

# MAKING IT BIG - SYMPOSIUM - SPEAKERS' BIOGRAPHIES

## **Helen Marriage Director Artichoke**

Helen Marriage is a co-director of Artichoke, which she founded with Nicky Webb in 2002. Artichoke is one of the country's leading independent production companies. Having just emerged from a car park in Milton Keynes with Francois Delaroziere's *Magical Menagerie*, the company is hard at work on its next ideas.

Projects in 2009 included the *Lumiere* festival in Durham as well as Antony Gormley's 100-day *One & Other* Fourth Plinth project in Trafalgar Square. The company was responsible for the presentation of Royal de Luxe's *The Sultan's Elephant* on the streets of central London in 2006, Paul St George's *The Telectroscope* and *La Machine* as the highlight of Liverpool's Capital of Culture celebrations in September 2008. Helen's previous work has included a seven-year period as Director of the Salisbury Festival which she transformed from a local event into what *The Times* described as a 'miracle of modern British culture'. Helen went to Salisbury after creating the first Arts & Events programme for the developers of Canary Wharf in London. Prior to that, she was an Associate Director of the London International Festival of Theatre. She began her working life with Artsadmin where she managed a variety of independent artists in the early 1980s.

[www.artichoke.uk.com](http://www.artichoke.uk.com)

## **Sam Wilkinson Public art consultant and Director InSite Arts**

Sam Wilkinson has worked for 15 years as a public art specialist; working with public and private sector clients, developing strategy, policy, curating and developing arts programmes.

With InSite Arts, Sam works as part of design teams within often complex partnerships to deliver site specific work that is an integral part of the public realm. She has supported artists, at all stage of their career and commissioned a wide range of artistic practice, work integrated into the urban fabric, landmark sculpture, temporary and performance work to projects focused on developing awareness and dialogue about the changing landscape. In Bristol she worked within the design team delivering Cabot Circus mixed use development with 7 architects' practices, two main contractors lighting designers and a landscape architects. This development included over 20 permanent works and 10 temporary works and made a major impact on the city centre of Bristol. Engaging with clients, partners and the local community is a vital part of the work of InSite Arts, and Sam is experienced at community liaison work, and negotiation with the diverse parties involved. Sam is currently working with the Contemporary Art Society to project manage two commissions on the Olympic Park for the Olympic Delivery Authority and has recently been appointed as curator working with Neville Gabie, Artist in Residence: the commission runs until 2012.

[www.insitearts.com](http://www.insitearts.com)

## **David Rhys Jones - Artist**

David Rhys Jones trained at Central Saint Martins and has exhibited widely, including the V&A Museum, the Royal Academy of Arts and the Courtauld Institute. He was a Joint winner of the 2010 Jerwood Contemporary Makers Prize. His artworks are a form of social documentary that record the mix of cultures and architecture found in the modern day metropolis. His work is based on journeys or site-specific locations, and recorded using photographs and drawings; these are used to make sculptural, narrative work that reflects the experience of the journey. David is now starting to apply his concept and techniques to a range of materials and to a larger scale. He recently produced a sculpture for Spitalfields. His work can also be seen in Culture Bound East Wing Collection VII at the Courtauld Institute of Art in London.

[www.davidrhysjones.com](http://www.davidrhysjones.com)

## **Claire Catterall - Curator Somerset House Embankment Galleries**

Claire is a curator working within a broad spectrum of the visual arts, but with a special interest in design, including product and furniture design, graphics and illustration, and fashion. She has 20 years experience of working in this field, beginning her career as an independent curator responsible for a number of ground-breaking exhibitions including *Design of the Times*, the Royal College of Art's Centenary exhibition (1996); *Stealing Beauty* at the Institute of Contemporary Art (1999); and *Food: Design and Culture* (1999) for Glasgow 1999. In 2000 she founded the creative consultancy Scarlet Projects with Sarah Gaventa. In their 7 years together they were renowned for their innovative approach to staging exhibitions and events, bringing design and architecture to a wider public audience in a fun and accessible way, and providing a much needed platform for the work of young up and coming designers. Scarlet Projects was responsible for, among many other things, *The Village Fete at the V&A* and the *Super Design Market*.

