

site07

visual arts festival

Stroud Valleys Artspace
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Note to press:

Further info on Site 07 programme

site07 festival exhibition and the Darbyshire Prize, Museum in the Park, Stroud 27th May - 30th June

After the success of last year's exhibition at the Museum in the Park, this year's exhibition will be a selected show of work by artists taking part in the site07 festival. Darbyshire Framers will be awarding a prize of £1000 worth of framing services to an exhibiting artist who will also be offered a ten day exhibition in the newly refurbished project space at SVA, John Street, Stroud. The selectors will be Mark Darbyshire, Jean Boyd and Gavin McClafferty.

site07 featured artists projects and events, various locations 1st - 30th June

site07 is supporting a small selection of individual and group artists shows and events. In the past these projects have included site specific works, artists talks, sound events, film screenings, visual and sound workshops and music and poetry events.

John Street Exhibition and Events 1st - 30th June

SVA is pleased to be able to reopen its newly refurbished building to the public in June with an exhibition of John Street studio artists work supported by Lisa Le Feuvre.

Artists Open Studios

Saturday June 9th & Sunday 10th and Saturday 16th & Sunday 17th 11am - 6pm

To take part in Open Studios 2007 artists are asked to open their studios during the two weekends of Saturday 9th - Sunday 10th June and Saturday 16th - Sunday 17th June from 11am - 6pm and by appointment during the week.

Open Studios Exhibition, Subscription Rooms, Stroud 1st -30th June

This exhibition will be a selected show of open studio artists work. It also works as a festival information point and is designed to help visitors plan their open studio visits. The exhibition will be part of a full programme of festival events in the Sub Rooms.

Somewhere, Not Here

Drawing show, Ruskin Mill, Nailsworth 1st -21st June

In most if not all forms of drawing the artist finds a period of deep concentration. At this point the pen becomes an extension of the artist, and the paper a screen on which the skill and vision of the artist are projected. This moment of transition is what is implied by 'somewhere not here'. Stroud and its surrounds has long been blessed with many talented artists. This annual show provides an opportunity to see into the mechanics of drawing as well as to buy original works.

Stroud Valleys Artspace

Stroud Valleys Artspace (SVA) is a multidimensional 'space' provider which includes studio, resource, project, exhibition, web and publishing spaces. SVA initiates, commissions and promotes an accessible and innovative programme of projects in collaboration with regional, national and international artists.

The history of SVA can be rightly seen as a success story in the making. SVA was therefore initiated by a small group of dedicated artists who had the vision to see the potential in the physically and culturally empty spaces in the heart of a struggling market town. With energy and determination they created a vital and innovative organisation from scratch - an organisation that has grown and developed to the point where it is now recognised as one of the most active and exciting arts organisations in the South West.

SVA is now moving into one of the most significant stages of its development. SVA has purchased and has just completed the 2nd Phase of renovating a 7000 sq ft warehouse building in Stroud town centre that it previously occupied, taking ten years of arts activities into a new phase. This £1.5 million is led by Tony Fretton architects (Lisson Gallery, Camden Arts Centre, Artsway) it is set to become a new focus for the arts in Stroud, the county and the region. The renovation of this building will enable SVA to provide good quality workspace, resource facilities, exhibition space and a support network to a wide number of artists and the community. The building will providing a vital arts infrastructure and an interactive cultural focal point from which a high quality arts programme will be promoted for the district, county and region.

SVA is run by artists for artists which acts as a hub for local professional artist networks in particular Stroud Valleys Visual Artists and Stroud Musicians Collective. SVA has 95 members and over 250 artists take part in the Site Festival, an annual visual arts celebration which takes place for the month of June and which attracts up to 25,000 visitors to the Stroud District.

Tony Fretton Architects

Since it was founded in 1982, the practice has established a reputation for work of exceptional quality at an international level. Tony Fretton Architects skills in research, architecture and planning provide cultural and economic benefits that are directly experienced in the buildings we make and the world around them. This is demonstrated in the long-term success of the Centre for Visual Arts in Sway , Hampshire and the Quay Arts Centre in the Isle of Wight, where the process of making the building has brought to the foreground the raison d' etre of its users and raised the profile of the venue. Stroud Valleys Artspace ,

Gloucestershire, which is currently on site, is another example of a project that will work in this way.

As well as designing galleries such as the Lisson Gallery, the Camden Arts Centre and a new art museum in Southern Denmark, Cultural Centre Fuglsang , Tony Fretton Architects have worked with artists as part of the design team, designed exhibitions for Tate Modern and the Hayward Gallery in London, executed houses for artists, and created spaces for artists collectives.

Tony Fretton Architects are skilled in working in sensitive urban and rural situations and locations of historical significance, making architecture that properly relates to its context, and is functionally and aesthetically appropriate to the present time. The critically acclaimed award winning Red House , a new-build house in a conservation area in Chelsea, typifies our approach to bespoke housing and has led to our appointment as architects of a new London residence for Anish Kapoor .

Tony Fretton Architect's work is frequently exhibited and published at a national and international level. It is this recognition that has led to the commission for the new British Embassy and Residence buildings , Warsaw, awarded in 2003, and subsequent contracts for large-scale housing developments in the Netherlands and Denmark.

www.tonyfretton.com

Darbyshire Framers

Darbyshire Framers is a leading framer and art fabricator in the contemporary art world and has attracted a range of high-profile clients; artists which range from Damien Hirst, Tracey Emin and Derek Jarman to commercial and public galleries such as Gagosian, White Cube, Serpentine Gallery and the Royal Academy. www.darbyshire.uk.com

Lisa Le Feuvre

Lisa Le Feuvre is an independent curator and writer. She Associate Lecturer on the MA Creative Curating at Goldsmiths College and on the BA Arts Management at South Bank University, and is Curator of Contemporary Art at the National Maritime Museum, London. Her recent exhibitions include *Avalanche 1970-1976* (Chelsea Space, London, 2005) and *Gordon Matta-Clark: The Space Between* (CCA Glasgow and Architectural Association London, 2003). In 2004 Lisa was guest curator at The Photographers' Gallery producing *Mediterranean: Between Reality and Utopia* ,*Pierre Bourdieu: In Algeria* and *Hashem El Madani* . Her forthcoming curatorial projects include *Dennis Oppenheim: Recall* (MOT, London, February 2006) and *Dan Holdsworth: Seeing the Invisible* (National Maritime Museum, London, April 2006).

Full copy and other photographs are available for usage on:

- Stroud Valleys Artspace's newly refurbished building at John Street
- Tony Fretton Architects
- Artists case studies
- Darbyshire Framers
- The Stroud valley area
- A number of the participating artists are also available for interview.