

## ANDREW DARKE FRSA

[www.andrewdarke.net](http://www.andrewdarke.net)

Andrew Darke is an artist with an extensive career nationally and internationally. His work spans a number of fields and includes pieces for siting both indoors and outside. Early work was principally wood sculpture, often on a large scale relating to landscape. Recent 3D work is also responsive to the elements, wind and water particularly, and is fired by a passion for the outdoors and wilder places. Photography, video and sound recording works bring outdoor experiences inside for contemplation.

As a founding member of an artists' group (Art & Place) in the early nineties, renamed PLACE in 1995, Darke began work to reduce the impact of infrastructure developments on the environment and also engaged on urban regeneration projects. PLACE's focus in Cardiff Bay was on qualities of the bay which would subsequently be erased by the building of the Cardiff Bay Barrage. Work with the mobile phone industry, the Countryside Agency and the Forestry Commission to reduce the impact of mobile phone masts in the landscape followed and currently PLACE is working as an official consultee for National Grid and is calling for the undergrounding of 400kV and other power lines. These consultations are now changing National Grid's working practices.

The environmental theme running right through Darke's work is underpinned by the conviction that retaining, and being able to have access to, land which is not dominated by humanity is crucial for the well being of us all and for many other species.

He was invited to become a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts (FRSA) in 2008 for his work in arts and environment.

### **Selected Exhibitions**

- 2013 ***Chipping Norton Theatre, UK***  
***Holmfirth Film Festival, Holmfirth, UK***
- 2012 ***Holmfirth Film Festival, Holmfirth, UK***
- 2010 ***tidal SEVERN***, Upstairs at the George, Newnham-on-Severn, Gloucestershire  
***Happy End - a transmitter to the ultimate way of contemporary living***,  
Basement Art Projects at Guest Projects, London
- 2009 ***Wildness and the Severn Bore***, talk/performance, Arnolfini, Bristol  
***Going and Returning***, All Souls Church and Bankfield Museum, Halifax
- 2006 ***Air Compass***, Essarts Foundation, St-Pie de Guire, Quebec, Canada  
***Building Bridges - Burning Bridges***, Taurus Crafts, Gloucestershire
- 2004 ***Curiouser and Curiouser***, Bourton House, Gloucestershire
- 2003 ***Open to the Elements***, Hampton Court, Leominster  
***Second Nature***, Millers Farm, Blakeney, Gloucestershire
- 2001 ***River, Estuary, Ocean***, Malmo Connection, Galleri 21, Malmo, Sweden
- 2000 ***Gloucestershire - Skane Exchange***, Sofiero Royal Castle, Helsingborg, Sweden
- 1999 ***Re.production***, Stroud Valleys Artspace, Stroud, Gloucestershire
- 1997 ***Projection Installation***, Cardiff Bay Art Trust Gallery, Cardiff
- 1993 ***Trees - The Fourth State of Water***, Kunstlerwerkstatt, Munich  
(Two man show with Andy Goldsworthy)
- 1992 ***National Garden Festival***, Ebbw Vale, Wales
- 1991 ***Shared Earth***, City Art Gallery, Peterborough and national tour
- 1989 ***Out of the Wood***, Crafts Council Gallery, London and national tour  
***Dartmoor***, City Art Gallery, Plymouth  
***Landscape Now***, City Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent
- 1988 ***The Drop***, Dean Clough, Halifax and tour
- 1986 ***The Forest Project***, Arnolfini, Bristol  
***National Garden Festival***, Stoke-on-Trent
- 1985 ***Rough Wood***, Parnham House, Beaminster

- Summer Show II** Tout Quarries, Portland, Dorset
- 1984 **International Garden Festival**, Liverpool
- 1983 **Summer Show I**, Tout Quarries, Portland, Dorset
- 1982 **Maquettes for Public Sculpture**, Welsh Sculpture Trust
- 1981 **Summer Show I** Serpentine Gallery, London
- 1980 **Wood**, Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh Festival
- 1979 **Wood**, Yorkshire Sculpture Park
- 1977 **Inaugural Show** Yorkshire Sculpture Park

