

STUDIOS FOR THE CREATIVE ARTS

# Newsletter Spring 2015

#### Open Studios Weekend 16th and 17th May 2015 - 10am to 5pm



The artists at Project Workshops are already preparing their studios in readiness for the increasingly popular spring Project Workshops Open Weekend, which this year is on the 16th and 17th May. Our Open Weekends are a rare chance to explore the studios of some of the best artists and craftsmen in the area and to be the first to see their new work in the process of being made. Most of the artists will be on hand to share their secrets and demonstrate their skills - it's a great day out for all the family – and entry is absolutely free.

Matt and Pat of the Talos Art Foundry and Jenna Gearing with her portrait of Eric 'Winkle' Brown

Last year marked the 100th anniversary of the start of the First World War, and we were particularly proud to be able to display Amy Goodman's life size memorial to the many horses which perished in the conflict, under construction in the granary gallery, giving visitors a unique insight into how a monumental piece of public sculpture is actually made. This year marks the 200th anniversary of the battle of Waterloo and once again we are thrilled to be able to offer visitors the opportunity to see a major memorial to the British soldiers who took part under

construction. The sculpture is being made by Project Workshops' Talos Art Foundry and follows a number of major works which have been cast by Talos during the past year, including a magnificent bronze by artist Georgie Welch, commemorating the truce when British and German troops left their trenches on Christmas Day 1914 and played football in no-man's land.

# Vivien Mallock - Sculptor

Vivi has been selected to produce a life size memorial to the British who fell at Waterloo 200 years ago. Most other participants in the Battle have had a memorial for some years, but there has hitherto been nothing to commemorate the British.

The memorial consists of two life size bronze figures of soldiers in the Foot Guards closing the gates of Hougoumont Farm (Belgium), which are represented by slabs of Priory stone.

The stonework is being inscribed with text by Project Workshops letter-cutter Robyn Golden-Hann. Work is well in hand at Vivi's studio at Project Workshops and the nearly complete memorial will be on display in the Talos Art Foundry on the 16th and 17th May.

The memorial is to be unveiled on the bicentenary of the Battle in June 2015 at Hougoumont Farm in Belgium, where the British garrison managed to close the gates against a furious French assault. The Duke of Wellington considered that the closure of the gates was a pivotal point in the Battle, without which the outcome may have been very different.



Battle of Waterloo Memorial by Vivi Mallock



#### Elaine Peto - Ceramicist

Elaine continues to expand the range of hand-built ceramic animals that she has become famous for. Her subjects include farm animals such as bulls, donkeys and billy-goats, domestic animals such as elegant greyhounds, wild animals including foxes, hares and warthogs, as well as mythological Minotaurs and Centaurs.

Her current work includes a new series of bird sculptures in porcelain, and lively groups of animal figures such as boxing hares.

She has decided to cut back on shows this year, in order to concentrate on fulfilling gallery work; however she will be exhibiting at Bovey Tracey, Hatfield and Farnham.

# Mark Taylor and David Hill - Glassmakers

Now in their 20th year at Project Workshops, Mark and David continue their historically-informed work reproducing drinking glasses and other vessels from the 18th century.

Recently, they have experienced a hitherto unprecedented demand for examples of 18th century glasses that they made for the American TV series 'Outlander'.

Later this year will see trips to Germany (twice) and Belgium to work at the Roman style wood-fired furnaces (inspired by their own furnace projects in 2005 and 2006) that have been built at museums.

Future projects for 2015 include creating more glass vessels for Grayson Perry, and filming by in-demand American film-maker Ethan Steinman.





# Sally Milligan - Artist

Sally is enjoying her workshops, teaching absolute beginners and holding Open Studio days for the more adventurous and competent. It is so exciting seeing their results – and their happy faces!

This year she will be working on larger pieces, both landscape and still life, experimenting with different media and drawing. Apart from her local and Welsh paintings, she is also going to France to extend her thoughts and imaginative observations. Painting is much to do with the emotions, getting them onto canvas is the challenge - a never ending one.

