

ENVIRONMENTAL ART

- Slow Art Trail
- Apedale Community Country Park

BSF MANCHESTER

INSPIRED BY HERITAGE

- Artists Residencies in N. Yorkshire

PUBLIC ART TRAINING

- Kilkenny, Ireland
- St. Helens
- Blackpool

chrysalis arts

UPDATE

Spring 2009

"I would not hesitate to recommend the work and ethos of Chrysalis Arts as a model of good practice within public art and regeneration."
Paul Maccabee, BSF Programme Manager, Manchester City Council

Photo: Balfour Beatty

Illuminated Nautilus Water Sculpture by Kate Maddison



Regeneration

Artworks for Lord Street Gardens & Boulevard, Southport

Chrysalis was commissioned by Sefton Council to create artwork for Lord Street, Southport as part of the regeneration of the gardens originally designed by Thomas Mawson. This prestigious commission was an opportunity for the company to bring together a wide range of its highly skilled artists and makers, to create a new 'Nautilus' illuminated water sculpture and a series of site-specific artwork seats and a community mosaic involving local residents and groups. Artists Kate Maddison and Van Nong designed and led the imple-



Nautilus Water Sculpture

Photo: Kate Maddison

entation of the artworks. Lord Street is a fine example of the landscape and architecture of the arts and crafts movement and this has been a great opportunity for Chrysalis Arts to add significant contemporary works to this heritage site.

"The quality of the finished artworks is exceptional and helped to generate very positive publicity... the Council would welcome the opportunity to work again with Chrysalis Arts," said Alan Lake, Team Leader, Regeneration & Conservation, Sefton Council.



Nautilus Seat



Seat detail: vitreous enamel insert



Community Heritage Mosaic

Photos: Kate Maddison

Sustainable Art



Talking Cactus by Andy Plant

Photo: Paul Medlock

Slow Art Trail

Slow Art Trail was a pilot, public art project developed by Chrysalis Arts to raise awareness of environmental issues and to explore how artists can develop a more sustainable approach to their creative practice. Chrysalis Arts encouraged local community participation in the project through a programme of creative writing and visual arts workshops.

The project connected with the slow food concept of taking more time to appreciate quality, sourcing materials locally where possible, the use of natural and non-toxic materials and aimed to highlight issues such as re-using and recycling, sustainable transport and responsible travel.

With support from Gaia Research, Chrysalis produced an initial brief for artists to respond to which requested that installations follow the guidelines of sustainability, low embodied energy, and recycled and recyclable materials. This included paying attention to sourcing of materials, avoidance of pollution, waste and toxicity avoidance and bio-diversity.

However, Chrysalis was keen to highlight that throughout the selection process and implementation of the project, equal weight was also given to the artistic integrity and quality of the work.

One of the lasting legacies of Slow Art Trail will be in the Guidelines that Chrysalis Arts is developing from the processes learned throughout the project that they plan to incorporate into their future professional development training.

More Sustainable Art inside...

Sustainable Art continued. . .

From Horse Power to Hydrogen Power by Steve Gumbley



Banquet by Jane Revitt

We Are Here by Stephen Bailey

Poems by David Morley

Fallen Tree by Laura Ellen Bacon

Slow Art Trail continued . . .

Slow Art Trail, which enabled visitors to experience the landscape and contemplate the artworks at a slow and leisurely pace. The project was situated within the Bolton Abbey Estate, near Skipton, in the Yorkshire Dales and was open from late September to mid October 2008. The trail consisted of a series of environmental installations, commissioned from leading public artists, complemented by poetry written by David Morley about the wood and surrounding area. The poems were incorporated into the trail by artist Kate Maddison, working with local furniture makers David Mawdsley and Richard Law. The six artists selected to develop installations all worked with diverse materials and methods. However, they were united by their strong empathy for working sustainably.

Andy Plant created a giant, recycled copper

Talking Cactus, Laura Ellen Bacon's woven, site-specific sculptures in coppiced willow carried a theme of organic growth and nesting, and Jane Revitt designed Banquet Furniture for an Oak Wood.

