

Root & Branch Project @ Mission Gallery

Artist Biographies

Janice Affleck (Scotland)

Janice is a ceramicist from Scotland. Born in Glasgow, she studied Architecture then moved to Asia for 15 years, completing a PhD at the University of Hong Kong and took up ceramics while on maternity leave.

Returning to Glasgow, she began to explore site-specific methods of working to reflect the spirit of the rediscovered places she has an innate connection to.

Recent work has focused on model and plaster mould making; combining ceramics with digital modelling, cutting, printing and hand drawing and photography.

<https://www.janice-affleck-ceramics.com/>

Patricio Álvarez Aragón (Chile/Germany)

Patricio Álvarez Aragón (born in Santiago de Chile, 1984) is an art historian, hybrid-automatic artist, and emerging curator based in Freising (Münich, Germany) since 2021. He describes himself as a catalyst and new content/production generator. As a hybrid artist, he is very interested in researching and developing "automatism" as a key to creating contemporary art (traditional languages) and new media arts.

https://readymag.com/lampatricio/2587337/patricioaarng_biography/

IG: [patricioaragorn](#)

Inguna Audere (Latvia)

Inguna is an artist from Latvia. *“ Mostly I find inspiration for creative work in the seemingly mundane events and objects of the everyday life. Their meaning*

increases radically in times when I succeed in capturing and recording a moment, which can then be transformed into a visual metaphor – an artwork.”

<http://www.inguna-art.com>

Olga Blokh (Finland)

Olga is a ceramicist from Finland making unique handmade pieces.

<https://blochceramics.fi/>

Evy Cohen (France)

Evy is a photographer and glass maker from France.

“I capture fragments of life, timeless snapshots, a detail in nature which, once isolated, lose their reality. I interrogate the perception we have of matter and existence which surround us. For me glass is an enhancer of emotions, a sensuous material inviting touch, a space of liberty for the images. These take a new dimension, the light attracting the eye into the depth of the piece, leading it in an interval of reverie”.

<https://evycohen.com/>

IRMA Collaborative (Latvia)

IRMA Collaborative is an artist’s collective from Riga in Latvia. It is a transnational entity directed by Inguna Audere and Michael Rogers.

IRMA is composed of three main categories, creative, educational, and curatorial. The goal of IRMA is to create open means of communication between people.

<https://www.facebook.com/IRMACollaborative2019/>

Robert Davies (Wales)

Robert is a sculptor from Wales. Robert Davies uses different media in his work to reflect the subject matter. In previous projects he has used photography, drawing and film making in relation to work that considers the

abstract nature of photography, our relationship to animals or the climate crisis. He is currently working with Aberystwyth University on a geo-located app relating to climate change.

<https://www.robertwdavies.uk>

Madeleine Doré (Canada/France)

Quebec Multidisciplinary artist she developed a practice of mobility. Itinerant artist, she initiated the movement “*bonheur d’occasion*”. Her work on happiness, on living in the present, is a long nomad performance based on exchange and communication. She obtained various grants from the art council of Quebec. She has curated sites specific events and is also writing for art reviews.

<https://www.tadlchance.com/2020/02/les-artistes-de-tadlchance-madeleine-dore.html>

Michelle Dovey (Wales)

Michelle is a painter from Pembrokeshire in Wales. Michelle was born in England, and raised in New Zealand, she finished her first degree in New Zealand. She completed her Masters at the School of Visual Arts in New York. Returning to England she lived in London for many years. She has shown with Gimpel Fils since 2006. She is a founding member of the Arborealists group. Michelle finds inspiration in painting trees, particularly oaks.

<https://www.michelledovey.com>

Winnie Tak Kwan Fung (Hong Kong)

Graduated from Goldsmiths College, University of London, with a BA (Hons) in Fine Art in 1995. After returning to Hong Kong, she has been involved in coordinating exhibitions, art consultant company and tutoring in the children

art centre and Secondary School (Art activity). She is now working Part-time Theatre administrator.

