

CV Debi Retallick BA Hons

77 Roman Way, Farnham, Surrey, GU9 9RG Tel: 01252 733572 M: 07970430561
redretallick@hotmail.com www.metalmonkeys.org www.artsnet.co/debi

Projects

July/August 2011- **Metal Monkeys SAFE Metal Pilot Project, Liverpool**

Metal Monkeys were commissioned by Safe productions Ltd to deliver professional development for Safe Productions and lead on a creative consultation with Alternative Futures Group Independent Hospital in Warrington. I was involved in project management & delivery of the following outcomes:

- A casting workshop for 9 artists
- A public Performance Iron Pour @ Abbey Court Independent Hospital
- The production of 8 cast iron sculptures for the garden at Abbey Court Hospital
- Training in working with people experiencing dementia
- Consultation workshops with dementia patients

June 2010- **Metal Monkeys; Celebrating Surrey Arts Festival**

We delivered a public Performance Iron Pour public and mould making workshops at Surreys first large scale arts festival at Loseley Park, Guildford. The metal monkey members were mentored in running their furnace as a 'tap out' furnace and mould making for the performance element of the Iron Pour.

January - March 2010 **Surrey County Arts**, Junior Arts School; 'playful portraits'
June 2007 Junior Arts School; Pilot Project

At The Lightbox, Woking, A very experimental series of sessions for young people. The project focused on exploring the theme of 'playful portraits' in felt, sculpture, drawing, painting and collage.

At the Surrey History Centre, Woking, as part of a pilot project for a series of junior art school sessions for 7 – 11 yr olds, enabling them to explore new ways of working with materials and giving them the opportunity to work with a practicing artist.

May 2009 - **Metal Monkeys; Iron Monkeys Project**

Metal Monkeys secured a Grant for the Arts (ACE) to set up a transportable foundry facility for developing the arts practice of its members & working with the community. As part of the management committee I was involved in project Management & delivery of the following:

- A casting workshop for 12 artists that also enabled them to take part as crew in an Iron Pour.
- 103 new cast iron sculptures were made as a result of this project that included the involvement of a local school and arts organisations Creative Response & Art Scape, creating 40 cast iron medals based on the theme of inspiration.
- The launch of Metal Monkeys, with our first community arts event, featuring a Public Iron Pour with an attendance of 305 people.

May 2006 – February 2009 **Hartsleap Independent Hospital, Sandhurst**

Creative Therapy; working with dementia and secure mental health units, I delivered projects with a person centred approach. Each patient developed a body of art work inspired by their own areas of interest and I curated an annual exhibition of the work produced which took place in the hospital building.

2006 – 2007 **Priory Hospital, Farmfield, Charlwood**

Creative Therapy; working with forensic mental health secure units and occupational therapists on a weekly basis I facilitated group projects as well as providing a framework for individual work with five wards across the hospital.

June 2004- February 2006 **Community Integrated Care**

Community Integrated Care is a national charity providing social care for many vulnerable people groups. Working in partnership with The Arts Exchange I provided arts based interventions as part of an inclusion programme for Staff and service users (people with mental health and learning difficulties) The programme aimed to promote self-expression and confidence enabling the voice of the 'service user' to be heard within the organisation and reflected back to the management systems.

January 2003 - October 2003- **The Lockwood Day Centre, Guildford**

Working within the textiles studio I designed and lead 2 projects:

A 'shibori' project, participants explored resist dyeing techniques overworked with screen prints on the theme of mark making. The textiles were then made into cushions and scarves for sale at the Guildford Festival where 50% of the products sold and further orders were taken.

A felt making project, participants designed their own bag three dimensionally with paper and then explored the felt making process translating their design into an original felt piece.

January '96 - July '98 - **Monsoon**

A commission with the prestigious chain of retail outlets 'Monsoon': two main contracts were successfully completed resulting in the design and production of over 300 original works of art for window display. The works produced involved textile and metal work processes and were installed in 40 stores internationally, including the flagship stores of London and Paris.

On-going work

January 2000 – Present **Creative Response** (working with vulnerable adults in Surrey)

My current role is to facilitate the creative development of participants, providing direction and stimulus from my arts practice. I currently lead the Wednesdays & Thursday groups in Farnham.

In addition to this I regularly curate exhibitions of participants work and lead on special projects that sometimes involve partner organisations.

Residencies

February 2011- **St Mary's Infant School, Frensham, Farnham:**

- Children aged 7 -11 created weavings which were joined together to make a wall hanging for a medieval banquet as part of their Tudor project.

November 2010 & July 2009 – **Farnham Art & Design Education Group**

- Folly Hill Infant School, Farnham: Involving Farnham teachers & 90 children at Folly Hill School the outcome was a giant paper mache installation within the wildlife garden at the school.
- Barfield Primary school, Farnham: The creation of an installation, in response to the space between a small coppice of trees, using wire armatures and Paper Mache. This

involved teachers from Farnham schools and was developed as a framework for students at the school to respond to.

September – November 2009 Artist in Residence @ Heath End School, Farnham

- Feelings through forms: Year 11 students explored three dimensional forms and the human condition. Using language to explore emotions and interpreting them into 3D plasticine maquettes. These studies developed into sculptures carved in soap stone and became part of GCSE coursework. Some of the students gained their highest marks for this element of their exam work.

July 2009 - Treloar College, Alton, Hampshire

- A collaborative sculptural work was made responding to their arts week theme of future. A 'gateway to the future' involved 30 students with disabilities, each communicating their hopes and vision for possible futures.