Steve Gumbley created From Horse Power to Hydrogen Power, a shadowgraph machine of nuclear chimneys, cooling towers and galloping horses, which he describes as a "mechanical meditation on sources of power."

Slow Art Trail supported a range of community art and creative writing workshops within the Craven area, on the themes of waste and sustainability. The writer Miles Salter worked with over 60 young people from Craven primary schools, with the themes of trees, waste, and Our Special World.

Working With Waste was the theme of workshops led by Chrysalis Arts associate artist Van Nong, who worked with young people in Skipton, in partnership with the Youth Service, Connecting Youth Culture, and with A-level art students from Skipton Girls High School, to create the major install-

ation in the centre of the Exhibition Centre, giving the students the opportunity to create a site-specific work.



Tree by Skipton Girls High School



Come in No.24, Your Time is Up! by Johnny White

'A Change in the Weather', Apedale Community Country Park - Staffordshire



Apedale Landmark Sculpture by Kate Maddison

Chrysalis Arts was commissioned by Staffordshire County Council to create temporary and permanent artworks with the theme of climate change and involving the local community. The funding was from 'Greening for Growth' and this was seen as a flagship project for Staffordshire to raise awareness in the region of the issues associated with moving to a sustainable existence. Kate Maddison and Rick Faulkner developed the project with three strands: temporary artwork, permanent art waymarkers and a wind responsive landmark sculpture. Community workshops with artists Kate Maddison and Van Nong made weather vanes and wind sculptures.

A locally distributed response postcard invited community comment on the issues raised by climate change. Rick Faulkner and Porl

Medlock documented local peoples' views with video, vox-pop interviews, and digital photography, the results of which were edited onto DVD.

The waymarkers included artwork plaques made in school workshops and cast at a local foundry. These were fitted to locally grown green oak posts and installed by volunteer rangers. The landmark kinetic artwork,



School visit to Metanodic who manufactured the waymarkers locally

Schools Projects



Transition suspended sculpture



'TRANSITION' Helix-Spiral-Boat St Paul's & Piper Hill High Schools Atrium

Created by Chrysalis Arts and the Pupils and Staff of St Paul's and Piper Hill High Schools. The project was commissioned by Manchester City Council, as part of the Building Schools for the Future initiative.

Chrysalis Arts worked with the students and staff of St Paul's and Piper Hill High Schools to create a new artwork to celebrate the two schools coming together on one site and to symbolise the 'transition' to a new beginning. The helix spiral is a fundamental and dynamic form in nature and the concept of a sailing boat is associated with travel, adventure, history and geography and the aspiration of making a journey by harnessing the earth's natural resources in a sustainable way.

The helix spiral is made from the wooden spars from the climbing frame that used to be in the Gym Hall at St Paul's School.

The spiral banners symbolise the boat's sails

and have words printed on them that were written by students in different languages, with the words all associated with moving, transition, journey. The rope and twine are made from natural flax and cotton that have been spliced and knotted in a similar way to traditional boat rigging.

The boat is made from stainless steel and the hull is a series of banners made from natural cotton hopsack with designs by the school students working with artists Van Nong, Kate Maddison, Rebecca Stoner and the staff of both schools. The bow and stern bulkheads and tiller are assembled from salvaged woodwork and metalwork tools and a handmade harp from St Paul's School.

Transition is suspended in the schools' main entrance atrium and can be raised and lowered on an aluminium truss frame suspended from the ceiling.



Photos: Kate Maddison



Photos: VN



Workshops with students

'A Change in the Weather' utilises the wind to power its rotating 'weather' parts and sound its eight directional acoustic wind pipes. Manufactured locally with Staffordshire green oak and stone and including stainless steel details, the landmark sculpture will be installed on a prominent hill-top near the site of the new Energy Centre that is planned to be built soon at Apedale.

The collaboration with local manufacturers and suppliers was an eye-opener to the skills and resources that existed in close proximity to the site at Apedale. The artworks were designed to minimise use of the earth's finite resources and maximise sustainable art practice. The issues encountered on this project spring-boarded Chrysalis Arts into reviewing its own practice and to question that of other artists and arts organisations and was influential in the development of the Slow Art Trail.



