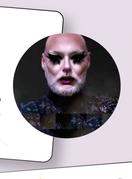
ST HELENS
artists in Residence
Borough of Culture 2023

PAUL COUSINS | Graphic Fine Artist

As a Graphic Fine Artist I sketch, draw and paint in sketchbooks and this year I have been working with the Liverpool Urban Sketchers on the production of a book to celebrate their 10th Anniversary. Actively involved in the St Helens Open Art Competition at The World of Glass.

#theworldofglass #liverpoolurbansketchers #societyofgraphicfineartists



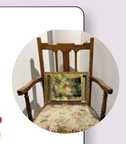
DROSS | Drag Artist / Producer

Dross is a drag artist & co-director of EAT ME - featured in the Ultimate Guide to Queer Nightlife, Dazed magazine. In May, she hosted the Eurovision Grand Final Party at Pier Head EuroVillage. Her portraiture won first place in the 2023 LCR Photography Awards & her sell-out solo show debuted at Quarry in August.

@drossqueen_official @eatmeclub

TERRY CAFFREY | Poet / Writer

Terry caffrey, well established poet & writer. Runs the Cut Glass Writers welfare and wellbeing group at The World of Glass every Wednesday. Participates in many art related events, new anthologies and projects in the borough.



AMY ROBINSON | Fine Artist

Amy is a St Helens based Fine Artist and educator at Edge Hill University. She was recently involved in the nationally celebrated Fully Awake painting project based at The Holden Gallery, Manchester. Amy's practice involves the engagement between painting and presenting memento objects via the transitionality of personal memory.

alrobinson2@outlook.com

PAUL MELLOR | Artist

I've produced five artworks for St Helens Borough of Culture 2023, hopefully to be sold to benefit Willowbrook Hospice. I am an amateur artist attending The Art Club St Helens, we meet weekly Saturday a.m. and would welcome new members.

The Art Club St Helens

REBECCA AINSWORTH | Artist

Rebecca is an artist based in the North-West of England. In 2023, Rebecca collaborated with Buzzhub and artists Claire Weetman & Dave Bixter, celebrating the amazing contribution that George Groves made to film. She has also produced a concert in partnership with St Helens Sinfonietta for St Helens Borough of Culture

https://rebeccabstract.wixsite.com/artist

STUART KENYON | Artist and Poet

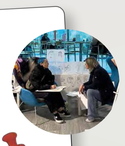
Since exhibiting 'Any Old Iron' in March 2023, Stuart has created another sculpture, 'The Iron Man' in his garden. It is made of metal, including car jacks and spanners, mounted on an old microwave. Stuart has made a painting of 'The Iron Man' and is in the Cut Glass Writers.

Member of Cut Glass Writers group

ABDULLRHMAN HASSONA

Abdullrhman Hassona is an Egyptian Visual Artist based in St. Helens. He is a mixed-media Social documentarian and educator who loves telling people's stories and representing diverse cultures through his work. Abdullrhman is expanding his expertise in social media content creation, mobile art photography, and education.

@ahassonal
www.ahassona.com



HELON CONNING | Artist

Helon uses art as communication and freedom, playfully embracing her inner child. She explores automatism, through experience, sensation, and imagination. Works with Ken Reid Portrait Group, St Helens Art club, and Heart of Glass. Helon's Collaboradoodle formed part of 'One Amazing Day' creating speedy portraits with St Helens residents.

@helon_conning
FB: Helon Conning (Cosmically Random)
You Tube: Helon Conning
www.heloncnning.com

LITTE LIZ HAPPY ART | Artist

Elizabeth is an artist based in St Helens. During 2023 she held a solo exhibition 'Through the Branches' at the Millennium Academy of Art. She has work on display and for sale at the Bookstop and the Courtyard and greetings cards printed from her art at The World of Glass.

FB: littlelizhappyart

CADY DAVIES | Illustrator

Cady is an illustrator based in Merseyside. During 2023 she has written and illustrated the comic 'Main Line Sunrise' for Safe Spaces: Reclaiming Community Spaces at Comics Youth. 'Main Line Sunrise' was then exhibited at RIBA North.

@cadydavies.art

ELIZABETH BUTLER | Wrtier

Elizabeth Butler is a writer using a wheelchair based in St. Helens. During 2023 they have had two anthologies published and one self published poetry book. They have performed at the Shakespeare North Playhouse in Prescot and an event in Knowsley with Heart Of Glass.

