



Cohesion Live!

Cohesion Live, Manchester's newest and biggest festival brought together over a hundred of the country's finest musicians on September 23rd 2006 to raise funds for the Manchester Peace Park in Kosovo and also launched CohesionArt.

On a gloriously sunny day Cohesion live brought together many of MaK's 2001 Cohesion album contributors including Badly Drawn Bay, Elbow and Doves. It was an emotional day for MaK with many of the musicians speaking of the 'honour' of being involved. Thank you to every single ticket holder, for memorable day of superb music, art, fun and of hope.

CohesionArt is a collaboration between Midas Art, Castle Fine Arts and Manchester Aid for Kosovo (MaK). It all started in 2005 when MaK contacted the foundry for some information on the equipment needed to set up their own foundry in Kosovo. After meeting with the main members of the charity, Chris Butler realised he had a great interest in their project and wanted to offer as much help as he could.

CohesionArt is an exciting new project, creating innovative, interactive and collaborative public art. CohesionArt has kick started a public art project in Manchester which is to be duplicated in Kosovo at a later date. The piece of sculpture will be constructed with cast of leaves from the Kosovo Peace Park - each leaf can be bought by the general public and companies in the UK. The final shape will be a large sphere of leaves to stand in Manchester as

a testament of the support and hard work of MaK and all those who helped to create it.

The money raised from this sculpture will then be used to promote sculpture for the Peace Park.

For more information on CohesionArt please go to www.cohesionart.com and to see video footage from the Cohesion Live festival please go to www.realfresh.tv/hotwire.htm.

Chris Butler accompanied Mike Anitt on a trip to Kosovo in September this year to see the foundry Castle Fine Arts are helping to set up.

Mike Anitt tells us more about how he came to be involved with this project

"I was approached by Manchester Aid to Kosovo via Vernon Mill Artists in Stockport where I have a studio, to work with artists in Kosovo on the Manchester Peace Park. We are trying to set up a small foundry for artists to use there and to produce public sculptures for the park.

After many visits, funding from the Arts Council and invaluable support from Castle Fine Arts we are getting closer to making this a reality.

We are always on the lookout for further funding or advice with this project, and we are keen to attract more artists from the UK to work in Kosovo to exchange ideas and skills."



Find out more...

Crucible is published four times a year. If your not already on our mailing list contact us right away: t: 01691 780 261; f: 01691 780 011; e: castlefinearts@btconnect.com. or complete and return the slip below.

Name _____
Occupation _____
Company name (if applicable) _____
Address: _____

Postcode _____
Tel: _____
Email: _____
Website address: _____

I wish to subscribe FREE to Crucible

I would like to know more about:

- Scaling Up
- CohesionArt and MAK
- Midas Art

Please note - we will not pass your details on to any third parties without your permission.



Castle Corner is created by Amy Steffy, our wax mould specialist

CASTLE CORNER

'TAKE FLIGHT'

Michael McEntee, sculptor has been working with Castle Fine Arts for a short time with his interesting body cast work. He tells us about his recent successful exhibition 'Take Flight':

"During September 2006, I exhibited at the Bear Steps Gallery in Shrewsbury. My sculpture is predominantly based around the human form. My fragment range has classical themes, but by using a range of patinas and simple mounts has a very modern feeling.

The sculptures are initially made in Porcelain Paper Clay which gives them a very fragile and delicate appearance and by isolating sections of the whole, this enables the viewer to read the emotion and direction of each piece.

In multiples the interaction is initiated and reciprocated by each fragment.

The bronzes when cast, retain all of the fragility of the originals but with the permanence of bronze.

By working with Castle Fine Arts I have been able to offer a wide range of options for my clients. These include floor standing, table standing and wall mounted sculptures in a wide range of patinas to suit any situation.

This was rewarded in my exhibition allowing the clients to commission their chosen sculptures with any patina or mounting to suit their personal requirements.

I have recently undertaken the scaling up of some of the fragments by 4 times. These were completed in cement and fibreglass on a welded metal frame giving them a monumental feeling.

