

Broomhill



Broomhill 2012
Art & Sculpture Foundation
National Sculpture Prize 2012



Map of the National Sculpture Prize Exhibition Site

Introduction

The Broomhill Art & Sculpture Foundation launched the Broomhill National Sculpture Prize competition in 2009, to provide an exciting challenge for new and emerging UK based sculptors.

This annual event is a distinctive addition to the national art calendar, not only as it promotes contemporary sculpture, but as a unique twist, the public are invited to vote for their favourite.

The final Ten sculptors have a distinctive mixture of styles and influences, with a variety of material uses and concepts. The exhibition exemplifies the diverse forms that sculpture can take, some pieces have a serious message, others are simply fun and interactive. This and of course the public's involvement in choosing a winner, will ensure that this exhibition is the most exciting we've hosted yet!

We wouldn't have been able to attract the calibre of artists we have, if it wasn't for the support of our sponsors, Bray Leino, Parker Hannifin, Proof Magazine, North Devon Festival and Castle Fine Arts Foundry, who have helped to financially back the competition.

Thank you to this years judges Abigail Fallis, Rupert Gatfield, Dean Sampson, and Kate Jago, their assistance in selecting the finalists has been invaluable.

We will announce the winners in October. You can see the sculptors blogs and stay up-to-date with what's happening at Broomhill by visiting broomhillart.co.uk.

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Oliver Adams

Title: **Yielding Ash**

Artist Statement

I am a wood sculptor. My work ranges from large tree sculptures, to smaller, more intricate pieces, in which I provoke and enhance the behavioural aspects of wood. As well as my elemental interest in woodcarving, there is a central line of enquiry that runs through my practice. This examines the cultural significance of wood, psychologically and in terms of practical usage.

To read Oliver's blog visit www.broomhillart.co.uk

Biography

In 2010 Oliver graduated with a BA in Fine Art from the Arts University College at Bournemouth. The following year he completed a Masters Degree in Fine Art with distinction. He has exhibited work in London, Bournemouth and the Isle of Wight as part of university, group-led exhibitions and public commissions. Oliver currently lives and works in North Dorset.

Edward Baldwin

Title: **Poise: Shifting Skies**

Artist Statement

Poise: shifting skies is my own abstract vision of movement and change in an extraordinary enigmatic form. The sculpture is developed from an experience of challenging the material and process with our emotion and conceptualization.

The sculpture is created from undulating porcelain rings on a steel framework. The reflective surface of the supporting structure is a representation of our own individuality within our environment.

Being a ceramicist, clay has many metaphorical understandings and connotations for use. Porcelain is recognized for domestic use however in this case I want to highlight the unique aesthetic capabilities and emotional impact of the material. The porcelain reflects the pure uncomplicated reassurance of our skies and our ever-changing choices and independence.

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To read Edward's blog visit www.broomhillart.co.uk



Biography

Edward Baldwin gained a first class honours in ceramics at Cardiff School of Art and Design in 2010. Since then he has exhibited widely and has gained many notable achievements. In 2011 Edward gained a 'Grants for the Arts' from the Arts Council England and support from his local authority, Worcestershire County Council for development of his practice. Most recently Edward exhibited at the Danish National Ceramics Gallery and British Ceramics Biennial.



To read Ann's blog visit www.broomhillart.co.uk

Ann Balmforth

Title: **Recumbent**

Artist Statement

The primal instinct and intrinsic need to express ourselves by the sense of touch, experience the sensation of a soft, supple, outside layer before becoming absorbed by the invisible mass inside as it begins to yield to the firm, enquiring hand.

It moves, settles... all tension dispersed... and is then still... at last for a moment. At times this shift in form can be captured; an ephemeral moment where volume and mass are combined, retained, entombed together, hence creating a permanent record of the past.

The hessian forms are filled with Portland cement in situ ensuring fluidity of movement before it begins to harden. This unpredictability creates its own energy, which will continue as time passes and nature takes hold.

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Biography

Ann Balmforth lives in Wakefield and is in her final year of a BA (Hons) Degree in Fine Art for Design at Batley School of Art. Ann made the decision to return to higher education having been inspired by the Henry Moore exhibits at the nearby Yorkshire Sculpture Park. With such a great source of reference material on her doorstep it is of no surprise that she has emerged as a sculptor.