@eabwriting
Tiktok @eabwrites
https://elizabethbutler.godaddysites.com/

DOROTHY NORTON | Artist

Dorothy paints for pleasure. She attends life drawing classes in Liverpool and other classes and creative events. She paints pictures for family and friends and occasional commissions. This year keeping sketchbooks and using different media has been great. Subject matter includes the natural world, pets, wildlife and landscapes.

@dots.drawings

TORI DENNETT | Designer

Tori is a queer creative designer & illustrator based in St.Helens. They work as a graphic designer, alongside creating designs and illustrations for use across print, greetings cards & rugs.

@penonfakepaper
www.toridennett.co.uk

EMAN DIAB | Writer & Visual Artist

Eman is a writer, producer, director, and visual artist originally from Egypt, now in North West England. She explores human inner thoughts and emotions, telling stories internationally and portraying diverse cultures. Her artistry flows between capturing the movement of life through documentaries and short films or freezing moments with still photographs.

@eman.a.diab
vimeo.com/emandiab

CATHERINE SHEA | Artist

This year I...was stressed, had CBT, discovered Chewy She, wrote three songs, performed badly (only once), did two drawings, left my phone at home for a week (bliss), swam in the river and the sea, laughed with friends, loved, walked on Dungeness beach. November and December still to come...

DEB HUTCHINSON | Artist

During 2023 Deb has exhibited graphite sketches inspired by the literature of JRR Tolkien at the Tolkien Society's 50th Oxonmoot. Her styles of working are informed by Tolkien, mediaeval manuscripts and Japanese printmakers. She is working on a new self portrait to enter the portrait artist of the year competition.

@debhutchinson_art
@debhutchinson_tolkienart

STEPHEN BANNING | Artist

This year I worked on Bamboo is Everywhere in the Liverpool City Region, working with multiple artists, designers and engineers from around the world to create a multi-region event promoting the use of Bamboo as a sustainable material.

www.stephenbanning.co.uk

NORTHWEST MINERS HERITAGE ASSOCIATION
Heritage/community group

Northwest Miners have been working on mining heritage education with schools, recording oral history.

FB: Northwest Miners Heritage Association

KAREN ELLIOTT | Dance Education Specialist

During 2023, Karen, a Dance Education Specialist at DancEd UK in the North West of England, supported schools with dance for curriculum teaching and extracurricular activities and provided CPD sessions for teachers with Cultured St. Helens. Karen runs UNITY Dance who performed in One Amazing Day in April.

@unity_dance_rainhill
FB: Karen Elliott- DancEd UK

KEVIN CROOKS | Artist

Kevin is a Photographer/Videographer/Oral History Interviewer and Recordist and Head of Photography, Carmel College. Kevin has recorded three miners from Bold, Sutton Manor and Wood & Lyme Pits which will feature alongside archival and present day images of the colliery sites and be published in a book in November.

@kevincrooks
www.kevincrooks.co.uk

ADE WHITE | Artist / Author / Musician

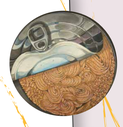
Curating 'Nothing To See Here', an exhibition of my work reflecting AI's impact on contemporary art/media and AI's potential for those challenged with mental and physical health. Looking at an effective creative workflow using traditional, AI and digital art and completing my second graphic novel 'ENVISIONIST'.

https://adewhite.wixsite.com/portfolio

PHILL CAMPBELL
Singer, Performance Artist, Poet, Writer, Visual Artist

Phill is a performance artist and singer. During 2023 he performed choral works at Stoller Hall and the Lowry, Frozen Light, a multi-sensory performance piece for audiences with disabilities, sung the male solo at the opening ceremony for Borough of Culture, and produced a one-man show, Queering My Pitch.

FB: Phill Campbell



KEELY GASKELL | Illustrator visual artist

Keely Gaskell is an artist based in Billinge. During 2023 they have had a break from creating work but recently began painting again and is looking forward to exhibiting in 2024.

@gaskellkeely
FB: Keely Gaskell
Smudges07@btinternet.com

JESSIE SCARLET | Musician

Jessie has had singles played on BBC Radio 1, 6 Music, BBC Introducing and by Charlie Ashcroft on Amazing Radio and has toured the UK multiple times over 10 years as a lead singer and guitarist. She has played the Tbilisi Open Air Festival, Georgia and Zandari Festa, Seoul, Korea.

