Artist is going to make you a star

A WORLD-renowned visual artist who will be putting a major work in Northampton’s Market Square next year is in town this week to reveal all.

Rafael Lozano-Hemmer’s huge interactive video installation Under Scan was commissioned by emda (East Midlands Development Agency) and will appear in the town in February 2006.

It will use a bright projector to cast shadows of passers-by on the ground and using the latest technology thousands of video portraits of local people will be projected inside the shadows.

Tomorrow, Friday, October 7, he will present the work in progress and host a question and answer session as part of the Under Scan lecture tour.

The free event will be held at the University of Northampton in the main hall at Avenue Campus on St George’s Avenue between 11am and 1pm.

Although places are free numbers are limited so to book or for further information contact (0116) 261 6882 or email lecture@artreach.biz.

His work, Under Scan will be unveiled in Lincoln city centre in November before being installed in Leicester, Derby and Nottingham as well as Northampton.

The project will occupy more than 1,500sq m of busy pedestrianised areas and will be active for ten nights in each of the five locations.

Mr Lozano-Hemmer has won a number of awards for his work including two BAFTAs for interactive arts in 2002 and 2005.

He said: “I am interested by how local people use their public spaces and how they relate to each other in them. Under Scan will create an interactive shadow play where the normal routines associated with urban space are interrupted and members of the public become actors.”

More information on his work can be found at www.lozano-hemmer.com

by Jodie Parsons