Michael Branthwaite

Title: **From Afar**

Artist Statement

My interests are mainly focused on 'plastic poetry' a term I use to describe the creation of objects that have wider aesthetic resonance. Using items and material from daily living, I attempt to create dialogues and conceptual meaning from disparate and everyday materials. These are selected so they have a familiar and strong personal resonance, offering a way into the work through familiarity.

As an artist I am motivated by the questions raised when ideologies become reality, or at least attempt to manifest themselves in reality, using modernism as a vehicle to explore this my work often disturbs and unsettles the ethos of its making, questioning its own truths and its ability to converse its self-meaning to the viewer.

Biography

Michael Branthwaite Graduated from Sunderland University in 2000 with a BA Hons in Sculpture. Since then he has shown work internationally focusing on site-related commissions. He has undertaken commissions for the Wirksworth Festival in Derbyshire and Platonas Train Station in Greece. Recent works include Saatchi at the A Foundation 'Northern Stars' and 'Present Tense' at Quenington Sculpture Trust.

To read Michael's blog visit www.broomhillart.co.uk



Richard Cresswell

Title: Comet

Artist Statement

My abstract work has always been large sculptural and outdoors which is where I find inspiration, I have a love of nature's curves which appear everywhere I look, in rivers, rocks, the sky or human body to name but four.

I enjoy creating work where the viewer can move around the work and find new aspects, as in Comet where it should be circumnavigated to see it change from a tear drop to the curve of a woman's hips to a comet to a comedy nose and even the bow of a super tanker.

Moving from wood to metal as a medium gained the ability to concentrate on accuracy, finishes and not be constrained by the limitations of a tree.

To read Richard's blog visit
www.broomhillart.co.uk



Biography

I have spent a lot of my working life in engineering and design constrained by client expectations, convention and cost, now as a sculptor I am free from all those constraints allowing my creativity to be freed!

I studied Fine art for 4 years at Warwick college and Birmingham City University. I won the Ikon Gallery prize for the best in my degree show along with a 'first'.



Mary George

Title: **Disco Tree**

Artist Statement

My sculpture is directly linked to the notion of manifest destiny and fits into the scope of my work as the self-proclaimed Leader of the Cult of the Endorphin. If you make an object from the world or logic of your imagination's desire, then so might your world become! If your work is designed to make you strong and satisfied, then this will be the reality. It could be said that this sculpture refers to a technological break down or a recycling/re-aligning of values that reveal more primitive forms of enjoyment. It could be said to be a resurrection or shadow of the concept of "glory days" in the meadow in the form of a Disco Tree.

This project would not have been possible without the generous support of Roy and Jean Howard.

Special thanks to Gill, Nick and Vicki Lewis.

Biography

Mary George has lived all across America. Her nomadic upbringing continued to fuel her artistic pursuits bringing her to London. Living outside of her homeland has enabled her to develop a unique perspective, fuelled by a fascination of being slightly 'other'. She is the Leader of the Cult of the Endorphin, an ongoing art/life project that encourages all in her wake to pursue natural highs, one of her responses to living in Britain.

To read Mary's blog visit
www.broomhillart.co.uk



Robert Hitzeman

Title: **Tetschen Bolt**

Artist Statement

My work revolves around the exploration of the artificial and its relationship to biological processes of explosive growth and decay. In my work I combine trans-historical, cross cultural, and interdisciplinary imagery; placing 'artifacts' in the same context as industrial and petrochemical materials as a means of deconstructing the signifiers of the past to utilise them in contemporary context. When expressing these concepts I approach sculpture in the broader sense of the term as a manipulation of space, the result of artistic processes, or in the action of art making itself blurring the line between performance, installation and sculpture.

Special thanks to Adam de Boer.

Biography

Robert Hitzeman graduated with a BFA in sculpture and installation arts from San Jose State University in California, USA. He worked as a fabricator for Stoller Studio and for the artist David Middlebrook for several years. His work has been exhibited in galleries and museums internationally. In 2011 he was accepted into Chelsea Art and Design's MA Fine arts program. He currently lives and works in London, UK.