Subsequently, one of these pieces has been commissioned to be cast in bronze.

The exhibition has also led to me being offered other gallery spaces.

I found that talking to visitors about my sculpture was invaluable in helping me to look subjectively at each piece and vocalise my thought process behind each one

I am currently represented by the Artlounge Gallery in the Mailbox in Birmingham. www.artlounge.com.

Alternatively, I can be contacted at michaelpmcentee@aol.com."



100% guarantee

the work At Castle Fine Arts we always go that bit further. We endeavour to satisfy our customers even when the work has left the building. In fact, we give a 100% guarantee to our build and finish quality!

the budget Making your budget go further whilst adding value throughout the project is our aim and commitment.

the deadline Our project management teams take care of the detail and the unforeseen, providing our customers with confidence and assurance.

CASTLE FINE ARTS foundry

Castle Fine Arts Foundry Ltd
Llanhaeadr ym Mochnant Oswestry Powys SY10 0AA
Tel 01691 780 261 Fax 01691 780 011
e castlefinearts@btconnect.com website www.sculpture.gb.com

Castle Fine Arts Foundry Ltd
Units N6B & N7 Inchbrook Trading Estate Stroud Gloucestershire GL5 5EY
Tel 01453 836 123

Designed and produced by SC Design 07940 916759



crucible

www.sculpture.gb.com

CASTLE FINE ARTS foundry

Issue 6

The Artist's Foundry

Scaling Up to New Heights

It's been two years since we acquired our first pantograph and were able to add enlargement to the list of services.

Since then the popularity of this machine has grown tremendously, so much so that we just recently acquired our third pantograph from Italy which is now hard at work in a specially built studio we have created in our Stroud workshop.

Our first major scaling up project in Stroud is for sculptor, Ian Rank Broadley who won the highly acclaimed commission for the largest memorial to be built in Britain. The sculptures that Ian has created will be installed inside the National Arboretum outside Lichfield, Staffordshire this time next year and will be unveiled by The Queen.

Ian tells us why the pantograph has made such a difference to this project:

"The pantograph and the skilled staff in Stroud have made me feel far more efficient on this project. I have the time to concentrate on the elements which are important to me about the project"

Meanwhile in Wales...

We are working with London based artist Sean Henry on a major sculpture project for the North-East.

"Although it is still very early in the process, I am glad to have chosen Castle Fine Arts to scale up my two figures for the coastal breakwater at Newbiggin-by-the-sea in Northumberland.

They seem very experienced in the use of the pantograph, and I am impressed by the range of scaling that is available - to go from 1.4 meters high to 4.75 meters high in one go, and with such accuracy, makes their pantograph a powerful tool" Sean Henry.

The work is traditionally scaled up in clay but we can adapt the process to help sculptors in other ways. Sophie Ryder creates monumental works in wire...

"Having always been against the idea of using mechanical methods to scale up my work, I have now succumbed.

Scaling up by eye, from a maquette, to monumental size, is not easy. Apart from anything else, one would need an aircraft hanger to stand back far enough to judge whether it was correct or not.

Having the scaling up done at the foundry saves time and when it arrives I just concentrate on covering the armature knowing that the main structure is correct." Sophie Ryder

Along with the pantograph comes the benefit of a team of expert and dedicated craftsmen and facilities to take on your large scale projects.

Contact the foundry to find out more or to arrange a demonstration.



"Having always been against the idea of using mechanical methods to scale up my work, I have now succumbed."
Sophie Ryder



inside

In your 'shell-like' Nautilus project

Amberleigh House Denise Dutton rides again!

£1,000 Award Open Sculpture Exhibition

Cohesion Live Bands play for Kosovo

Dec 06

Amberleigh House

Sculptor, Denise Dutton has been working on the wonderful commission of creating the 2004 Grand National Winner Amberleigh House in bronze.

Denise tells us about creating the sculpture – “I met Amberleigh House for the first time in brilliant sunshine between April showers – five days after he had run in the Grand National 2005 and the year after he had won it in 2004.

