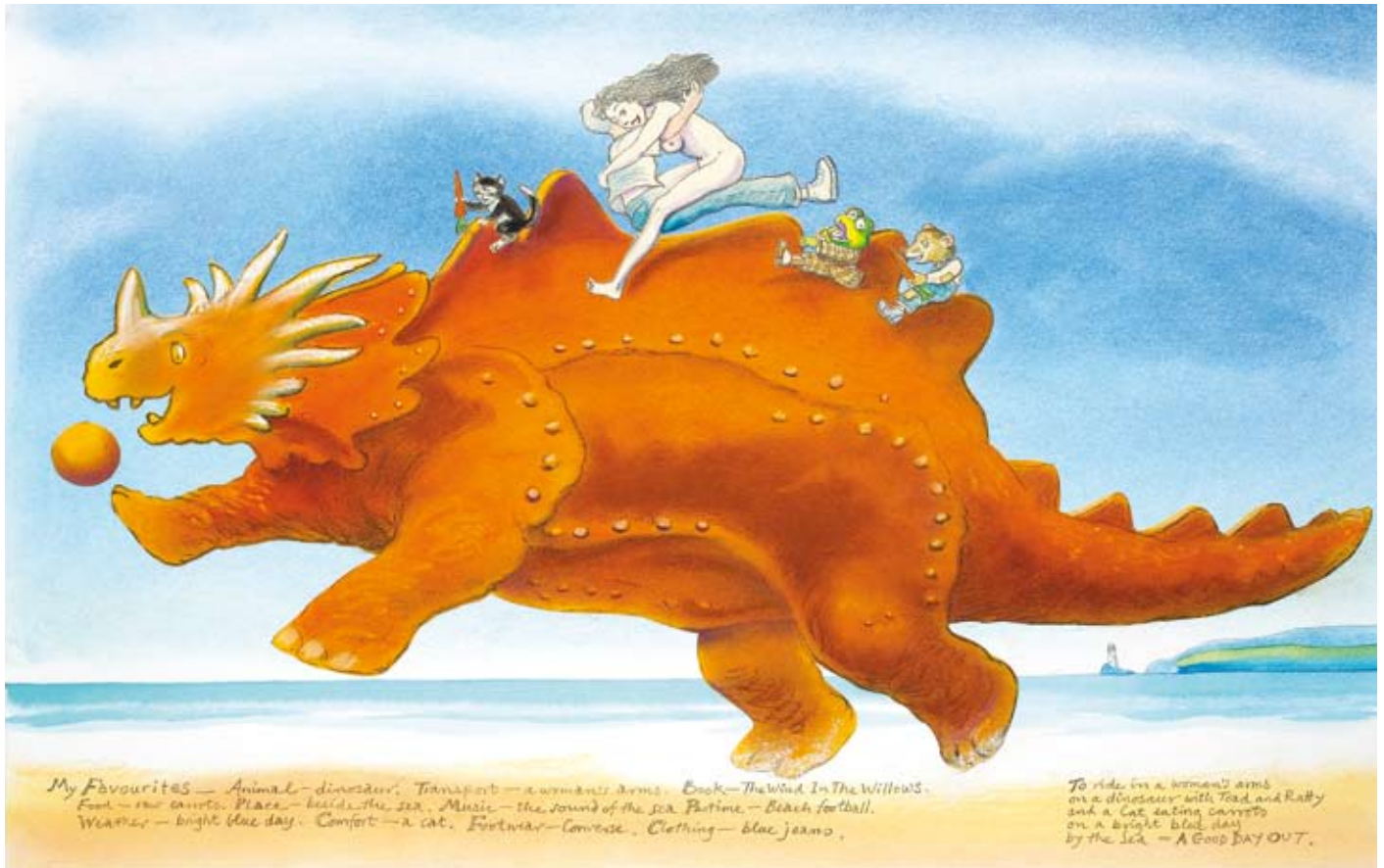


What Are You Like?



Ian Dejardin invites you to come and play a guessing game

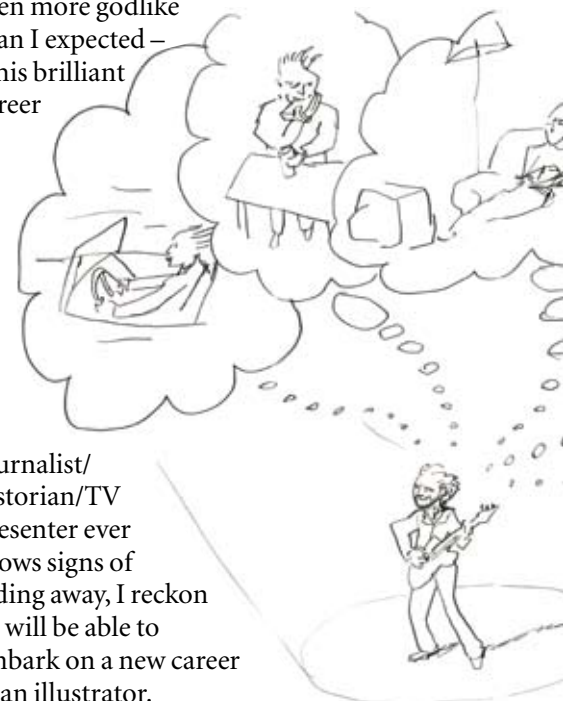
9 September 2008
– 18 January 2009

As a kind of pendant to the Steinberg show, this mini-exhibition will be hanging in Gallery 10. The idea was Quentin Blake's, and the show is a collaboration between Dulwich and his eagerly-anticipated project, the Museum of Illustration. The concept comes from a Victorian parlour game, the challenge being to sum up one's own character by means of a series of favourite (or not-so-favourite) things. Then draw the result.

The Victorian example that kick-started the whole project is a fairly tame affair. The anonymous artist likes pineapple for instance and dislikes (apparently) gigantic hairy caterpillars. He/she likes dogs, although why this particular dog is standing upright and dressed like a schoolmaster is beyond me. And so on...

WHY, thought Quentin, could we not apply this idea to a lot of people 'in the public eye'? And so it was – the Museum of Illustration drew up lists, and the word went out. Forty famous people have answered the call; and the results, I can exclusively reveal, are occasionally very surprising indeed. The works will be hung without identification – just a list of names.

The public must try and match the images to their own conception of these people. Some are obvious – I don't think I am giving the game away too badly in pointing out that Eric Clapton's self-image involves a guitar. Andrew Marr, meanwhile, proves even more godlike than I expected – if his brilliant career as



journalist/historian/TV presenter ever shows signs of fading away, I reckon he will be able to embark on a new career as an illustrator.

LATE Openings
Quentin Blake talks about the exhibition
Thursday 20 November
See page 12