Claire is currently curator of the Embankment Galleries at Somerset House, where she is responsible for a programme of major exhibitions covering architecture, design, fashion and photography. These have included *Skin and Bones: Parallel Practices in Fashion and Architecture* (2008), *Wouldn't It Be Nice: wishful thinking in Art and Design* (2008), *SHOWstudio: Fashion Revolution*, which took Nick Knight's groundbreaking fashion website as its subject (2009), and *Maison Martin Margiela 20 The Exhibition* (2010). In Spring 2010 The Embankment Galleries presented London's first annual graphic design fair *Pick Me Up*, which will be repeated as an annual event. The current exhibition is *Dior Illustrated: René Gruau and the Line of Beauty*, which showcases the work of the renowned fashion illustrator.

## **Andy Hazell - Film maker, automata maker and public artist**

Andy is a maker who works mainly to commission - turning his hand to anything from shooting films to making automata or designing large scale iconic public artworks. A subversive sense of humour characterises most of his works from his small tin city sculptures and automata to his articulated aluminium 'sea-bass' car and his neon-lit clock tower that responds to wind speeds and phases of the moon.

[www.andyhazell.co.uk](http://www.andyhazell.co.uk)

**The Making** is a craft development agency based in Hampshire. It specialises in running participatory craft education programmes and events. It also manages public art commissions.

#### **Simon Taylor - Education Manager, The Making**

Simon has experience as a professional contemporary ceramicist and has taught in colleges in the South East, working with a wide range of students including children with special needs, prisoners and young offenders. Simon has a MA in Museums and Galleries in Education from the Institute of Education (University of London) and a BA Honours degree in Wood, Metal, Ceramics and Plastics from the University of Brighton.

#### **Jenny Bethell, Business and Events Manager The Making**

Jenny is a glass maker who graduated in 3D Design from the University College for the Creative Arts, Farnham. She specialises in deep fused polished work and has exhibited work in Henley and Odiham, Hampshire. Jenny is also an accountant and has worked for both accountancy practices and in business.

[www.themaking.org.uk](http://www.themaking.org.uk)

#### **Lucy Fergus Artist**

Lucy Fergus, an Alumni of Cockpit Arts, designs and produces bespoke eco-conscious products and installations made from industrial rubber off-cuts. Public participation and enthusiasm are integral to her practice which led her to public art projects such as the Elephant Parade London 2010 and the Crafts Council's COLLECT Trail. Dedicated to raising awareness for re-use through creativity, Lucy has also coordinated and run Re-silicone accessories workshops with Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, the City of London Festival, the Royal Artillery Museum and Surrey Council.

[www.re-silicone.co.uk](http://www.re-silicone.co.uk)

#### **Keith Khan Director/Designer**

Keith Khan is an artist, director and designer. Ten years of creating carnival in Notting Hill and Trinidad taught Keith the value of working from within a community to generate spectacle. These "mas camp" skills have been scaled up and applied to the delivery of major later works, including the *Commonwealth Parade* for the Queen's Golden Jubilee in 2002, and his 3d and costume design for the Central Show in the Millennium Dome.

Keith has created a number of seminal events that are site specific or engage with technology and digital media. These include projects such as *Coming of Age* and *Escapade* with Akademi, *Alladeen* with New York based company The Builders Association, and his work as Director of Design for the Manchester Commonwealth Games.

Keith created the company motiroti, with Ali Zaidi, which was successful in delivering numerous early projects. Later roles include, Chief Executive of Rich Mix, a multi-million pound new build arts venue in East London, which he opened in 2004, and Head of

Culture for the London 2012 Olympic Games from 2006 - 2008. Keith currently leads Keith Khan Associates, a creative company which connects public organisations, commercial partners and participant communities. London based, with international reach, Keith Khan Associates reflects the UK's diversity through its creative partnerships. Keith Khan Associates is currently developing a range of projects including **L'île de Londres** - a weekend of Londoness with a twist for Lille3000 (3,4,5 December 2010), and major season of contemporary Caribbean inspired work.

[www.keithkhanassociates.com](http://www.keithkhanassociates.com)

### **Symposium Chair Simon Fraser**

Simon Fraser is MA Course Director MA Design Ceramics Furniture or Jewellery at Central St. Martins College of Art and Design.