#### **One person shows:**

- 1997 **16 Acre Field Show**, Yorkley Court Farm, Glos.
- 1986 **Andrew Darke**, Axiom Arts Centre, Cheltenham
- 1985 **Andrew Darke - Sculpture** Camden Arts Centre, London
- Redwood, Larch, Elm**, Cirencester Workshops
- 1984 **Larch Bole Spiral**, Chapter Arts, Cardiff
- 1983 **Verticals and Slices**, Kenwood House, Hampstead, London
- Wood Works**, Huddersfield Art Gallery
- 1980 **Installation** in Bretton Country Park
- 1978 **Installation at Mappin Park**, Mappin Art Gallery, Sheffield
- 1977 **Sculpture at Nostell Priory**, Nostell Priory, Wakefield
- 1976 **New Sculpture - Andrew Darke** Bretton Hall College, Nr. Wakefield

#### **Awards**

- 2006 **Arts Council of England** funds for Views, Vistas and Reverie - Period 2"
- 2004 **Countryside Agency** funds for Telecoms Infrastructure Study  
[http://www.p-l-a-c-e.org/views\\_vista\\_reverie/index.htm](http://www.p-l-a-c-e.org/views_vista_reverie/index.htm)
- 1998 **Arts Council of England** funds for "Clear Horizons" co-leading with Ove Arup and Partners, Consulting Engineers Engineers a project involving all the mobile telecommunications service providers and BT to reduce the impact of their infrastructure on the environment. - masts, base stations etc.

#### **Residencies**

- 2006 Essarts, St-Pie de Guire, Quebec, Canada
- 2000 Sofiero Royal Castle, Helsingborg, Sweden
- 1989 Hanley Park, Stoke-on-Trent hosted by City Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent
- 1987 Kirklees Garden Festival. Dewsbury, W. Yorks.  
 Hosted by Kirklees Metropolitan Council and Public Arts, Wakefield
- 1985 Forest of Dean. Hosted by The Forestry Commission and the Arnolfini, Bristol
- 1983 Tout Quarries, Portland, Dorset. Hosted by the Portland Sculpture Trust.

## Group Work

- 1989-ongoing - PLACE  
Founding member of 'Art & Place' artists group which began after the 'Landscape and Sculpture Symposium' in Manchester in. A central purpose of the group was the detailed examination of the many problems and issues which face artists who work in public spaces. A new group **PLACE** evolved in 1996 which is generating ideas and proposals ranging across the areas of art and the environment. See [www.p-l-a-c-e.org](http://www.p-l-a-c-e.org)
- 1987-99 Trustee of the Forest of Dean Sculpture Trail, Gloucestershire

## Sculpture Projects

- Ongoing Large scale cleaved wood sculpture and wind kinetic sculpture.
- 2006 **Air Compass** Essarts, St-Pie de Guire, Quebec, Canada
- 1999 **Cleaving Air** - Trio of cleaved oak and sweet chestnut wind mobiles. Commissioned by Richard and Monique Paice.
- 1996-7 Landscape film "Reverie" completed. A 50min. video film of landscape and water imagery.
- 1995-2001 **ATLAS, The Graving Docks and The Barrage**, Cardiff Bay undertaken with the **PLACE** artists group. This project places the three Graving Docks into a new art context and proposes that they remain tidal after the completion of the Cardiff Bay barrage.  
[www.atlasplace.clara.net](http://www.atlasplace.clara.net)
- 1994 Lost Horizons' Project. Undertaken with the Art & Place group, this was a project about the barraging of estuaries with a focus on Cardiff Bay. A billboard image was displayed in Cardiff for a month and two postcards with images and text were circulated to MPs, Cardiff and Newport councillors, members of the environmental lobby and the public.

## Consultancy / Design Collaboration

- 2007- Ongoing PLACE is 'official consultee' for National Grid on their project to renew the Woodhead to Stalybridge 400kV overhead transmission line, some 11km of which runs through the Peak District National Park. PLACE is collaborating fully with the PDNPA to try to have the line placed underground.
- 2006.7 "Views, Vistas and Reverie - Period 2" collaboration with the Forestry Commission.
- 2005 Initiates "Views, Vistas and Reverie - Period 2" collaboration with the Forestry Commission. This will establish a best practice project on FC land for the design and siting of mobile telecomms infrastructure in landscape .
- 2004-5 Telecoms Infrastructure Study commissioned by the Countryside Agency.  
[http://www.p-l-a-c-e.org/views\\_vista\\_reverie/index.htm](http://www.p-l-a-c-e.org/views_vista_reverie/index.htm)
- 2004 Set up and co-leads Telecoms Mast Working Group with the Forest of Dean District Council - to reduce impacts of siting of masts on both environment and communities.
- 2000-3 Appointed as Lead Artist for Goresbrook Park renewal scheme, Barking, East London. £1m.
- 2003 Phase II Goresbrook Park out to tender.
- 2002 Phase I work on Goresbrook Park completed. 200K.
- 2000-1 Goresbrook Park Masterplan.
- 1999-2000 Appointed as Design Team Artist to assist with new factory development for Dezac Group in Cinderford, Gloucestershire £2.5m.
- 1999 Designed new colour scheme for repainting a cable bridge over Coventry Canal for East Midlands Electricity.
- 1998-9 Appointed as Design Team Artist to assist with Chester Canal Corridor Improvements.
- 1997-9 "Clear Horizons" co-leading with Ove Arup and Partners, Consulting Engineers a project involving all the mobile telecommunications service providers and BT to reduce the impact of their infrastructure on the environment. - masts, base stations etc.
- 1996-8 Designed new colour scheme for repainting and re-cladding of two cable bridges over Coventry Canal + fencing colour for East Midlands Electricity and Groundwork Coventry.
- 1995-6 Art Feasibility study for Rover Group Ltd at Group Design Engineering, Gaydon. Collaboration