FB: jessiescarletofficial

MARK PEACHEY | Photographer

During 2023, St Helens photographer Mark documented E&C Greenall bakery and shop in Duke Street as it closed after nearly 70 years of trading. Photographs and oral history interviews with Colin Greenall, the owner, were exhibited at St Helens Library in November as part of the Borough of Culture.

@ markpeachey
www.markpeachey.com

BARBARA HURST | Artist and Photographer

Barbara is a photographer who has been creating an exhibition that features photographs, articles and objects about "The Courting Tree" - a tree that is connected to her personal social history. Barbara mostly works with a digital camera, describing her photographic style as "looking for things other than the obvious"

@bjcphotographyrainford

SKOBELOFF PUBLISHING | Book Publisher

Skobeloff Publishing is a new, small, independent book publisher from St Helens. Their ongoing project is to publish a series of short story anthologies. The first book was published in October 2023, with the theme 'Horror & Ghost Stories' and features stories from four St Helens based authors.

https://skobeloff.uk/

STEPHANIE | Artist

I have been working with members of the community to explore and understand the importance of connecting with the natural world, and also of our history and heritage and how this informs the way we view both our local area and the wider world beyond.

GRACE COLLINS *(they/them)* **| Artist**

Grace is an artist based in the north west of England. During 2023 they have been part of the HECS residency at Bidston Observatory, exhibited at Castlefield Gallery and Warrington Museum and art gallery, and have supported researchers in co-designing studies around lived experiences of mental health.

@onethousandprinces

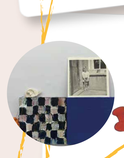
KAREN HITCHCOCK | Graphic Designer / Artist

Karen is a graphics and marketing designer living in St Helens. During 2023 she cut out lino block designs and held a printing workshop as part of 'One Amazing Day'. Her personal work takes inspiration from subjects of well-being and she is currently working on an infographic series of 'Art is Meditation' prints and posters.

IG: @kharicature www.khitchcock.com

MICHAEL ROBINSON | Abstract expressionism

My name is Michael Henry Robinson. I have been working on a lot of abstract pieces during 2023, I have experimented on different types of materials such as cardboard, paper, canvas and wood. I also explore different ways of creating my art by using crayons, oil paints, pencil, acrylic paint and felt tip pens.



WAYNE ROBINSON | Fine Artist/Painter

Wayne recently completed a Phd in painting, his research explored the transitional properties of the painting's edge, quasi-persona, remembering and forgetting and the power of the painting object. Wayne participates in the Fully Awake project, exhibits at the Royal Academy, London and is a tutor at University Centre St Helens.

wrobinson@sthelens.ac.uk

CATHERINE AVARA SINCLAIR

Catherine creates painstakingly detailed models using unspun sheep's wool. She is fascinated by the art of transformation - figures that reference drag and Victorian circus artists are part of her prize-winning previous works. In 2023 she created new work for the St Helens Open exhibition and completed a 5ft tall commission.

@dragdollsuk

KELZA | Artist and writer

Kelza hails from a strange little place called Northern Ireland, but it's safe to say that they've gone native. They discovered Cotton's hotpot and never looked back. They enjoy writing fantasy literature, illustrating it, and painting the things they see while riding their bike.

@kelzadiddle

RAE HITCHCOCK | Clay Sculptor & Creative

Rae is a student living in St Helens currently studying the sciences who loves acting and finding ways to create expressive subjects in their art. Rae makes mini octopi to give out to strangers when out and about and during 2023 took a consortium of octopodes to the Wirral Youth Market to be sold at a stand.

@octopode_consortium

CLAIRE EDDLESTON
Artist working in mental health and innovation

Claire is an artist pushing the use of creativity to improve mental health. Working with the council, NHS, Listening Ear and community groups. Currently in a mentorship with Heart of glass and Carrie Reichardt on the Strong Women project and running a ceramics and pottery painting studio in St.Helens.

@positivelifeworkshops

CAMERON JONES

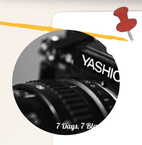
Cameron is a filmmaker and comedian. He stages 'Wool Comedy' nights on the first Thursday of every month at Tank Bar and produced the St Helens Comedy Festival over 9 nights in July. He is developing more documentary filmmaking and is working on his first hour of stand up comedy.

@lightscameronaction
@woolcomedy
@ohgoonthenproductions

THE ELLIS FAMILY | Visual Art

Nicola is a visual artist based in Manchester. In 2023 Nicola exhibited at Pipeline Contemporary, London, received an Arts Council England DYCP grant to support learning digital making processes in relation to ideas of legacy in contemporary art, and completed an Artist Research Fellowship at the Henry Moore Institute, Leeds.