She will be exhibiting at Project Workshops, the Hampshire Open Studios in August and in September her work will form part of a Group Exhibition in Stockbridge.

# Amy Goodman - Sculptor and Portrait Artist

Amy is busy with varied projects this year. She is currently finishing the final details on the recently cast 'Romsey War Horse and Trooper' Memorial, ready for its unveiling on 3rd July of this year.

She is also busy with commissions, exhibitions (including a residency at Wincanton Racecourse), and work for Winchester University as 'Artist in Residence', as well as running her popular Figure Sculpture course each week in Basingstoke.





# Tim Chadsey - Furniture Maker

Over the last year I have been working more with introducing greater variety of tone into my work through the use of stains and ebonizing, and I have been extremely pleased with the positive feedback I have received from clients.

At present I am developing new speculative pieces for exhibitions at the Goldsmith's Centre in Clerkenwell, London in May, Celebration of Craftsmanship and Design in Cheltenham in August, and at Dovetail, organised by Rum's Eg Gallery in Romsey, which will be held in Romsey Abbey in August of this year.

#### **Linda Powell** - Artist

Linda is currently painting several portraits in oils, and working on a series of figure and equine studies in mixed media while looking forward to spring, when landscape subjects take precedence.

Linda's painting and drawing classes are flourishing and she has stepped in to teach the Project Workshops' Life Drawing class on Wednesday evenings.

As well as taking part in the spring Open Studio Weekend, Linda will be opening her studio to visitors during the Berkshire and North Hampshire Open Studio Art Trail, and in August with the Hampshire Open Studio event.





## **Geoff Hague** - Knifemaker

Geoff's customer portfolio continues to expand with new commissions recently coming from Australia, South Africa and France, together with a continuously strong order book - all is set to make 2015 a busy and interesting year. Currently on the bench are five pieces for one customer which will shortly be sent to Italy to be engraved.

Now established as custom knife maker for Westley Richard & Co. Ltd., a long standing and prestigious shotgun and rifle maker in Birmingham, Geoff produces a small range of folding and fixed blade knives which are sold in Britain and the USA.

#### Marek Woźnica - Metal Worker

Marek completed his ornate chess set just in time for the 2014 Christmas Show, where it was much admired by all. His Wolf designs commissioned by the UK Wolf Conservation Trust also proved a great success last year, and made a significant contribution to the continuation of the Trust's project. Marek's greyhound designs prove ever popular with enthusiasts and rescue organizations alike, and this year started out of the trap with several new pieces.

His major aspiration for this year is to complete his bronze casting project, and to finally be able to realise castings in this high temperature metal in his own studio. For 2015, Marek also welcomes commissions for bronze roses entwined into wrought iron trellises.



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# Robyn Golden-Hann - Letter Cutter

Now in her tenth year at Project Workshops, Robyn has established a firm reputation for hand-carved lettering and stonework. Her 2015 commissions include a carved stone clock-face for Horatio's garden at Salisbury District Hospital, and she is working closely with resident sculptor Vivi Mallock on the design and execution of all stonework and inscriptions for the battle of Waterloo bicentennial monument.

Robyn undertakes commissions for bespoke memorial work, plaques and monuments as well as exhibiting sculptural stone lettering. She will be showing work for the third year running at the Garden Gallery, Broughton, Hampshire.

# Tim and Soraya French - Artists

We have twelve two day mixed media workshops organised for this year, and have only a few spaces left for the workshops planned later on in the year. Soraya will be teaching in Provence and Manzac in the south of France, as well as at Dedham Hall in the UK.

We have a few spaces left on the Provence trip in the first week of July 2015, organised by the West Norfolk Art Centre. There will be a trip to the United States in November to attend a Seminar organised by GOLDEN Artists' colours in Florida, followed by Art Basel in Miami.