To read Robert's blog visit
www.broomhillart.co.uk



Graham Guy–Robinson

Title: **Permanently Temporary. 2012**

About the Artist

“Guy-Robinson is interested in notions of territory. Temporary fencing is a familiar feature in our everyday surroundings. It may be so flimsy we could put a foot through it, but we tend to treat it like some effective barrier. It describes new domains- even if, by the very nature of the material that defines them, these are transient.

Guy-Robinson wants his work to explore these qualities in a wider sense. Challenging our preconceptions of outdoor sculpture as solid and monumental, his structures seem to question their very status as objects.

It’s not the barrier that matters to him, but the constantly shifting dialogue that a barrier, by its very presence, promotes. It’s not the physical structure that matters so much as the moment of interruption it creates. This is the moment that opens up possibilities”. Rachel Campbell –Johnston, Art Critic, The Times

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Biography

Graham Guy-Robinson studied BA (hons) first class, Margaret Street Birmingham, MA Fine Art Theory Practise, UCE 2004. Selected exhibitions include, Jerwood Sculpture Prize, Jerwood Space London, Bay Art Cardiff, Northern Print Biennale, Hatton Gallery Newcastle. Guy-Robinson is an associate of the Royal British Society Sculptors and currently the recipient of a Plymouth Arts Centre studio bursary.

To read Graham's blog visit www.broomhillart.co.uk



Helen Snell

Title: **PLINTH 1,2,3**

Artist Statement

I am interested in the concept of the imperfect edition. I often produce seemingly identical pieces that are systematically subverted.

This series continues my preoccupation with the theme of survival. Our relationship with the natural world is one of pleasure tainted with guilt, anxiety, impending punishment and a collective sense of hubris.

The figures in Plinth are the load bearers. The load is a nebulous, dirty organic mass, difficult to quantify or determine.

The figures carry burgeoning seeds/embryos within their bellies and brains – seeds of creation and destruction.

The slotted symmetrical structure can be seen to suggest inevitability or obligation, sexual coupling, the symmetry of cell division and reproduction, the simple playfulness of a child's construction set.

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Biography

Helen studied Fine Art and French at Exeter University and at L'Ecole Nationale des Beaux-Arts de Dijon. In 1995 she completed an M.A. in Fine Art Printmaking at Camberwell College of Arts and Illustration at the Royal College of Art.

Recent large scale public commissions include paper installations for Dartington Arts, Torre Abbey, The National Museum of the Royal Navy and Wolverhampton Art Gallery.

In 2010 Helen was granted The Oppenheim-John Downes Memorial Trust Award for research into laser cutting.

Helen was selected as a finalist for the Powerhouse Museum International Lace Award in Sydney, Australia in 2011.

To read Helen's blog visit www.broomhillart.co.uk



Ian Stoney

Title: **Metamorph**

Artist Statement

My current practice explores the use of industrial materials and objects to create sculptures that play on structures and forms found in nature, producing uncanny combinations and juxtapositions. Metamorph draws visual and functional comparisons between man-made and natural forms, taking inspiration from natural storage organs such as tubers and roots vegetables. The sculpture has been created from a compressed gas cylinder, resulting in a mutation of form, transgressing from man-made industrial object to seemingly organic root forms.

To read Ian's blog visit www.broomhillart.co.uk

Biography

Ian studied Fine Art: Sculpture at Winchester School of Art, graduating in 2011. He was selected for the Affordable Art Fair's recent graduates exhibition in 2011, showing his piece Synthesis at both Battersea and Hampstead shows. He has subsequently worked on commissions for a variety of international private collections. He currently lives in London and works as a welder in a sculpture foundry.

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2011 NSP Winners

Public Vote Winner

Endless Curve by Wenqin Chen



The Judges Winner

Uncertain Futures: Larder
by Suzanne Hobbs

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PROOF



NSP 2012 is supported by...

The Montgomery Sculpture Trust



The Broomhill Art & Sculpture Foundation and the Trustees of the Montgomery Sculpture Trust are pleased to announce the accession of 9 pieces of sculpture from the Montgomery Trust to the Broomhill Sculpture Collection in North Devon.