Artwork manufacture at Bowbells joinery using Sandon Estate green oak

Photos: Kate Maddison

News & Updates

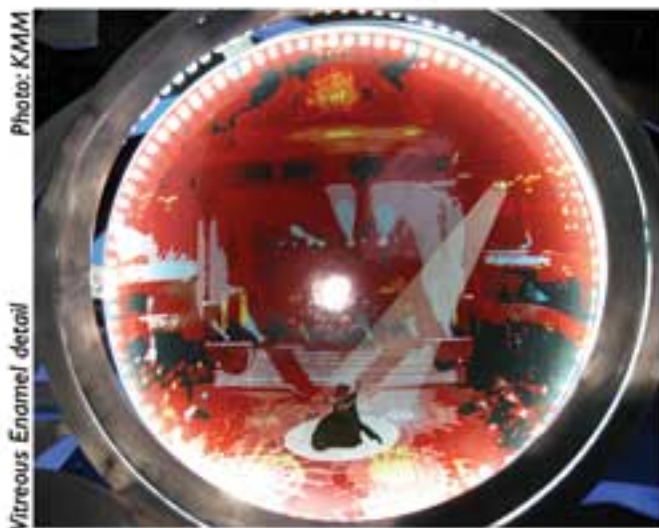


Photo: KMM

Vitreous Enamel detail

Blackpool - Foxhall Village Illuminated Artwork Project

Chrysalis Arts has recently completed a series of illuminated artworks that celebrate Foxhall's identity as one of the first holiday resorts in Britain. The artworks were commissioned by Blackpool Council to enhance the Foxhall area for the benefit of the local community.

Artist Van Nong worked closely with residents, businesses and the local Foxhall Community to create 12 artworks that protrude from building walls and streetcorners above head height. They depict local heritage associated with Foxhall and Blackpool with photo images reproduced on vitreous enamelled discs, fixed within a stainless steel flock of seagulls. The artworks are fitted with LED lamps to enhance the silhouette effects and cast shadow projections on to the surrounding wall.

Chrysalis worked closely with Blackpool Council Culture and Communities, and Illuminations Departments to realise the project which is part of a 5-year programme of regeneration.



Photo: KMM



Illuminated Sculpture



Blue Wilson, Painter

New website promotes Creative Industries in North Yorkshire

www.creativenorthyorkshire.com

Chrysalis Arts has developed a new website designed to help and promote arts-based creative industries across York and North Yorkshire which has already attracted over 600 hundred members.

Launched by the York & North Yorkshire Creative Industries Network, the purpose of the site is twofold.

Firstly, it aims to create an easily accessible reference point, enabling people working as artists, performers, dancers, writers, musicians or in other arts-based creative activities throughout York and North Yorkshire to find out about what is happening in their sector of activity, and what information, training, financial and other support may be available to them.

Secondly, it allows individuals and organisations working in these fields to promote themselves to other practitioners and organisations, both across the sub-region and to the wider

world. By registering on the site, users can say who they are, explain what they do, promote their services and activities to others and point people in the direction of their own websites and social network sites.

Chrysalis Arts has been commissioned to lead on the development of the York and North Yorkshire Creative Industries Network, a group of arts development agencies and local authorities supported by North Yorkshire County Council and Arts Council England.

"The creative industries have been recognised as an important area for economic growth or several years now," explained North Yorkshire County Council Arts Officer, Gillian Wall, who chairs the Network's steering group. "In developing this website we wanted to offer our creative industry practitioners the opportunity to expand their activities by promoting themselves and being able to access relevant information that isn't easily available elsewhere."

We also hope that the region's creative industries will help us to make the site a successful communications network and encourage people to work together to increase the size and scope of the York and North Yorkshire creative economy."



Photo: Swafedale Festival

Swafedale Quartet

Tunnel Visions - Stockport

Chrysalis Arts has been commissioned by Stockport Neighbourhood Renewal Team to design four subway signs on the busy Lancashire Hill roundabout.

The signs will be created through workshops, led by Chrysalis artist Van Nong, with the target groups of young and older members of the Lancashire Hill and Heaton Norris areas, and will reflect the local area and community. The main objective of the project

is to bring together older and younger members of the local community to challenge perceptions and explore issues around groups of young people, thus contributing to positive community cohesion.

