

'The Best of the Best'



Northampton's New Contemporary Art Prize.

Exhibition Preview and Prize presentation Friday October 19th. from 5.30 to 9.30 pm.

The £1000.00 Contemporary Art Prize was inspired by Jgallery owner Sue Brooks whose mission is to encourage work of high quality from artists living and working within our local community. The short list of six artists shown here will result in a single winner who will be awarded the prize for a single piece of work from their combined exhibition to be held at the Jgallery from October 19th. to November 20th. The prize will be presented to the successful artist by Gerald Porter, Curator Tate Modern, at 7.30pm Friday October 19th. We wish to thank all the artists competing for the prize.

Exhibiting Artists



Beatrice Hoffman

Beatrice Hoffman has studied in Norwich for a BA Sculpture Fine Art Degree (1989), and in St.Albans for a post-graduate degree in Art therapy (1990). In the nineties, she has undertaken numerous private commissions, and a public commission for Norwich City Council (1991). Her work is in private collections in Britain, Germany, Holland, Australia and the US. and she has been widely exhibiting in Northamptonshire, Oxfordshire, Cotswolds, Suffolk, Bristol, Birmingham, London, Amsterdam and Munich. In the last years, she has been focusing on the human head as a potent symbol of psychological states, and feelings engendered in human relationships.



Sue Moss

Sue is a mixed-media artist with a passion for paper, fabric and stitch. Born and educated in Northampton, she enjoyed drawing, painting and stitching from an early age, but was steered towards an academic career. Fortunately her artistic side survived and she then went on to complete an arts-based honours degree and post graduate diploma at the University of Leicester before gaining further qualifications in hand and machine embroidery. To be recognised as a prize-winning artist in my home town would be a fantastic end to this year's Open Studios event.



Linda Johns

Having trained as a Graphic Designer and Web Developer I returned to study to take a degree in Fine Art. I studied a broad spectrum of art disciplines during my Foundation at Camberwell College of Art and obtained a BA (Hons) Sculpture at Central St.Martins College London in 2003. In 2006 I was selected for membership of the Royal British Society of Sculptors, (one of only ten bursary members are selected each year). I have participated in a number of group and solo exhibitions in Northamptonshire, Gloucester and London and I am currently preparing for a solo exhibition of work which will form a wonderful art walk in Salcey Forest in Northamptonshire.



Heather Wharam

Heather Wharam's interest in the figure started during her early career as a fashion designer. She completed a BA (Hons) in Fashion and Textiles at St. Martin's school of Art and worked in the fashion industry before training as a teacher. Throughout this time she continued with her personal interest in life drawing and painting and eventually resigned from her job to study a Fine Art MA at Nottingham Trent University. This was a big risk, but it offered the opportunity to develop her very personal work and take her in very new and exciting directions. Heather now involves herself with her own work, completing commissions, freelancing and teaching and many exhibitions.



Linda Sgoluppi

Linda Sgoluppi is a Northampton born painter whose inspiration was fuelled by the Piero della Francesca frescos in her husband's Tuscan birthplace. Her love for colour was enhanced by the inspiring Sydney Harry, co-founder of the Colour Museum in Bradford and continued throughout her fine art training in Italy, England and Spain. She later won a major award from the New York Pollock Krasner Foundation which greatly helped to establish her career. Linda Sgoluppi has exhibited and been collected widely throughout Europe, the US and Australia. She has also featured in many magazines, radio and television productions where she extols her love of painting and colour.



Kelly Gardner

After studying painting and printmaking at Bretton Hall, University of Leeds and gaining 1st. Class honours in 1998, I went on to complete an MA in Fine Art at the University of Central England, Birmingham in 2001. I use lace and garments in my work to convey memory and absence. My dress sculptures are made from book pages and copper wire. I incorporate objects such as keys, buttons and old photos into my dresses, displayed suspended and lit from within they produce shadows across the walls. All of my work is influenced by memory and fragments of the past, echoes, residues and traces, the very presence of absence. I work in Barton Hall Studios, Kettering.

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