<https://www.facebook.com/winnie.fung.5686>

IG: [winnie.fung.5686](#)

Kim Dotty Hachmann (Germany)

Graduated with a Master Degree in New Media at the Academy of Arts Kassel, Germany, in 2001. Kim deals with family-related topics in short videos, video installations and photo series. She depicts the opposites of individuality and community, intimacy and borders, power and weakness in a humorous, poetic and sometimes grotesque way.

<http://www.kimdottyhachmann.de>

Kenneth Hay (France)

Kenneth is a painter from Inverness in Scotland who now lives in the south of France. He is an artist, writer and teacher, Emeritus Professor of Contemporary Art Practice at the University of Leeds (a Department which he founded) and Visiting Professor of Aesthetics at Masaryk University, Brno. CZ.

<https://www.instagram.com/kennethghay/>

Nung-Hsin Hu (Taiwan/USA)

Nung-Hsin Hu is a Taiwanese-born U.S.-based interdisciplinary artist who interweaves film, video, performance, and installation in her practice. Her work intends to reveal the invisible status, articulate the unconsciousness, and perform the vulnerability through a poetic and whimsical approach.

<http://nunghsinhu.com/>

IG: [nunghsin.hu](#)

Herbert W.H. Hundrich (Germany)

Freelance artist + curator, sculptures, objects, drawings, paintings, installation + light + film, Gesamtkunstwerk

<https://hundrich.de/>

IG: [hundrich](#)

Rachel Hiu Yin Ip (Hong Kong)

Rachel Hiu-Yin Ip is a visual artist, curator and art educator. She exhibited her photographic works in Hong Kong, China and England. She also teaches art and photography and writes about art. Columnist of Milk and Res()nate magazine. Publications included 100 Self-portraits of Hongkongese. Guest presenter for RTHK "Aesthetic Encounter II. Lecturer in university in the present.

<https://www.facebook.com/IPhiuyin.Rachel>

IG: [rache.liphiuyin](#)

Anca Ion (Brazil)

Anca is a Romanian artist living in Brazil, she works mainly in ceramic and her work examines biodiversity and environmental concerns.

<https://ancaion.wixsite.com/ancaion>

Robert Jakes (Wales)

Robert is a wood carver and sculptor from Pembrokeshire in Wales, UK.

Robert makes large scale carvings in oak, illuminated procession sculptures, entrance archways, sculptural seating, benches and story-telling seats and a variety of other projects in response to specific locations and communities, schools and forests in the UK and abroad.

<http://www.robertjakes.co.uk/>

Agnes Ku (Hong Kong)

Agnes Ku, a sociologist by profession, is an amateur visual artist focusing on photography. She received a postgraduate diploma in photography in 2016 and held her first solo exhibition in 2017. Her photo book, *Where Time Turns Black*, has won several international awards.

<https://www.facebook.com/agnes.ku.58>

IG: [agnestaipo](#)

Wai Kit Lam (Hong Kong)

Born in Hong Kong in 1966. She graduated with an MFA from The Chinese University of Hong Kong (2003) and a BA (Hons) in Fine Art from Goldsmiths, University of London, UK (1996). Her research topic comprised identity, human vulnerability, intimacy, and the interrelationship with the surrounding circumstances. Her media included photography, video art, text, sound & installation.

<https://www.waikitlam.com/>

IG: [waikitlambotella](#)

Joe Lau (Hong Kong/Taiwan)

Hongkonger, now living in Tainan/Taiwan. Born and bred in IT, shrouded by "rationality" for 2/3 of my life. Having graduated from the University of Hong Kong SPACE Post Graduated Diploma of Photography in 2012. Also participated in various documentary workshops in Lumenvisum and was a part of several co-exhibitions.

<https://j-foto.photography/works>

IG: [cafe_or_not_a_cafe](#)

Siân Lester (Wales)

Siân is an artist from Pembrokeshire in Wales. Siân works as a freelance textile designer and artist and has a strong commitment to exploring natural dyes and historic processes in her work. She creates original textile designs, which successfully sell worldwide within the home furnishing and fashion industry.

<http://www.sianlester.com>

Susana López Fernández (Spain)

Susana is a Spanish visual artist. In her work, the borders between photography and painting are blurred. She likes to use tools from both fields to communicate what She wants, what awakens her interest, things that worry her, what She feels or what She loves.