The Nine works are:

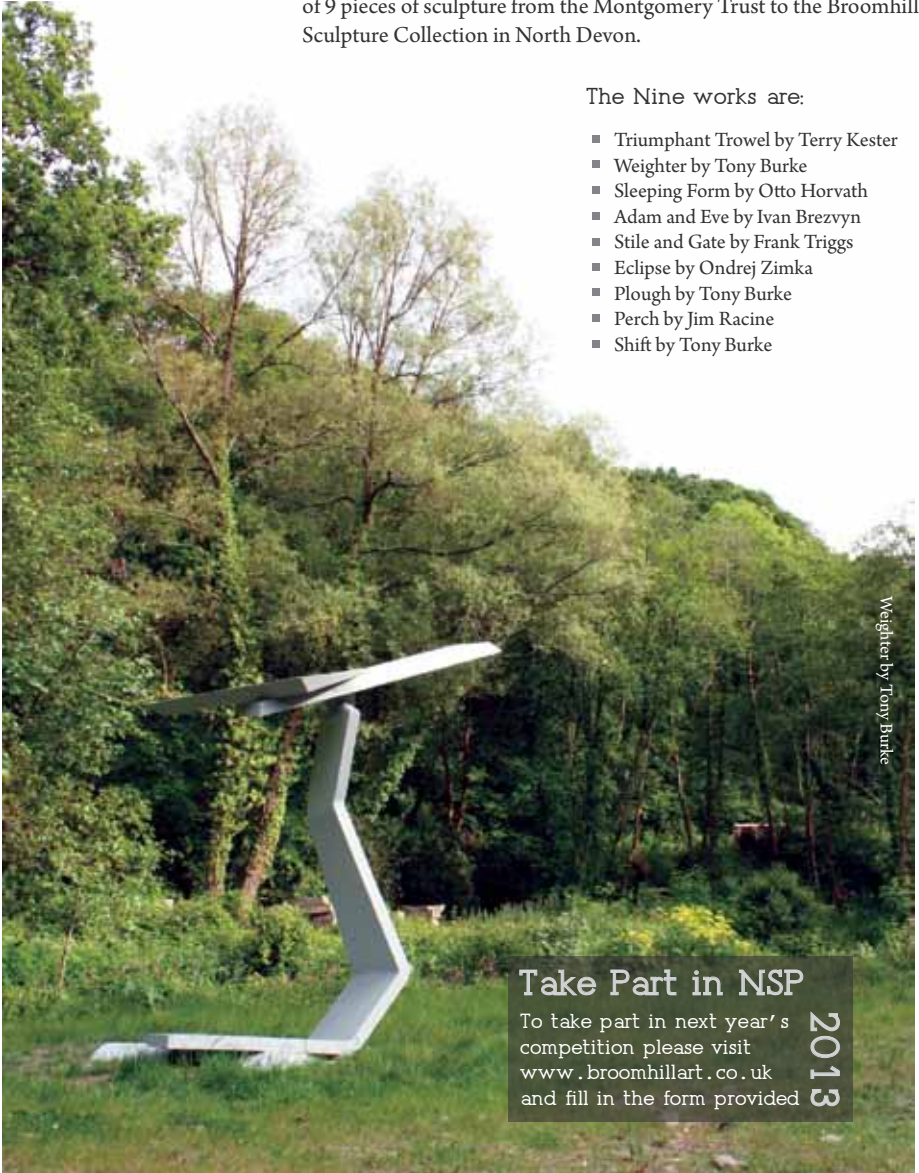
- Triumphant Trowel by Terry Kester
- Weighter by Tony Burke
- Sleeping Form by Otto Horvath
- Adam and Eve by Ivan Brezvyin
- Stile and Gate by Frank Triggs
- Eclipse by Ondrej Zimka
- Plough by Tony Burke
- Perch by Jim Racine
- Shift by Tony Burke

Weighter by Tony Burke

Take Part in NSP

To take part in next year's
competition please visit
www.broomhillart.co.uk
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2013





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Broomhill Art & Sculpture Foundation C.I.C
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