Simon Fraser has worked in and around jewellery as a designer, design manager and consultant, maker, performer, writer, critic, broadcaster and teacher for over 25 years. Graduating from Sheffield Hallam University during the early 1980s, he set up his own business in Scotland making large-scale nylon jewellery that found success within the fashion and high design worlds. After some years Fraser moved his business to London. Following an MA at the Royal College of Art, and, after a long term interest in performance and curiosity about why the role of a jeweller seemed so constrained, Fraser started working on small performance events, culminating in 1991 with 'Alchemy with a Piano' at the ICA, London, where an entire domestic piano was transformed into jewellery during a 24 hour period by a team of three. Alongside performance Fraser worked as a consultant and designer for other jewellery businesses and entered teaching, both in Silversmithing, Jewellery and Art and Design BA Hon degree courses. Simon was a senior tutor for 14 years at Buckinghamshire Chilterns University College, High Wycombe, on its Designed Metalwork and Jewellery BA course.

Simon now runs the MA Design: Ceramics, Furniture & Jewellery for Central Saint Martins College of Art & Design, London. He also co-ordinates and has directed consultancies with the students for high level design led companies. Simon Fraser's own work is in a number of major private and public collections including The National Museum of Scotland and the Victoria & Albert Museum.

### **Margaret Benton - Director The Making**

Margaret has - with her team and board of trustees - developed The Making over the last 7 years into a leading craft education agency. Margaret is an experienced arts manager. She was previously the Director of the V&A's Theatre Museum where she established the National Video Archive of Performance, substantially enhanced the collections, created a team of gallery animators/performers and produced many exhibitions. She has also worked as Deputy Director of the National Media Museum, Bradford, and for ten years, as a BBC Television producer/director.

**Also attending the symposium will be representatives from leading Street Art and Carnival Companies, who will be available to talk to delegates about work with their companies:**

### **Deb Mullins - Artistic Director Emergency Exit Arts**

Deb Mullins is founder member of Emergency Exit Arts (EEA) and has been integral to the organisation's development. Since 1980 EEA has been a leading light in celebratory and spectacular outdoor events throughout the UK and internationally. Its artists are renowned for building large-scale mechanical vehicles and other show-stopping sculptures. Deb also runs numerous training courses for teachers and artists.

[www.eea.org.uk](http://www.eea.org.uk)

### **Ali Pretty Artistic Director - Kinetika**

Ali Pretty is the founding member and artistic director of Kinetika. Kinetika's team of professional artists works alongside young people to design and produce large-scale spectacular shows that retain the essence of carnival whilst telling a story. Ali is a well-known carnival designer and director. She works internationally including designing for the FIFA CWC Opening and Closing ceremonies in Abu Dhabi in 2009. In Britain she designed three winning bands for Notting Hill Carnival in 1998, 1999 and 2004 as well as designing costumes for the opening of the Millennium Dome.

[www.kinetikaonline.co.uk](http://www.kinetikaonline.co.uk)

### **Clary Salandy Artistic Director - Mahogany**

Clary is a carnival and theatre designer, lecturer and three dimensional design tutor. She is known for her award winning carnivalesque work which has featured prominently in many international events. Mahogany is a group of multi-disciplinary artists who design and create large scale kinetic sculptures/carnival costumes utilising the human body in the art form of "Mas Making", Masquerade or Street Theatre. The group was created by Clary with structural engineer Michael Ramdeen to develop techniques of costume design and construction and to heighten the understanding of Carnival and Carnival Arts.

[www.mahogancarnival.com](http://www.mahogancarnival.com)

### **Charles Beauchamp - Director Mandinga**

Charles trained as a painter and printmaker in London and Paris. For the last 20 years Charles and his partner Julieta Rubio have designed and created award-winning giant puppets, costumes, masks and floats for carnivals, festivals, community projects and theatre. They have collaborated with circus, carnival, dance and community groups across many parts of the world. Their on-going exploration into creative design, and their cross-cultural collaboration with other artists, musicians and choreographers, has given them many opportunities to develop their artistic vision and to extend the boundaries of carnival art. Their studios, based in South London, are also used at regular intervals for community art workshops.

[www.mandingaarts.co.uk](http://www.mandingaarts.co.uk)