with Julie Seddon-Jones of Artmatters and Anurahda Patel, artist.

- 1995.6 Appointed lead artist to collaborate with North Kesteven District Council Landscape Dept. to realise "The Whisby Sculpture Garden" as outlined in the proposal document. Budget 200K
- 1994 Wrote the Proposal Document for 'The Whisby Sculpture Garden' (including earthworks, large scale colour / texture work, and landscaping) for North Kesteven District Council. (not built)
- 1994.5 Collaborated with Birmingham artist Anuradha Patel and consulting engineers Maunsells on car park design including; layout, lighting, fencing, paving, height restrictors, landscaping and colour. Budget 550K and 90K
- 1992-3 Collaborated with Anuradha Patel and consulting engineers Scott Wilson Kirkpatrick on the Advance Works for Midland Metro designing new steel fencing, also advising on aesthetics of brick cleaning, mortar colour for re-pointing, materials reclamation, and landscape. Created colour schemes for the re-painting of steel bridges. Budget 45K+
- 1993 Member of the Tender Assessment Team for the Midland Metro Light Rail System for Birmingham and the West Midlands.
- 1992 Member of artist team with Jack Mackie of Seattle and Alice Adams of New York contributing to the Design Guide for the new Midland Metro.

### **Bibliography**

- 2006 ***Capital Cardiff: 1975-2020*** Material outlining PLACE's ATLAS project at Cardiff Bay is published in the book edited by Alan Hooper and John Hunter published by University of Wales Press 2006.  
  
*Planning* magazine (the journal of the Royal Town Planning Institute) prints a letter from PLACE demonstrating the inaccuracy of an earlier article. The letter is critical of the current approach of the mobile phone industry to environmental issues.
- 2005 ***Views, Vistas and Reverie - A Photographic Survey of the Intrusion of Telecommunications Infrastructure in the Landscape of the Forest of Dean*** by Andrew Darke is published.
- 2008 ***A13 Artscape***; London Borough of Barking and Dagenham.
- 2002 ***The Scope for Undergrounding Overhead Electricity Lines***  
A Report by the UK Centre for Economic and Environmental Development for Friends of the Lake District by Richard Cowell. PLACE is acknowledged for its help.
- 2001 ***Landscape Research Vol 26, No.1*** publishes polemic by Tim Hall and Iain Robertson - "Public Art and Urban Regeneration: advocacy, claims and critical debates" - includes a number of references to "ECOS" article. (see below)  
  
***Aspire to Clear Horizons*** and ***Clear Horizons*** documents (by PLACE) become available on the Technical Indexes Ltd. Planning CD-Rom
- 2000 ***5½ miles of art*** Coventry Canal Public Art Trail.  
  
***alias*** artist - led initiative advisory service publication documenting a pilot project includes information on PLACE's contact with the service. Book commissioned by South West Arts, produced by Stroud Valleys Artspace
- 1998 ***PUBLIC:ART:SPACE*** Public Art Commissions Agency book, (publishers: Merrell Holberton, London), documenting a decade of PACA's involvement in public art, includes ATLAS in the chapter "A strategy for public art in Cardiff Bay"
- 1995 ***Art & Place : Cardiff Bay*** Article by Andrew Darke in "ECOS" A Review of Conservation Vol 16 No1, 1995

Andrew Darke was born 1948 in Preston, Lancashire, lived in Yorkshire from 1950 - 1983 and now lives and works in the Forest of Dean, Gloucestershire at:  
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