The Lancashire Hill subway is currently unattractive and perceived as unsafe by many because of poor lighting and lack of natural surveillance. The aim of this project is to make the subways an attractive and less threatening public amenity. This project is the first of three phases to improve the area.



Initial design for subway signage by Van Nong

Public Art Training and Professional Development

Public Art Training and Professional Development in Ireland



Photo: Rick Faulkner

For the past two years, Chrysalis has been working with Kilkenny County Council and the ArtLinks project which provides professional development support across the five counties of Wexford, Wicklow, Waterford, Carlow and Kilkenny.

Rick Faulkner and Kate Maddison initially ran a two-day seminar on Community Participation for Visual and Applied Artists which was designed to extend the skills of artists interested in working with communities in a variety of different ways. The course aimed to assist artists in developing their workshop

skills with community groups and gain an understanding of how art can work in the public realm, including making applications, writing proposals, budgeting and contracts.

In Spring 2008, Christine Keogh led a training session in Kilkenny on mentoring and other forms of professional development support for visual artists. This was designed for ArtLinks and Arts Officers from the five counties and was followed up by a placement at The Art Depot which was undertaken by Cathy Fitzgerald, the Director of ArtLinks. As a result of this work, Artlinks were then able to develop a new mentoring and advice programme. "We completed our first series of ArtLinks Mentoring Advice sessions just before Christmas - all the ideas and planning Chrysalis provided helped tremendously and the programme was very enthusiastically received," commented Cathy.

Woodstock – Live Public Art Training Project

The company's public art training in Kilkenny continues in 2009 with a Training for Real project, based on the Woodstock estate near Inistioge. Woodstock is renowned as one of the great gardens of Ireland and is currently undergoing a major programme of renovation led by Kilkenny County Council. Chrysalis will work with Mary Butler, the County Arts Officer, and with other local partners to develop the project which will offer six artists the opportunity to work collaboratively to create a series of temporary installations for the site.

"The idea is to reflect a genuine public art commission as closely as possible and to work

collaboratively with the artists so that they experience as many aspects of the public art process as possible," says Chrysalis Director Rick Faulkner.

"Woodstock is a fantastic site and offers a great opportunity for the artists to work in a beautiful and inspiring environment."



Woodstock Estate

Photo: Rick Faulkner

Blackpool Training Seminar February 2009

Chrysalis Arts will be running a 2-day seminar with students from Blackpool and Fylde College to develop artwork for five windsocks for the Great Promenade Show.

The windsocks will form a temporary installation for the spring/summer/early autumn months. Blackpool Council's Arts Service would like to offer this opportunity in subsequent years so that the work is refreshed annually and to ensure that future Blackpool and Fylde College students are given the opportunity to develop work for the public realm in their own town.

The students will be mentored by Chrysalis Arts and go through a process of preparing, applying and potentially having to oversee the production of their design for a client (Blackpool Council).

Public Art Training For Real - St Helens February 2009

Following a meeting with Paul Kelly of Helena Housing, Chrysalis Arts developed a proposal to address the need for specialist training in St Helens in public art skills and working to commission, and to focus this work on local artists who lack the opportunities for support and professional development. Discussions have established the potential to link this training with sites around the town and regeneration initiatives.

This project is similar to the 'Training for Real' model, which Chrysalis has used for projects in Liverpool, the Yorkshire Dales National Park, Bradford and Scarborough. These were extremely successful in providing artists with a 'live' training prospect, offering the opportunity to work on commissions within a structured training programme. Artists gained experience of the public art process

from selection and development of design proposals and in some cases installation of a series of site-specific artworks. Throughout, they had to deal with local issues, undertake extensive research and public consultation, and participate in different community involvement processes. Above all, they gained new skills and confidence which have benefited their subsequent professional careers, and the local areas where they live and work.

Aims of this project:

- To provide 6 artists from St Helens and the surrounding area with training in how to approach and deliver public art commissions.
- To provide the 6 artists with further intensive practical training, plus mentoring support in public art skills.
- To challenge public perceptions and raise awareness of regeneration opportunities through new ideas, design work and temporary interventions that explore the visual identity of the town.

