



# North Devon Arts

"building the arts in north devon"

June '06 newsletter

**Next NDA Speaker, SANDY BROWN- Thursday, June 15th, 8.00pm.**

**Broomhill Art Hotel. To book the splendid buffet at 7.00pm, ring 01271805262**



This work is the centrepiece of the ninth Appledore Visual Arts Festival, the annual festival which is rapidly becoming one of the significant art events of the south-west.

The theme of the Festival this year is Ritual Feasts, linking with Sandy Brown's project.

This project is generously funded by Arts Council England South West.

Sandy's exhibition is open to the public from June 1 – July 24<sup>th</sup> 2006 and after that by appointment only.

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

[www.appledorearts.org](http://www.appledorearts.org)

## Ritual:

### The Still Point and The Dance

A major installation of large-scale contemporary ceramics and paintings, incorporating a tea ceremony room.

Of Sandy Brown it has been said that she is a true originator; that there is no-one quite like her; and that she has been a catalytic liberating influence on European ceramics. And with this new show you can see why.

This major body of new work, **Ritual: The Still Point and The Dance**, has been two years in the making and is technically and creatively challenging, in which Sandy Brown has had to overcome the collapse of several pieces in the making, and in which she has discovered new methods of managing large-scale ceramic pieces.

Sandy Brown burst on to the British ceramics scene in the late seventies and made a huge impact with her lusty way of handling clay, her (for the time) outrageous use of colour, her bold, sensual decoration; shaking up the rather staid world of pottery. Her 1980's touring exhibition, **Sandy Brown, The Complete Picture**, showed a completely new approach to ceramics. Because she has not been through the British art college system, but instead started in Japan, she brings a totally new take on ceramics, what it can express and what it can be. **This is a unique opportunity to hear Sandy talk about her way of working and the route taken to create, fund and bring to fruition, a major body of work.**



### Sandy in her fantastic studio, The Old Glove Factory, Appledore.

She and Patrick have brought this building to life again, injecting their energies into the light, enormous space.

Anyone visiting, please note the size of the kiln Sandy has made specially, enabling her to create the large pieces she is famous for.

*Photograph by NDA member  
John Andow*

# ART TREK

*Open Studios*  
*16th - 19th June*  
*11.00 am - 6.00 pm*

Many of the artists taking part in this Open Studios event are members of NDA and all will be welcoming you into their homes and their various venues, to have a cup of tea and a chat. Please support your fellow members by taking up their offer.

This is a friendly event with no emphases on buying – just a chance to see artists in action, producing, showing and talking about their work.

The Queen's Theatre, Gallery Café, Barnstaple, will be hosting an Art Trek exhibition throughout June, representing all the participating artists, giving an idea of the calibre of work you will encounter on your 'trek'.

The Art Trek leaflet will be available locally, showing each artist's work, plus a directional map to help you find their venues, many situated in North Devon's most enchanting villages and landscapes. Please tell your friends - there are other things to do that weekend if Ocean Fest and surfing are not for you!

More information about the artists involved, their work and their venues, on the North Devon Festival website; <http://www.northdevonfestival.org/events/arttrek.html>

**Or contact; [stella.levy@virgin.net](mailto:stella.levy@virgin.net)**

**Art Trek is supported by Devon Artsculture and the North Devon Festival.**

## EXHIBITION

### **in the mix - at Rosemoor Gardens, Torrington**

**Devon Artsculture Artists will be showing their work in the gallery at Rosemoor, from Saturday 27th May - Sunday 11th June.**

There is an evening preview on Friday 26th May, from 6 - 8pm. Drinks provided and music from the great blues musician Jim Crawford. All this for free! – normally a £5.50 charge to enter the gardens

NDA members and friends would be most welcome.

**Devon Artsculture** aims to develop and promote North Devon Artists. For details of the exhibition and how the scheme can help you, contact;

Sadie Green on; [devart@beaford-arts.co.uk](mailto:devart@beaford-arts.co.uk)

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Please note;

The last two days for helping Emily & joining in with

'A Walk in the Woods'

are, Sunday 28th & Monday 29th May

See next page for all the details!