He is trained by Ginger McCain who is best known for Red Rum. Amberleigh House now lives in the great horses stable.

I produced three maquettes all quarter life size – one was chosen after consideration was given to where he was to go. The owners expressed a wish to see him as they see him, revved up and ready to race. This picture was conflicting on one hand as I saw a

very relaxed horse on the other a horse very much on his toes and looking rather different. As it was summer, Amberleigh now looked like a happy hunter as the racing stable put it and far too relaxed to show me what he looks like at a race. Eventually photographs were obtained from the owners and I was able to see what they themselves saw.

I was then able to really get working on the life size sculpture. After a winter of working in a new studio with semi glass roof in sub-zero temperatures I finally finished just as the weather swung in the opposite direction.

The owners arrived on an extremely wet and miserable day in May to see the finished clay.”

Denise Dutton’s work is well known and highly regarded in the sculpture world but next year

will see a piece of her work debuting on the big screen. An Irish production company requested the piece be transported to Ireland from Burnley after seeing it on the internet to appear in the upcoming film – ‘Rough Diamond’.



talktalk

News for and about Artists



Barrow Borough Council

After a trip to Barrow Town Hall whilst on a business trip, Chris Butler discovered tucked away an array of 1m squared slate carved panels.

He tapped into the idea of using these to make a landmark in Barrow – we began work on scaling up the small originals to 4m squared panels in April 2006. They were cast in fibre-glass and given a slate effect.

The panels were installed during a very windy October, they have created an amazing public sculpture which now gives the people of Barrow a clearer idea of their history.



Harold Wilson – Tom Murphy

Liverpool based artist Tom Murphy, has brought to life the Right Honorable Harold Wilson in the form of a bronze sculpture and provided a lasting memory to the family and general public.

Tom Murphy’s previous work with Castle Fine Arts has included John Lennon which was installed at Liverpool Airport in July 2002 and unveiled by his wife Yoko Ono. His most recent sculpture was unveiled by another well known name.

Tony Blair current Prime Minister with the Labour Party arrived in Merseyside on the 23rd September to unveil one of his predecessors, Harold Wilson – Huyton ‘Man of the People’. During the small ceremony at the Huyton Suite, Mr Blair paid tribute to the ‘first modern Prime Minister’

Lady Wilson was accompanied by her son at the unveiling and said she was “delighted” with the sculpture. She then went on to say “The attention to detail is amazing. I was looking at his shoes and they are the ones that I remember him wearing. Pointed ones that nobody wears anymore.”

The project itself has been in the pipeline for five years whilst the council launched fundraising campaign for the statue. Tom Murphy explains why he has enjoyed working on this project,

“I always wanted to do Harold Wilson because of his approachability. I wanted to have him sitting down because I think it shows just how approachable he was.”

Spring Waters – John Thompson

‘Spring Waters’ was installed in Havant in Hampshire, Sculptor John Thompson installed the piece in September along with a small team from Castle Fine Arts.

The history of Havant and behind the sculpture dates back to 935 AD, from earliest times the history and fortunes of Havant have been closely related to its many springs and streams. The place name Havant is derived from the Old English form Hamantunta, meaning ‘Hama’s Spring’, Funta is a corruption of Latin fontana, ‘a fountain’.

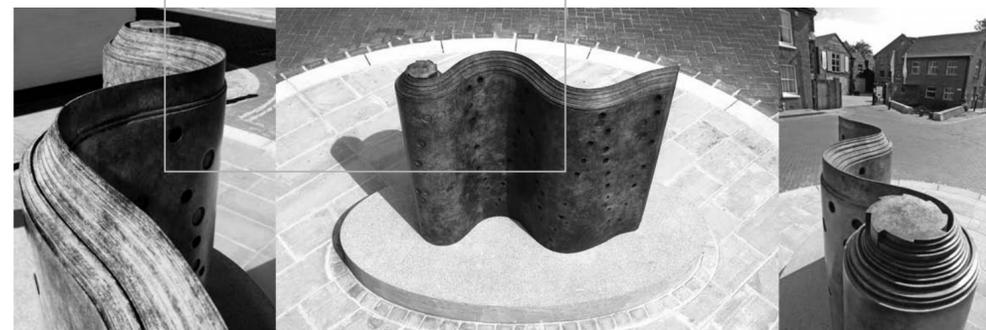
The sculpture cast in bronze suggests an unfurling parchment scroll with images of bubbling rising spring water. Sited on an elliptical granite plinth in this new public space, on a Yorkstone and Granite pavement extension, the sculpture is intended to draw attention to this quiet but historical site.