@_nicola_ellis_



JORAM VAN HARTINGSVELDT | Photographer

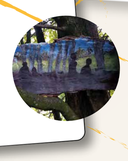
Joram is a photographer and graphic designer who has an ongoing project, titled '7 Days, 7 Photos'. He takes one black and white photo every day, any subject he finds interesting in one way or another. The only rules are: no people, and no explanation.

@7days7photos

LAURENCE WILSON | Writer, Artist and Musician

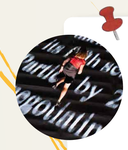
Laurence is an artist, writer and musician based in St Helens. During 2023 I have a gallery of mixed media paintings on permanent display in Restaurant OXA, Birkenhead. My plays are published by Oberon Modern Plays, this year 'Blackberry Trout Face' had a run in Athens, translated to Greek.

soundcloud.com/laurencewilson
deviantart.com/atomrot
goodreads.com/author/show/832615.Laurence_Wilson
Youtube @laserphaser



GILI ARMSON | Artist and Educator

Gili, an artist and Psychotherapist, works with communities across the North West. In 2023 she organised a series of four Creative Walks for Wellbeing producing emotional Land Art, together with individual interpretations of the nature surrounding us. Participants made emotional art and deep connections to themselves and other people.



WONDER ARTS | Children & Families Arts Organisation

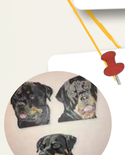
Wonder Arts is a charity based in St Helens which programs artistic activities for children and families. In 2023 they have worked with various community groups and presented artwork at St Helens Pride, delivered projects in schools and devised an outdoor performance that took place at Sutton Manor Woodland.

@wonderarts.nw
www.wonderarts.co.uk

ANGELA WILKINSON | Photographer

Angela is a commercial photographer based in St Helens, Merseyside. She provides high quality creative photography for advertising, editorial, e-commerce and social media working with businesses, organisations and individuals. Her specialist areas include fashion photography, beauty photography, product photography, portrait photography, headshot photography and event photography.

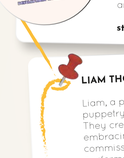
www.angelawilkinsonphotography.com



JIMI FIREFLY ART | Artist

Jim Housley, artist based in Northwest. During 2023 I've been working on portraits, Remembrance painting, silk painting panels commissioned for English Coalfields banner by National Coal Mining Museum also working on giant puppet.

@jim.housley X: @ArtJimi



JANICE JOHNSON | Artist and Illustrator

Janice is an artist and illustrator who specialises in portraiture, animals and mythical subjects. She has taken part in several events during 2023, including attending the 1-2-1 feedback sessions with curators from Open Eye gallery and drawing portraits of people attending the Borough of Culture launch event.

@janrjohnson

HANNAH BOLD | Artist. Maker. Facilitator.

Hannah is an Artist, Designer, Maker and Facilitator working in community arts and theatre. During 2023 she has been part of Imagine Bamboo; exploring bamboo as a sustainable material, designing and creating art installation sculptures and engaging members of the public in creative play with bamboo in its many forms.

FB @BoldArtCreative
www.bold-art.co.uk

TRACEY's PAINTINGS | Artist

Tracey works in oils creating portraits and landscapes. She participated in the first Reside* workshops in March. She is a member of the Art Club meeting on Saturday mornings at World of Glass. She recently created a portrait of Christopher Coffey now in the heritage room at Momo's cafe.

FB: Traceys Paintings

MEGAN JENKINS DESIGN | Artist (Surface Pattern Designer)

Megan is an artist based in St Helens, Merseyside. During 2023 she has been working towards creating her own brand, finally setting up business in late August. Attending markets across the borough, she has been successfully selling her own products and networking, and has now opened her own Etsy shop.

@meganjenkinsdesign
meganjenkinsdesign.co.uk
Etsy: MeganJenkinsDesign

BENJAMINA ALBANESE

Benjamina is a Liverpool-born, St Helens-based writer, performer and creative exploring themes of nature and identity fed by the roots of queerness, disability, and heritage. Sustainability and accessibility are held at the heart of her practice, as well as the importance of gentle activism.

@alittlegreenbea

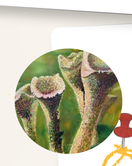
CATH BROOKS

I'm Cath, Health Promotion Officer for Torus Foundation in St Helens, loved working on the Parr Murals with Heart of Glass and enjoy arranging community activities. Art and Crafts are so beneficial for positive mental health. Love Anything arty!