Soraya is currently working on material from the trips to Morocco and Venice for the forthcoming exhibitions. She will be having another three-person show at the Wykham Gallery in October 2015, with Mike Bernard and Teresa Lawton, and will be exhibiting at The Mall Galleries with the Society of Women Artists in June 2015.



For those who missed our Christmas exhibition, there's another chance to see Marek Woźnica's amazing pewter and wood chess set, which is the featured work on posters and flyers for this year's Open Studios weekend and Marc Johnson will be returning to exhibit a selection of his fine bespoke jewellery. Painters Linda Powell, Sally Milligan and sculptor Damian Rochford, all of whom had only just joined us this time last year, now have an impressive collection of new work to show, and are well established members of the remarkable collective at Project Workshops.

## Damien Rochford - Sculptor



As a fairly recent arrival here at Project Workshops, the past ten months has seen my sculptural work make a significant shift and move to another dimension. Literally, growing from my smaller-than-life-size bird sculptures, to over three times life-size, with my monumental two-piece expressive head and hand

sculpture. I intend to have this recently completed plaster sculpture cast, and displayed outside. Similar large scale (and some smaller) works focusing on the human form will start to appear during the course of the year, along with some new animal pieces.

We can hardly believe that glassmakers Mark Taylor and David Hill have been with us for 20 years this year, in which time they have developed from specialist manufacturers of historical glass into a world authority on all



Mark working with glassblowing assistant Tracey Snape

aspects of antique and period glassmaking techniques. Their research into the glass of ancient Egypt, ancient Rome, Saxon and medieval England, and recently, their focus upon the English Georgian era, is valued worldwide, and we are very proud that much of their ground-breaking research has been done here at Project Workshops. Mark and David will be exhibiting a selection of their hand-made glass, and demonstrating how much of it was made throughout the weekend – a spectacle cabaret that astonishes and delights visitors to Project Workshops year after year.

We like to think there is something to interest everyone at Project Workshops, and just to make sure, there will be a delicious BBQ, and stalls of local fare supplied by Parsonage Farm, including home-made cakes to enjoy with a cup of tea in the garden. Put the dates in your diary - there is ample free parking, disabled toilet facilities, and children under supervision are very welcome. We look forward to your visit.



A corner of the garden at Project Workshops, with a view of the Pottery

# **Project Workshops - Studios to Rent**

There is currently a rare opportunity to join the nationally acclaimed group of artists at Hampshire's Project Workshops. One 53 square metre studio and one 65 square metre studio are available to let, exclusively to artists or craftsmen. Both offer 24-hour access, secure, serviced studios with good parking and facilities. For further details contact Mandy on mandy@project-workshop.co.uk or call 01264 889889.

# life studio at Project Workshops

Our weekly Pilates and Yoga classes continue in this lovely venue. As do the Life Drawing Classes with Linda Powell on Wednesday evenings and the Painting Classes with Linda on Friday mornings.

If you are interested in any of our classes, or would like to hire the Life Studio for workshops, meetings or classes you can contact Mandy on 01264 889889 for further details.

#### Resident Artists Exhibitions 2015

#### **Tim Chadsey**

19th - 23rd May: *Inspired*, The Goldsmith's Centre, Clerkenwell, London

16th - 19th July: *Art In Action*, Waterperry, Oxford 4th August - 5th September: *Dovetail*, Romsey Abbey August (dates to be confirmed): *Celebration of Craftsmanship and Design*, Cheltenham

#### Robyn Golden-Hann

9th May – 18th July: The Garden Gallery, Broughton, Hampshire (Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays from 11am to 5pm, or by arrangement)

#### **Elaine Peto**

5th - 7th June: Bovey Tracey Contemporary Craft Festival 3rd - 5th July: *Art In Clay*, Hatfield, Hertfordshire 14th - 15th November: *Art In Clay*, Farnham, Surrey

All artists can be contacted through the Project Workshops website, and studios are open to visitors by arrangement.

Open Studios Weekend 16th - 17th May 2015

Christmas Sale Weekend 21st - 22nd November 2015