# 'A Walk in the Woods'

## Emily Garnham Wright will be creating a large, temporary textile in Pickwell Manor woods

**Emily Garnham Wright, working with North Devon Arts (NDA), will be creating a large, temporary textile in the Pickwell Manor woods, at Georgeham, as part of the North Devon Festival.**

As well as the public days, Emily is working with Georgeham Schoolchildren in their school and in the woodland site, encouraging them to help, but also produce their own work. The public, other artists and NDA members are invited to Pickwell Manor woods, to help 'sew' this temporary textile installation.

Please see the NDA, Devon Artsculture and Festival websites in May and June to see up dates on the progress of Emily's installation; [www.northdevonfestival.org](http://www.northdevonfestival.org) or [www.northdevonarts.co.uk](http://www.northdevonarts.co.uk)

### 14th May

#### **First Public Day at Pickwell Manor woods.**

This went extremely well. Set in fantastic surroundings, looking out to sea, Pickwell Manor Woods was certainly the right place to be on Sunday. Various NDA members came along to join in, **Sarah Wharf, with her son Arthur** (one of our youngest, active members), **Judith and Richard Westcott, Tim Saunders**, who immersed himself in sketching and **John Andow**, who very kindly took photographs of the project. I just enjoyed trying to work with the cottons Emily supplied, weaving myself amongst the threads already left by others and trying to see where to make my mark on the textile. *Stella Levy.*

#### **Next Free Public Days**

**Sunday 28th May 12.00 am – 5.00 pm**

Pickwell Manor woods.

**Monday 29th May 11.00 am – 4.00 pm**

Pickwell Manor woods.

**Emily would be delighted if the public, NDA members and other local artists could join her over the Whitsun weekend, to help make this creation in the woods.**

#### **Directions to Pickwell Manor Woods.**

From Braunton, follow the coast road passing Saunton Sands Hotel on the left into Croyde. Go through Croyde Village following the road round a sharp right hand bend heading towards Georgeham. Carry on the road until enter Georgeham. Turn left down Netherhams Hill, at the T junction turn left towards Putsborough. Past the school on the right. Take the first right towards Pickwell. At the bottom of the hill the road turns to the right but Pickwell Manor is directly in front. Through the main entrance, past Pickwell Manor Farm and the Manor House is at the top of the drive. Look for '**A Walk in the Woods**' and **North Devon Festival** signs.

**Sunday 11th June, 2.30 pm - 5.00 pm**

Public Day at Georgeham Village Hall.

This is also a free event. Refreshment available.

**Georgeham Village Hall is hosting work by all artists involved with North Devon Arts, 'A Walk in the Woods'.**

There will be a film by **Hugh Hartford** and poetry written by **Frances Thompson**, works created in response to Emily Garnham Wright's textile installation in Pickwell Manor Woods. Also included are photos of Emily's project and work from the Georgeham schoolchildren who were involved in the May workshops.

**Wanted - Artists** to respond creatively to the surroundings of the woods and Emily's installation. This could take a variety of forms; photography, drawing and painting, sound recording and music making, writing etc: as long as it doesn't disturb the wildlife! Any work produced would either be shown at an invitation only, finale evening at Pickwell Manor Woods on May 31<sup>st</sup> or on the free, public day at Georgeham Village Hall on June 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Ros Osbourn's** ceramic fishes will hang from the trees and **Tim Saunders** will be painting in the woods during the project. Other artists may feel this could be a great opportunity to be involved in an innovative, high profile project. **Devon Artsculture** is commissioning two artists, film-maker, **Hugh Hartford**, who will film the project over two days and poet, **Frances Thompson**, who will respond with her 'take' on the project, as the installation takes shape.

