



PRESS RELEASE

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18.10.11

Broomhill National Sculpture Prize 2011 Results

Following a successful Summer Exhibition that displayed new pieces from 10 sculptors, the judging panel (comprising internationally acclaimed artists/sculptors Tim Shaw, Rob Ryan, Carol Peace and Nigel Minard - Head of Art at West Buckland) came together this month to select the winning piece.

The Ten short-listed sculptors were carefully selected by the judging panel at the beginning of this year. Each of the ten finalists were given a £1,000 budget and 3 months to turn their proposed idea into an inspiring finished piece for the Exhibition.

The judges favourite and winner of the Broomhill NSP 2011 title is '**Uncertain Futures: Larder**' by Suzanne Hobbs.

"Suzanne's monumental sculpture was chosen for its fantastic interaction with the landscape, providing viewers with a very exciting experience. The piece was beautifully executed with a social awareness angle, tying in with the enclosed trapped emotion of the time we live in. We're delighted with the outcome, Suzanne put great thought and effort into her piece and is truly deserving of the 2011 title. Many thanks to our sponsors and judges for their support in making this possible." **Quote from Rinus van de Sande**

Suzanne says *"My work is inspired by years working on an organic farm in North Devon and recognising the earths fragile nature. Climate change; food scarcity; conflict over resources, have become international news staples, yet in our consumer society, the importance of our environment to our own survival appears forgotten. Being selected to create a sculpture for the NSP Competition has given me the chance to communicate my fears and anxieties through the voice of my work."* [full statement below]

Every visitor to the exhibition had the opportunity to vote for their favourite sculpture, this activity proved as popular as ever! The sculpture that captured visitors attention the most this year and winner of the 'Public Speaks' title is **Endless Curve** by Wenqin Chen, also awarded a '**special commendation**' by the judges for creating an uplifting, open, positive, healing, well executed sculpture that has the right spirit and powerful inspiration in a difficult time.

"The sculpture Endless Curve represents open-mindedness, invention and space for innovative thinking. I would like to thank the NSP team, all the visitors and public voters. All the reputation and success I have achieved is due to their understanding and support. Thank you!" **Quote from Wenqin Chen**

Suzanne will be awarded with a cheque and trophy at the NSP Award Evening on Thur 17th Nov. This event is open to the public. Enjoy acoustic music from Jenna Witts & Amy Newton, plus a delicious Mediterranean Buffet, tickets are £10pp.

National Sculpture Prize 2012 - Registration opens this month!

The registration period for the 2012 NSP opens soon. Those wishing to take part can register their interest on our website now.

ENDS

For an insight into this year's finalist sculptures click [here](#)

Notes to editors:

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Suzanne Hobbs Statement

"The installation I have created for the Broomhill National Sculpture Prize 2011 is part of a body of work entitled Uncertain Futures. My work is inspired by years working on an organic farm in North Devon and recognising the earth's fragile nature. Climate change; food scarcity; conflict over resources, have become international news staples, yet in our consumer society, the importance of our environment to our own survival appears forgotten.

Being selected to create a sculpture for the NSP Competition has given me the chance to communicate my fears and anxieties through the voice of my work. Taking part in the event has generated a conversation between me and visitors to the sculpture garden. This has been the most exciting part of the whole process. Like a virus conversations spread.

Now I am greeted with the amazing news that my work has been selected by my peers as the overall winner of the competition and will remain in the garden. I am very honoured and delighted to be part of such an inspiring and creative space. As an emerging artist my brain is stacked with work I want to produce and Broomhill has given me the opportunity to do this. The prize money will be invaluable in allowing me to continue to develop my practice and build on this achievement.

Many thanks to Broomhill Arts Hotel and Sculpture Garden. If you haven't visited yet you are missing out!"

Suzanne Hobbs • Uncertain Futures: Larder (suzannehobbs.blogspot.com)

This installation has been brewing in my mind for some years, alongside mounting international concerns over food security. The work utilizes concrete to symbolise dominance and conflict. Applied in a domestic setting, concrete challenges our sense of comfort and wellbeing; it juxtaposes the re-assurance of the food larder with the anxiety of the emergency shelter. Inspired by the words of George Monbiot Man is just 4 missed meals from social unrest, the piece is stark, uncanny, a memorial to our past, present and future.

Biography suzannejhobbs@btinternet.com, 01271 891100

Suzanne Hobbs lives and works on her family's organic farm in North Devon. She graduated with a first class degree in Fine Art from Plymouth University. Suzanne describes herself as an environmental activist/artist. She uses her creative skills as her voice, to communicate her fears and anxieties over Climate Change. She has exhibited widely including: The International Climate Forum, London; Shoreditch Town Hall; The Genesis Centre, Somerset, and Appledore Arts Festival. She has acted as a workshop leader at many schools and art events, raising awareness with the next generation.

Wenqin Chen Statement

Endless Curve (wenqinchen.blogspot.com)

"I love to capture historical events or cultural situations from the present and past. I use my emotions and intellect to create the final object. The sculpture Endless Curve represents global open-mindedness, invention and space for innovative thinking."

Biography chenfineart@hotmail.com

Wenqin Chen is a member of the Professional Sculpture Committee of China. He completed his MA in sculpture at the Winchester School of Art in 2004. In the meantime as an artist he obtained a resident permit to work between China and Britain. He has recently exhibited in group and solo shows nationally and internationally.

NSP Background:



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The **Broomhill Art and Sculpture Foundation** launched the '[Broomhill National Sculpture Prize](#)' with an annual prize fund of £15,000 in 2009 to provide an exciting challenge for new and emerging UK based sculptors.

Opening Times: Open all year (Mon-Sun) • 11:00 until 16:00 (16:00 is the last admission time)
The final ten sculptures are now on display at Broomhill until April 2012. The Sculpture Park is open all year Mon – Sun, 11am – 4pm. Adults £4.50, Concessions (unwaged and senior citizens) £3.50, Young Persons (15 years old and under) £1.50, Family Ticket (2 Adults and 2 Young People) £10.

Admission prices: Adults £4.50, Concessions (unwaged and senior citizens) £3.50, Young Persons (15 years old and under) £1.50, Family Ticket (2 Adults and 2 Young People) £10

Sponsors:

Thanks to Bray Leino, Parker Hannifin Ltd, Proof, North Devon Hospice, North Devon Festival and Castle Fine Arts Foundry for their support.

Images:

Please see attached to email

For further information please contact:

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