

Alice Crane - Curriculum Vitae April 2024

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Artists Statement

Born in Croydon, I arrived in Somerset in 1974. My childhood was rich; roaming woods and headlands, making mud pies, dolls clothes, puppets and plays.

I grew up surrounded by stitchers, makers and painters and chose to study Fine Art Textiles so my practice evolved through both craft and fine art disciplines.

I am an obsessive collector of memories, stories and scraps; recycling and layering textiles and paper, wordplay, sound and photography. Digital and found materials combine to create abstract and semi abstract landscapes.

I settled in the Blackdown Hills in 1995 and thrive on its woodland wilderness. Making work for me is paying homage, a way of capturing and celebrating the domestic and natural environment that is 'home'.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2018 Sharing the development of the Lundy Banners, Cotley Tithe Barn

2017-present 'All things Bright and Beautiful' Permanent textile banners, a collaboration between island and main land communities celebrating the diversity of the island, St Mary's Church, Lundy

2016 The Dolls House, installation and textiles/paintings, Cotley Tithe Barn

1994 – 2019 annual solo exhibitions Open Studios, Somerset Art Works

1994 Dillington House, Somerset

Selected Group Exhibitions

2022 **The Sparrows Project**, highlighting Modern Slavery on our doorstep, West Somerset

2021 Somerset Re-acquainted, Somerset Art Works, Rural Life Museum

2020 Somerset Re-acquainted, Somerset Art Works, on Instagram

2020 **Fifty Bees**, Sketchbook dedicated to the Black Headed Miner Bee, Black Swan Arts

2019 GROUNDED Cotley Tithe Barn, co-curated and made new work, 6 artists, September 2019

2017 PROSPECT Cotley Tithe Barn, curated and made new work, 14 artists, September 2019

2001: The Bus Stop Gallery, Sherborne Contemporary Arts

1999: Off the Shelf Supermarket, Sherborne House.

1999: Bridgwater Arts Centre, Father & Daughter show Andrew Crane, Alan and Amanda Wallwork

1994 – 2019 various group shows Open Studios and Exhibitions and Events, Somerset Art Works

Residencies and Collaborations

2023 – 'Pair Up - the Dolls House' Collaboration with artist Sue Green and Brisons Veor artists residency

2022 - 'Breathing Space', Wick Farm, Somerset, (from Oct 2022)

2016 – 2019 Artist in Residence, Cotley Farm (studio base)

2004 – 'Haunt' Sherborne House Artist in Residence – creation of new work inspired by the theme

Education Practice

I joined the arts education charity, Spaeda (Somerset Partnerships Arts Education Agency), as artistic director in 2001. A firmly held belief that a creative education is essential to childhood development has fuelled over 20 years campaigning for equality of access to arts and culture for children and young people.

Selected Educational Work

2022 – Co-devised and coordinate ‘Bolder and Braver’ with SENSE, involving staff and students from 12 Alternative Provision and Special Educational Needs settings

2022 – Devise and coordinate ‘Breathing Space’ Pilot Professional Development Programme and Residencies for Art Leaders, Wick Farm, facilitating dialogue between teachers and visiting artists from UK, Ukraine, US and Australia

2022 Live Illustration Brief Strode College Students, Wick Farm

2020 – present day Project coordinator for ‘In the Footsteps of the Romantic Poets’ formal education engagement Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme, Quantock Hills inspiring learners from 10 Primary, Secondary and SEND settings to make, play and explore in the Quantocks.

2018-2022 Sound Foundation Somerset, RIO Challenge Fund incentivising 44 Somerset Schools to invest in Arts and Culture and register for Artsmark

2018 Represented the NSEAD at All Party Parliamentary Group for Art and Design

2017 Led a programme of professional development for Education Staff with D Emese Hall, Exeter University, including Master Class in Contemporary Drawing Practice, Seminar on Quality Teaching Practice and evaluation of Switchbook Pilots 2016-2018

2016 – present day Co-devised and led ‘Switchbook’ invigorating sketchbook practice and dialogue for Key Stage 1-5 Art and Design

2016 – present day Lead Spaeda’s formal educational engagement with Hestercombe Gallery and Gardens engaging staff and students in the Art and Landscape programme, with curator Tim Martin

2012 - present day Advocacy and SEND and Careers and Enterprise interventions for Sound Foundation Somerset, Music Education Hub

2012 – 2017 Led commissioning of an Arts Education Network for Somerset

2012 – present day Devised and lead Spaeda’s Creative Leader Network and Primary Art Network

2008 - present day Co devised ‘Role of the Art Coordinator’ Training for Key Stage 1 -2 art leaders with Arts Educators Fiona Godfrey, Sara Dudman, Natasha Rand

2001-2017 Devised and led Somerset Primary Art Conferences with Somerset’s Primary Art Adviser and subsequently arts educators and partners including SAPH, Access Arts, NSEAD.

2001- present Artistic Director and Project Manager, Spaeda

2000 Year of the Artist Commission community mosaic with children and families, South Somerset

2000 Commissioned to create a Children’s Rights Calendar with community groups by GLADE and South Somerset District Council

1999-2010 Various interventions for Chardstock Primary School (children attended) including gallery visit, commissioning artists to develop school grounds, intergenerational community events

1993-5 National Trust engagement programme venues included Barrington Court, Dyrham Park

1991-1994 Weekly programme of Adult Education Workshops, The Laurels Centre, South Somerset

1993-1995 Take Part, Early Years workshops with Take Art

Training and qualifications

BA fine Art Textiles, Goldsmiths College, London

Art and Design Foundation, Somerset College of Arts and Technology

Folk Art Narratives, Ann Kelly, West Dean College

Keeping Children Safe, SCC

Health and Safety, SCC

Arts Advisor training, Trinity – silver + discover and explore

Professional Membership:

NSEAD, SAW, FSB, BHAAM

References

Lucy Brown (Artist and Advocate) lucybrownmakes@btinternet.com

Helen Reid (Music Education Hub Lead) Sound Foundation Somerset helen.reid@somerset.gov.uk

Sarah Dawes (Spaeda Chair of trustees) Bath Spa University sadawes@hotmail.co.uk