'A Walk in the Woods' is funded by **LEADER + (Arts Action)**, sponsors and partners are; **Devon Artsculture, North Devon Festival, AONB Biosphere** and is kindly being hosted by **Gerry Bonnici** at **Pickwell Manor.**

<http://www.pickwellmanor.co.uk/index.html>

**For further information on 'A Walk in the Woods' contact;**

**Stella Levy, project co-ordinator**

**01769 574441 or [stella@widgerystudios.com](mailto:stella@widgerystudios.com)**

## 'The Small (Square) Picture Show' at Broomhill Art Hotel.

*Being held as part of the North Devon Festival*

**PREVIEW - Sunday, 4th June at 3.00pm.**

**Followed by the NDA AGM - Sunday, 4th June at 4.00pm.**

This show is once again highlighted in the North Devon Festival brochure and on their website;

**[www.northdevonfestival.org](http://www.northdevonfestival.org)**

It would help if members were able to promote the show to their own friends, clients, neighbours etc: The more people through the doors the more chance of sales happening. Drag them screaming and kicking to the preview!

Delivery date: **Thursday, 1st June 14.00am - 18.00pm**

Help with hanging required: **Friday, 2nd June, 10.00am** onwards.

Exhibition Opens: **Saturday, 3rd June.**

*(Please check these dates in your diary, as we sent out some wrong data!)*

**Private View - Sunday 4th June**

(to coincide with the AGM at 4.00 pm)

**Exhibition closes: Sunday, 2nd July**

Collection of unsold work **Monday 3rd July, 11.00 - 16.00pm**

(Please note that all work not collected by that date will incur a daily storage cost from Broomhill).

**A record number of entries have been received and the quality of work is looking good.**

**Entry now closed.**

## Call for a textile artist

The accordion group, Atlantis Accordionaires that Ros and Geoff Osbourn play with, want to commission a textile designer to make waistcoats for the group. They would like to have an input into the design and work closely with the designer.

This would entail the designer holding some workshops with them, getting some of their ideas on to paper, then adapt these ideas into a waistcoat design and make the finished garments for them.

The group will probably apply for funding from the Arts Action, LEADER +; the grant scheme NDA keeps going on about. *(See below).*

Any interested artists wanting to discuss further details should contact; Ros Osbourn at;

**[rosgo@btinternet.com](mailto:rosgo@btinternet.com)**

Please look at the group's website (*which incidentally, Ros designed - is there no end to her talents!*)

**[www.ouraccordions.co.uk](http://www.ouraccordions.co.uk)**

## INFORMATION

### Arts Action LEADER +

**A funding scheme for community groups to enable them to commission professional artists for their projects.**

Please can any of you get an application together for your/a community event?

This scheme is not getting enough applications and is in danger of being withdrawn - which would be a disaster for the area's professional artists'!

See the form on: <http://pagemonger.com/nda/leader.doc>

Lisa Downie at LEADER + administers the fund and is very helpful - do give her a ring.

## Literary events running at Barnstaple Library in June

### Henry Williamson Room. John Siddique - From One Reader to Another

Thursday 1 June, 7.30 pm. Tickets: £3.00

John Siddique brings insight, humour, emotion and his infectious love and knowledge of poetry to the "Ultimate Top 10" list of Faber poetry books as chosen by readers.

### Medieval Murderers

Wednesday 7th June, 7.30 pm. Tickets: £5.00

World famous authors, Michael Jecks, Philip Gooden and Ian Morson, founder members of the Medieval Murderers will discuss what tempted them into a life of crime, how they set the scene, writing in general and much, much more. Join them for an evening of entertaining conversation.

### Local Writers Evening

Tuesday 13th June, 7.30 pm. Tickets: £3.00 (concessions £2.00)

An evening of varied offerings as local writers, augmented by some guest appearances, read out a mostly light-hearted melange of stories, poems and other unclassified items, all intended to tickle a wide range of palates.