‘Spring Waters’ and the associated landscaping works have been funded by the Borough Council Conservation Area Budget, Livability Funds and a donation from McCarthy & Stone, who initiated the development of the WaterMill Court Site.

John Thompson adds “The sculpture has been well received by the commissioners, local businesses and the residents who were very complimentary about the quality of design, finish and patination.

The process of consultation throughout the making and casting with Castle Fine Arts ensured that I got the work as I wanted it. A deceptively difficult job due to the flat continuous curving surfaces of the sculpture which required the skill and ingenuity of all involved at the foundry.

New methods devised for another one off – plus a very straightforward and painless installation. Thanks to all involved at Castle Fine Arts and in particular Paul, Steve and Nick”.



Nautilus

Sam Macdonald

Sam Macdonald, Sculptor from Orkney in the Outer Hebrides has been commissioned by the Institute of Medical Science to produce a sculpture which relates to the institutes objectives. The aim of the IMS is to bring modern molecular and cellular technologies to bear on investigations of disease processes and to carry the results forward into clinical practice.

Sam describes where he found the inspiration for the sculpture:

“After a fascinating tour of IMS and walking along the beach contemplating all that I’d seen and heard. Considering my work and the work of the IMS and wondering where there were similarities. I began to realise that what I’d seen was an acute observation of nature with the development of a nematode cell and a mapping and diagramming of growth.

I picked up a razor fish shell and studied its exquisitely formed layers which naturally map and diagram its growth as would the rings of a tree grain. I like the idea of the child while collecting their first shell collection, taking their first steps into science and understanding the natural world around them.

The work I had seen and the whole place was like a journey into Science Fiction. It was mapping a journey into the miniscule into the abyss and unknown with each breakthrough enabling a new world to appear and a better understanding of the old, revealing layer by layer. It was also charting time and rhythm. It reminded me of Jules Verne 1870 novel ‘20000 leagues under the sea’ in which his submarine ‘Nautilus’ makes an exploratory journey into an unknown, part of the world on a quest for knowledge.”

Sam goes on to describe his style as an artist

“My artistic endeavour is to observe and capture fleeting shared moments with nature, trying to express the emotional response to something very private, a moment shared between man and nature, suggesting a balance and a suspension with the brooding colours of the background saturating the work with a contemplative stillness.”

The sculpture was installed at the end of October in the IMS Research Centre based in Aberdeen.



News Flash...

Castle Fine Arts will be transporting the artwork for the 2007 Wales at the Venice Biennale of Art.

After a successful trip last year it is a privilege to be asked again. The chosen artists to exhibit have been announced – Richard Deacon, Merlin James and Heather and Ivan Morison. To find out more about the Biennale and the chosen artists please visit the website www.walesvenicebiennale.org.uk

WALES AT THE VENICE BIENNALE OF ART CYMRU YN BIENNALE CELF FENIS

£1,000 Award

Open Sculpture Exhibition

Castle Fine Arts are due to be involved with the Royal West of England Academy - Open Sculpture Exhibition in January 2007.

The foundry will be sponsoring a casting award to the value of £1,000 which will be awarded to the winning sculptor at the exhibition. Open Sculpture focuses attention on contemporary sculpture in the round, selected entries will be new and exciting works with an emphasis on quality and innovation. So far the Academy have received hundreds of entries which they hope will provide a challenging and interesting show.

For more information about the exhibition please visit the Academy’s website www.nwa.org.uk.