

Helen Osborn, Artist

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Biography

I am a mixed media artist whose practice encompasses sculptures and installations made from found objects, as well as drawing, painting, spray painting and collage. My practice seeks to tell a narrative or raise questions about the rules and expectations of modern society. I am interested in themes of conformity and escapism, hope and disappointment, routine and repetition and how we react to these on a personal level. Visually I am inspired by the urban landscape, the theatricality of set design and by my background in marketing, with its use of text and strong visual imagery.

Exhibitions

2017 Margaret, Birmingham School of Art, Birmingham City University (Arts Based Masters, Final Show)

2016 Strange Attractors, Birmingham School of Art, Birmingham City University (Arts Based Masters, Interim Show)

2016 Birmingham City University Inspired Festival Winners' Exhibition, Birmingham City Centre locations, including Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery (Light projection on building)

2016 Past, Present, Future, Great Western Arcade, Birmingham

2012 Open West Midlands, Wolverhampton Art Gallery

2012 & 2011 Focus, Coffee Lounge, Birmingham

2012 & 2011 BIAD end of year shows, Bournville, Birmingham

2011 Anticurate Exhibition, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

2010 Inhabit, Pavillions Shopping Centre, Birmingham

Conferences/Artist Talks

2016 Association of Art Historian's Summer Symposium, Loughborough University – Presentation on "Blue Period – Exploring themes of fertility and motherhood through media experimentation"

2016 Inter-institutional Symposium Day for MA/MFA Fine Art for the Midlands, Nottingham Contemporary (Hosted by Nottingham Trent University) – Presentation on arts practice

Work Experience

Arts' projects

2014 The Lounge Community Café Interior Design Youth Project, Workshop Co-Ordinator, Alvechurch, Worcestershire

2013 Arts Soak Festival, Selly Oak Arts Forum, Birmingham, Volunteer

2013 'Love Stirchley More' community arts project, Birmingham, Volunteer

2012 Hippodrome Theatre Six Summer Saturdays' festival, Volunteer, Birmingham

2012 Ikon Gallery guided walk, Project Partner, Northfield Arts Forum, Birmingham

2011 From the Top Deck live performance, Stirchley Prospects, Project Partner, Stirchley, Birmingham

2010 Press Manager for sculptor Michael Scheuermann, Chelsea Flower Show, London

Career history

1998 – present day Undertaken variety roles in Marketing, Business and Community Engagement and Project Management for private and public sector organisations.

Education/training

2015 – present day Student on MA Fine Art course, Birmingham City University

2013 Set design for Live Performance Summer School, Central Saint Martins, London

2013 Life Casting workshop, Walsall Art Gallery, Birmingham

2013 Mixed Media Textiles course, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham

2010 – 2012 Foundation in Art and Design (Distinction), Birmingham City University

2001 Postgraduate Diploma in Marketing, Chartered Institute of Marketing, distance learning

1997 BA Hons (2:1), History and Politics, University of Leeds