The six chosen artists are supported by Rick Faulkner, Helen Turner and Van Nong.



Flyerpost Site Consultation Flyer by Dove Bester

artconnections

Art Connections is a project which was established in 2001 by Chrysalis Arts Director Christine Keogh to provide a range of support, marketing and information services for North Yorkshire artists and makers. In addition to organising North Yorkshire Open Studios for the past four years, the current Art Connections programme includes artist-in-residence projects, professional development programmes and an information and advice service. Recent projects include:

Inspired by Heritage

During 2009 six North Yorkshire-based artists have been commissioned to undertake residencies and produce new work inspired by six North Yorkshire collections and heritage sites. The project has been funded by the Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and aims to create new partnerships between the contemporary visual arts and heritage organisations such as the National Trust.

Jeweller Lynne Glazzard will be based at Whitby Museum; photographer Tessa Bunney at Newby Hall, near Ripon; textile artist Serena Partridge at the Mercer Art Gallery and Pump Room Museum, Harrogate; glass artist Jackie Hunt at Malham Tarn; painter Andrew Cheetham at Rosedale Abbey; and sculptor Fiona Bowley at Fountains Abbey and Studley Royal Water Gardens.



Photographer Tessa Bunney

Connections North

Four North Yorkshire artists have also been selected for Connections North, an exchange residency project between North Yorkshire and Jyväskylä, Central Finland. The artists are Paul Clifford, a painter, printmaker and digital artist based near Malton, Tessa Bunney, a photographer based at Kilburn, jeweller Debby Moxon of Moxon and Simm in Pateley Bridge and textile artist Sally Greaves-Lord who is based in Scarborough.

In October 2008, the artists took part in a research visit to explore potential residency opportunities in and around Jyväskylä, and make contact with partner organisations such as the Crafts Museum of Finland and the Jyväskylä Printmaking Centre. Following the visit, which was facilitated by Chrysalis Arts, the artists each developed proposals for a four week residency in 2009/10. Four Finnish artists will be visiting North Yorkshire in spring 2009 as the next stage of the exchange. Subject to funding, and the completion of the residencies, it is planned to develop a touring exhibition of work produced by the eight artists in 2010.



North Yorkshire artists visit to enamel artist, Ulla Huttunen's, studio in Jyväskylä, Central Finland.



Professional Development

Through the Art Connections project, Chrysalis Arts has developed an innovative and highly successful approach to supporting artists' professional development. We aim to offer specialist support that combines a detailed knowledge of individual artforms, information about the issues and practical concerns involved in professional practice with bespoke business advice. Current activities include advice sessions, where artists have the opportunity to present their work to a panel of curators and established practitioners and receive feedback, and Shift, a two-day seminar in February 2009, designed to assist artists in setting up their own project and securing successful projects and commissions.

Speakers at Shift included international artists such as Michael Brennan Wood and David Swift, installation artist Rebecca Chesney and pioneering games artist Steve Manthorp.



North Yorkshire Open Studios 2009

North Yorkshire Open Studios is now in its fifth year and is supported by Arts Council England and North Yorkshire County Council with Chrysalis Arts as lead organisation, responsible for the overall management and promotion of the event. This year the event will take place over the last two weekends in June – 20 and 21, and 26, 27 and 28. Each year approximately a hundred selected artists and makers throughout North Yorkshire open their studios, homes, gardens and a variety of other spaces and invite the public to visit and purchase their work directly from the artist.

For further information about Art Connections and North Yorkshire Open Studios, visit www.artconnections.org.uk or contact administrator France Leigh Hadrysiak on: 01756 748529 or via email at admin@art-connections.org.uk

CHRYSALIS ARTS Ltd, THE ART DEPOT, ASQUITH INDUSTRIAL ESTATE, ESHTON ROAD, GARGRAVE, NORTH YORKSHIRE BD23 3SE
Tel: +44 (0) 1756 749222 Email: chrysalis@artdepot.org.uk Web: www.chrysalisarts.org.uk