To purchase a ticket for each of the 3 events would be £10

Contact; Sarah Cotton

Barnstaple Lending Library

01271 388591.

## EXHIBITION

### *Felicitas Vogler: World of Light*

Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art. 6th May – 9th July. Admission free.

**Felicitas Vogler was married to one of Britain's greatest artists, Ben Nicholson, but she is also a celebrated photographer in her own right.**

Born in Germany, she began her career as a writer and photographer. In 1957 she went to St Ives in Cornwall to interview the artists working there, including Ben Nicholson. Just one month later, in July 1957, the couple married, and the following year moved to Switzerland.

Vogler is particularly well-known as a travel landscape photographer, journeying as far afield as Tibet, China, Japan and New Zealand. Like Nicholson, she is attracted to abstract pattern: many of her photographs dwell on the quiet grandeur and natural rhythms of the landscape. This exhibition – her first UK retrospective since 1973 – includes seventy large-scale photographs, dating from the 1950s to the present day. It is complemented by a small display of Ben Nicholson's work.

## NDA PORTFOLIO & website

**The NDA Portfolio is looking so professional since John Wright started to review it.**

*(Thanks for all the time and hard work in getting this together John).*

All the odd scraps of paper some of you had sent in have disappeared, giving the group's portfolio an 'up to the minute' new look, suitable to show at any NDA exhibitions, Broomhill, The Plough and other assorted venues around the area.

The Portfolio is the first contact point people see when the NDA are asked to source artists for jobs, commissions, etc: So as you see, it could be important for you to have your pages in it!

**Download these two Portfolio pages from; [www.pagemonger.com/profile.doc](http://www.pagemonger.com/profile.doc)**

**[www.northdevonarts.co.uk](http://www.northdevonarts.co.uk) Please check the NDA website to see if; a. you are on it; or b. that your details are still correct. It's no good promoting yourself if these things are out of date.**

Vanessa Marston, who looks after the site, is showing at the Chelsea Flower Show at the moment, but will be able to update the site when she returns. This gives you time to think about new details/photos!

## Astrological Art Images required

**Carol Mackenzie Gale** has been approached by 'Tonic' a new magazine, to design a series of zodiac designs.

I wondered if anyone may be interested in this commission. It is for 12 images to go with the astrology page in a new magazine called 'Tonic', so a good contact (and payment), and good to get in at the beginning, it could become a best seller, you never know.

The editor is interested in ideas and articles also –  
(*although my awareness is very limited about the magazine*).  
I can't do this because I have several shows etc coming up.

Contact the Editor, Diana Garland.  
[www.dianagarland.co.uk](http://www.dianagarland.co.uk)

*From NDA member, Carol Mackenzie Gale. Textile artist, painting on silk.  
(Carol recommends the free horoscopes!).*



## RSA Arts & Ecology

### The Bat House Project

**A new project with Jeremy Deller is now underway. Together with a series of partners we will be launching a competition to design a home for bats to be located at the London Wetland Centre.**

Arts Council England, the Bat Conservation Trust, the GLA, plusequals, the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, and Turner Prize winning artist Jeremy Deller are partners in launching a national competition for the design of a bat house to be located at the London Wetland Centre, Barnes.

The project will further bat conservation objectives by raising awareness of the importance of bats as a vital part of the UK's (and London's) environment. It will highlight bats' increasing reliance on urban areas due to pressures of development and the requirement for builders and conservationists to work together to produce wildlife-friendly building design.

**Keep up to date with this project at <http://www.bathouseproject.org>**

## RSA Arts & Ecology

### International Symposium:

**11 & 12 December 2006 at the London School of Economics**

Planning for a two day international conference has begun. We are inviting key people from different disciplines concerned with environmental issues to nominate ecologists, economists, philosophers, scientists, geographers and anthropologists to discuss pertinent issues - leaving space in between for artists to respond, show their work and explore the challenges out there.

Further information will be available shortly.

<http://www.rsa.org.uk/arts/conferences/conferences.asp>