<https://susanalf.es/>

IG: caracolllf

Bim Mason (Wales)

Bim is an artist from Wales. He is the co-founder and Artistic Director of Circomedia, the Centre for Contemporary Circus and Physical Performance. A performer of 35 years professional experience with pioneering circus theatre groups Kaboodle and his own Mummer&Dada. He is renowned for his work in street theatre and as a mask-maker, his Bigheads have toured worldwide.

"I am interested in popular forms of performance both for the joy in their expression and also as a means to connect and communicate with a wide spectrum of people. I have attempted to validate some of these forms by articulating the sophistication of their aims and methods. But I also seek the renewal of established forms by encouraging experimentation and bringing in fresh ideas and combinations".

<https://www.bimmason.com>

Helen Maurer (UK)

Helen is an artist from London who primarily works with glass and light.

“I explore glass and other materials by casting light through them, magnify them with projectors, amplify the sound they make, in the hope of discovering something unexpected. I am interested in illusion, stability and scale and finding ways to get something large-scale from the smallest source.”

www.helenmaurer.co.uk

John Merrill (Wales)

John is a wood sculptor from North Wales.

The majority of his work is made from oak, using either wind blown trees or the curves and knuckles that are otherwise destined to be firewood, salvaged from the timber industry.

“Trees in their natural form are magnificent, they are already perfect sculptures and an example of one of nature’s true engineering achievements. I use contemporary design techniques and approaches as well as drawing on hundreds of years of history, craftsmanship and tried and tested methods”

<http://johncmerrill.blogspot.com/>

Penka Mincheva (Bulgaria)

Born in 1979 in Karlovo, Bulgaria. Graduated with an MA at the National Art Academy in Sofia in 2004. She is an organiser of the annual Process - Space Art Festival in Bulgaria. She has been selected artist in Arte Laguna Venice Arsenale (2013), M-tel Competition for Bulgarian Contemporary Art Plovdiv (2008), and residence in BMUKK Residence in Vienna (2011).

www.penkamincheva.tumblr.com

IG: [mincheva_penka](#)

Moorland Productions (France/UK)

Moorland Productions was founded in 1996 to showcase the creative work of Seetha A & Kenneth Hay. They work across a variety of media including painting, sculpture, installation, print, photography, video and sound.

<https://www.moorland-productions.org>

Kika Nicolela (Brazil/Belgium)

Kika Nicolela is a Brazilian artist, filmmaker and independent curator based in Brussels since 2014. Graduated in Film Studies from the University of Sao Paulo, Nicolela has also completed a Master of Fine Arts at the Zurich University of the Arts. Having video and new technologies as tools, Nicolela proposes experiences that question the stories we tell about the world and about ourselves.

<https://www.kikanicolela.com/>

IG: [kn___studio](#)

Linda Norris (Wales)

Linda's lives in Pembrokeshire. Her work is rooted in the genius loci of landscape and investigates aspects of the culture, language, science, archaeology and ecology underpinning the landscape and our legacy in the context of the anthropocene. Linda initiated Root and Branch Project in collaboration with Wai Kit Lam.

<http://www.linda-norris.com>

Danny O'Hara (UK)

Danny O'Hara is a theatre maker/Director in the UK. This is Danny's 1st time working with paper but is led by her passion for nature, the environment, and her spiritual response to trees. Danny's work is often within the community, with the community, making happenings outside in unusual places, with multimedia responses.

<https://www.dannyohara.com/>

IG: [slowtheatrecompanyuk](#)

Rachel Phillips (UK)

Rachel is an artist from Pembrokeshire in Wales UK. Primarily Rachel is a glass painter and maker of architectural glass installations. Together with Linda Norris she has an architectural glass practice called Studio Melyn.

<https://rachelphillipsglass.com>

Nia Pushkarova (Bulgaria)

Visual artist (painting, video installation, photography, art lecturing, performance). Chairwoman of NGO-IME since 2004. Founder, curator and organiser of Water Tower Art Fest (EFFE award of European Festival Label year 2015-16) 2006-2019. Member of the Board of Directors of Bulgarian Festival Association since 2015.