SUE GERRARD | Poet / Writer

Sue has published a second edition of her book 'St. Helens Now and Then', given a series of talks including 'Myths and Legends of St. Helens' and 'My Town, My Inspiration', took part in Heritage Days and held an exhibition featuring photographs and poetry at the Millennium Art Gallery.

www.suegerrard.com



SAUDINA WILSON | Artist

My artwork is influenced by Topophilia, a strong sense of attachment and connection to a particular place. I draw inspiration from the intricate and captivating world of lichen, an often overlooked and under-appreciated organism which embodies a sense of resilience and perseverance, qualities that I find deeply connecting and inspiring.

@saudinaart

ANGELA FRIAR | Writer

I am Angela Friar, a member of The Cut Glass Writers Group. We meet at The World of Glass St. Helens. Recently we have had an anthology published of our work through Cultural Hubs Arts in Libraries St. Helens. I have been involved in Open Mike sessions reading my work.

Member of the Cut Glass Writers Group

EMMA TAYLOR | Arts Engagement Worker

New to Wonder Arts but over 25 years experience running community arts projects. I love to get stuck in & collaborate - crafts, poetry, film... you name it, I've probably dabbled in it & love opportunities to do more.

BUZZ HUB

Artists, filmmakers, writers and performers all attend activities at Buzz Hub, St Helens Coalition for Disabled People. During 2023 they have created a VR museum, made a film about George Groves, made linoprints at their allotment, broadcast a regular radio show and supported writers to be part of an anthology.

sthelenscdp.co.uk

LIAM THOMPSON | Puppet builder

Liam, a puppet builder based in the Northwest, discovered puppetry in 2017 and rekindled the passion a few years later. They create puppets using specialised foam and fleece, embracing spontaneity in their creative process. A Reside* commission saw Liam developing a unique puppet-based performance, aiming to inspire their local community.

@saintly_puppet_workshop

LAURA SCULL | Mark-making Fine Artist

Laura is based in the north west of England. During the year, previous studies from sketchbooks influenced her to revisit past projects that had not discovered their full potential. From drawing, printmaking into sculpture, Laura continues to study the mark-making process in which plaster casting and carving can be influenced.

@artistlaurascull

BRADLEY ROACH | Creative

Bradley Roach is a Performer, Writer and World-builder. Loneliness and Fear is at the heart of the cluttered and disjointed world in which everything comes alive; while its inhabitants ponder their existence. The world is his escape while he questions his entrapment in the corridors of white.

https://sway.office.com/sIQ7IpBd9vyGDztA

NOSAYBA SULIEMAN | Artist

Nosayba, originally from Sudan, recently made the UK her home. She started her artistic journey in 2020, her natural ability for expressing her emotions through art quickly became evident. She has collaborated on the Waiting Room, a series of images using photography and digital paintings to tell human stories.

@nnu_studio

CAROLE LACEY | Poet

Carole is a poet and writer. She is part of the Cut Glass Writers and has contributed poems to their published anthology including 'Raining cats and dogs', 'The man who hated poems' and 'Ode to Stuart'

Member of the Cut Glass Writers Group

CLAIRE WEETMAN | Artist

Claire is an artist based in St Helens. During 2023 she created an enormous spray painted artwork in Sutton Manor with Wonder Arts, found solitude drawing chairs on a residency for mothers at Wild Rumpus and wrote a story about a giant who helps others with her warm blue blankets.

www.claireweetman.co.uk

we Reside* here

Reside* concept: **Claire Weetman**
Graphic Design: **Karen Hitchcock**
Illustrations: **Cady Davies**
Reside* event photography: **Christine Beckett**
All other images copyright the artists unless specified.

With thanks to the following people for supporting commissioned artists and groups during 2023: Owen Hutchings and Jim Valentine-Burrows, Arts in Library Officers; Katie Wade, Heritage Officer; Victoria Brokenshire, Archivist; Claire Weetman, Reside* Lead Artist; FS Creatives, freelance Creative Producers.

Supported using public funding by ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND · ST HELENS BOROUGH COUNCIL · LIVERPOOL CITY REGION COMBINED AUTHORITY · METRO MAYOR LIVERPOOL CITY REGION · ST HELENS BOROUGH OF CULTURE 2023 · Funded by UK Government

November 2023