June 2009 - St Andrews Infant School, Farnham

- A relief sculpture workshop that provided a symbol for transition as the students moved from their school to junior school. Each student made their own image in clay which was then cast in plaster and displayed alongside each other to leave their mark on the school as they moved on.

July 08 - Englefield Infant School

- Involving a paper mache 'master class' for teachers and parents to enable them to deliver an ambitious project across the whole school resulting in a collection of large scale paper mache animals for a sculpture trail within the school grounds.

Feb 2005 - Creative Partnerships/ St Anthony's Primary School in slough

- Titled 'practical worship' this involved the creation of prayer cloths in hand made felt, for use in the school classrooms. The Creative Partnerships project aimed to bring teachers, young people and artists together in a framework of partnerships from a range of schools in slough.

June 2002 – 2004 Reading Museum Service

- I provided professional development workshops for PGCE Students and practicing teachers as part of the craft education development programme 'Making it work' run by Reading Museum service. The workshops explored of the art of felt making and application to the National Curriculum.

May 2004 - Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

- SIGHTLINES Contemporary Visual Arts Festival; working with three secondary schools in Basingstoke, students explored the idea of 'painting' with felt and translating drawings of organic forms into three dimensional felt forms.

March 2004 - Mary Hare Grammar School for the Deaf, Newbury

- An introduction to felt making for year 12 students and the development of personal project work, to form part of AS Level project work.

Workshops

September 2011- Bells Piece Cheshire Home, Farnham

- I enabled a group of 10 people with disabilities to engage with felt making, producing egg cosy's as development work for Simply Unique day care service.

August 2011 - Guildford Borough Council

- As part of the 'FISH' Summer Play scheme I delivered a plaster casting workshop for young people.

2009 - 2011 - **Farnham Maltings**

- Felt Making & Paper Mache workshops: On-going workshops that feature as part of The Maltings workshop programme, exploring techniques used in my arts practice.

2009 – 2011 – **West End Centre, Aldershot**

- Felt Making & Paper Mache workshops: On-going workshops that feature as part of The West End Centres workshop programme, exploring techniques used in my arts practice.

October 2010 - **The Key, Pupil Referral Unit; Newbury:**

- A one day workshop with excluded young people exploring Paper Mache sculpture.

May 2009 – **'Gems' Cohesion Youth Project, Farnham**

- A felt workshop for 14 girls as a 'taster day' to engage creatively, making a small felt painting, creating their own colour story. The individual felt paintings will be felted together to create a collaborative work.

February 2009 - **The Bullpen Art Centre, Oxfordshire**

- Wool sculpture workshop: A one week workshop, enabling participants to create felt sculpture using non-traditional methods, carving into polystyrene to create forms, felting around found objects and designing templates.

Education

1995 Guildford College Of Further and Higher Education.
City and Guilds; 730 Teaching Certificate.

1991-1994 The Surrey Institute of Art and Design
Textile Design BA (Hons)

1990-1991 Kent Institute of Art and Design
Foundation Diploma

1988-1990 Thanet Technical College
BTEC First Diploma in Art and Design: MERIT
A Level Art

1983-1988 The Ramsgate School, Ramsgate, kent.
8 GCSE'S

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Kansas State University, Kansas USA, September 2007

The university 'Friends and Neighbours' iron pour event. I spent two weeks working alongside students, making patterns (the original sculpture) and exploring the mould making processes including working with ceramic shell for the first time.

Fine Art Cast Iron Workshops, March 2006, July 2007, August 2009

I attended three ten day courses at The Bullpen, Oxfordshire, alongside 10 artists. I had my first experience of pouring iron and introduction to pattern and mould making processes. I was impacted by the way the group functioned and how the learning was multiplied by the collaboration of each others art practice.

Community Arts Training Scheme - Surrey County Arts, April 2006

A four day course looking at project management, how to run workshops, consultation with arts development officers and arts council, how to write funding bids, marketing, evaluation and understanding diversity.

Exhibitions

- June 2011: Cornucopia, Life the Gallery, Farnham
- May 2011 and 2009: Arlington Arts Centre, Mary Hare School for the Deaf, Newbury.
- July 2010: International Cast Iron Conference, Kidwelly, Wales
- 2010, 2009 and 2008: Surrey Artists Open Studios at The Kiln, Badshot Lea, Farnham.
- 2008: Sculpture Featured in 'Lewis' ITV Series 2, Episode 4 'The Great & the Good' at The Ashmolean Museum, Oxford.
- 2008: West Wales School of Art, Carmarthen.
- 2006, 2007 and 2009: The Bullpen Gallery, Oxfordshire. Creative Response, Farnham.
- 2004: 'Triband', Cranleigh Art Centre.
- 2001: 'Awakenings', Farnham Maltings.
- 2000: 148 Show, Notting Hill Arts Club, London.
- 2000 – 2011: Summer Shows, Creative Response, Farnham.

Vocational Experience

1995 - 2002 Magma

Magma is an arts organisation working to develop creativity in all disciplines and with all people groups: grown out of the recognition that the arts are an extraordinary way of exploring our lives, both spiritually and physically. *My role was to develop people in the visual arts; facilitating creativity and the exploration of ideas.* Magma functioned as a one-week event for artists. Internationally, we have run events in France and have taken magma to Sweden, Spain and Bratislava. We have also worked with children in Romania and lead a 2 week workshop in a Palestinian Village, working with children in a conflict situation. www.pioneer.org.uk/magma