

News Release 8 September 2020

Art in Practice: School of Creative Arts Alumni Showcase

48 Artists – Over 100 Artworks – Celebrating 20 years of graduate talent

UH Arts is excited to be launching a showcase of works produced by alumni from the School of Creative Arts, University of Hertfordshire. Spanning over 20 years of graduate success, the digital exhibition brings together some of the finest alumni from the School including artists, designers, illustrators and photographers who since graduating have built successful careers within their respective fields.

The exhibition is displayed as four curated films – themed around four different disciplines: Fine Art, Illustration, Contemporary Design Crafts and Photography. These digital galleries are open to visitors on the UH Arts website – www.uharts.co.uk – alongside relevant biographies and artist statements of each exhibitor. The selection of past graduates' work is a celebration of art in a variety of mediums, including painting, drawing, sculpture, print, ceramics, glass and photography.

In addition to the digital showcases, UH Arts is delighted to present 'Meet the Artist' videos and 'Create It Share It' activities delivered by selected alumni artists. 'Meet the Artist' interviews offer glimpses of the artists' practices and studios, whilst 'Create It Share It' projects invite us to take part and get creative. Interviews and activities are launching throughout September and early October on www.uharts.co.uk

Commenting on the Alumni showcase, Head of UH Arts, Annabel Lucas, said, "As new and returning students begin the academic year, we are thrilled to highlight the remarkable talent of our graduates, and hope to inspire our current and future students by showing them what is possible beyond their studies and the successful careers born out of the School of Creative Arts."

One of the artists featured in the exhibition is the renowned sculptor and Fine Art alumna Diane Maclean who spoke about her time as a student and her enduring relationship with the University, "My connection to the University of Hertfordshire began with my Fine Art degree in 1980, bringing about a career change from portrait painting to sculpture. I quickly found national and international recognition and was later invited to teach on the recreational sculpture course. My sculpture *Mountain*, which had been exhibited at the Natural History Museum, was purchased for the University by a donor in 2005, and I have recently donated my sculpture *Diabolo* which will be installed on the de Havilland campus very soon."

Art in Practice and all related activities are part of the *Hertfordshire Year of Culture 2020*. They will be followed by *Design in Practice* in 2021, showcasing more creative disciplines from the School of Creative Arts.

Ends

For further press information or images please contact Hayley Lewis
on 01707 286065 or email h.lewis4@herts.ac.uk

Notes for Editors

Art in Practice: School of Creative Arts Alumni Showcase

Gallery 1: Fine Art

Fine Art exhibition

Meet the Artist: Mary Savva

Create it Share it: Lil Cahill

Gallery 2: Illustration

Illustration exhibition

Meet the Artist: Amandeep Singh aka Ink

Create it Share it: Harry Woodgate

Gallery 3: Contemporary Design Crafts

CDC exhibition

Meet the Artist: Faye Munroe

Create it Share it: Harriet Riddell

Gallery 4: Photography

Photography exhibition

Meet the Artist: Carl Bigmore

Create it Share it: Katie Lupton

Available at www.uharts.co.uk

About UH Arts, University of Hertfordshire

UH Arts offers a vibrant arts and cultural programme for the University of Hertfordshire's campus and local communities, working cross-arts with artists and performers. With a programme of exhibitions, performances, residencies and engagement projects, UH Arts delivers excellent, innovative arts and culture with associated research; offering space for artists and performers to experiment, and audiences to engage and co-produce. Working in collaboration with St Albans Museum + Gallery, and other key partners, UH Arts presents off-campus exhibitions and events, displaying works from around the world in new contexts. For more information, visit www.uharts.co.uk

About the University of Hertfordshire

The University of Hertfordshire brings the transformational impact of higher education to all. Its students, staff and businesses consistently reach their full potential. Through TEF Gold rated expert teaching, 300 flexible degree programmes, cutting-edge research projects and powerful business partnerships, they think bigger, stand out and positively impact local, national and international communities. For information, visit: <https://www.herts.ac.uk/>

About Hertfordshire Year of Culture

HYOC2020 is all about celebrating Hertfordshire as a county of creative and cultural opportunity. It is supported by all 11 Hertfordshire local authorities. The Programme Board has additional representation from the University of Hertfordshire, Visit Herts and Trestle Theatre Company. For further information, please contact the HYOC2020 Project Co-ordinator, Liz Gore at hyoc2020@hertsmere.gov.uk