<http://nia.watertowerartfest.com/>

<http://watertowerartfest.com/>

IG: [niapushkarova](#)

Francoise Rod (France/Switzerland)

The work of this Swiss/French artist is contextual and site-specific. She works on perception and develops instal-actions made by informal shapes to explore the limit between internal and external images. Her work consists in sharing visual experiences in a given context. She obtained a PhD at the University of Paris VIII in visual arts.

<http://www.francoiserod.com/>

<http://action.action.free.fr>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vwYrKlv5uSk>

Michael Rogers (Latvia/USA)

Michael is an artist from USA. Michael is Professor Emeritus at the Rochester Institute of Technology School for American Crafts. Previously he had taught at Aichi University of Education in Japan for eleven years. He maintains his studios in upstate New York as well as in Riga, Latvia. Michael travels and exhibits internationally and considers travel an essential aspect of his artistic practice. Michael is also active with a non-profit arts organization in Riga, Latvia, IRMA Collaborative. Michael's work is in many international collections including the permanent collection of The Corning Museum of Glass, USA

<https://www.michaelrogersart.site>

Ruth Sargeant (Wales)

Ruth is an artist from Pembrokeshire in Wales. Primarily Ruth is a painter and ceramicist with an overriding interest in archaeology and investigating place in her work.

<https://www.ruthsargeant.co.uk>

Erika Tan (Singapore/UK)

Erika Tan is an artist, curator and researcher whose work focuses on the postcolonial, transnational and decolonial - working with archival artefacts, exhibition histories, received narratives, contested heritage, subjugated voices and the transnational movement of ideas, people and objects. Tan is currently The Stanley Picker Fine Art Fellow. Her work has been exhibited & collected internationally.

<https://www.erikatan.net/>

IG: [erikatanlam](#)

Annette Townsend (Wales)

Annette is a wax sculptor from South Wales.

“My artwork explores nature and the theme of protection. It focuses on the small delicate details that I observe in the natural world that might sometimes be hidden or overlooked. Through my artwork I aim to combine fragility and strength in a unique manner, to create beauty and communicate science, inspiring and encouraging others to observe and protect the natural world around them”.

<https://annettemarietownsend.com>

Ming Chong Tse (Hong Kong)

Co-founder of Lumervisum, his works focus on how individuals behave in relation to history and society.

<https://www.facebook.com/tsemingchong>

IG: [tsemingchong](#)

Olga Turetska (Ukraine)

Olga Turetska is from a family of artists in Lviv, Ukraine. She studied in the Lviv Trush State College of Decorative Arts and Crafts (1999-2003). In 2009 she graduated from the art glass department of Lviv National Academy of Fine Arts with honors. She has exhibited widely both nationally and internationally. She works in the areas of crafts and oil painting. Currently Olga is working as a volunteer helping refugees in Ukraine.

<https://olgaglass.com.ua/>

Marcos Vidal Font (Spain)

Graduated from the San Carlos Faculty of Fine Arts at the Polytechnic University of Valencia, Spain, in 1991, and at the University Autónoma Coahuila in Mexico in 2019. Vidal creates specific works for specific contexts with the location. He also developed a walking system to find objects and transfer them to artistic pieces as psicolandscapes or psicomaps.

<https://santmarcair.wordpress.com/marcos-vidal-font/>

IG: [soymujik](#)

Ian Wieczorek (Ireland)

Ian is a visual artist living and working in Co. Mayo, Ireland. His practice is based primarily in painting and installation.

He has exhibited widely in group/selected shows in Ireland, and internationally in N. Ireland, Germany, France, Portugal, Switzerland, Austria, Sweden, USA and China. He has also devised and curated a number of shows in Ireland.

<http://www.ianwieczorek.com>

May Ming Yu (Hong Kong)

Born in Hong Kong, China. She was a graphic designer. She graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Art (Ceramics) from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, University in Melbourne, Australia, in 2006. She works in ceramics and photography, and she is also a tutor of ceramics.

<https://www.faanstudioceramics.com/cv>

IG: [ming.yu1](#)

All artists shown above are part of the [#rootandbranchproject](#)

Root & Branch is a collaboration between Linda Norris and Hong Kong based artist, Wai Kit Lam. The work was supported by Wales Arts International.