



ONWARD ARTS

Brighton and Sussex 
University Hospitals
NHS Trust

As per the last report in November 2013, Onward Arts continues to play an important role in our hospitals as Art in its widest sense has come to be more widely recognised as a valuable tool in the healing process. Art has been placed in hospitals since the 14th Century, so the concept is far from new, but the way that it is now used places a significant emphasis on the healing benefits which can help both staff and patients.

This document gives a series of snapshots of how the arts here at Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals Trust have developed since Chief Executive John Spiers set up the Arts Advisory Group 22 years ago. Since that time, the emerging concept of the arts being employed to contribute to the healing process, in a hospital setting, has grown from strength to strength right across the world, and we are proud to be part of that movement.

As we embark on our most ambitious phase of work to date, we look forward to the challenging, ground breaking and exciting projects that will be arising in future years to enhance the journeys of staff and patients through the hospital environment.

If you would like to find out more about Onward Arts, or tell us about the needs of your department we would love to hear from you. Our contact details are: Yamina Ouramdane, Senior Secretary for the Directorate of Facilities and Estates, Sussex House, Royal Sussex County Hospital Tel. 01273 664749.

'Little as we know about the way in which we are affected by form, by colour and light, we do know this, that they have an actual physical effect. Variety of form and brilliancy of colour in the objects presented to patients, are actual means of recovery' (Florence Nightingale 1859)

Colin Matthews November 2015
Chair (Onward Arts)

We gratefully acknowledge the support of the following organisations which have helped us turn dreams into real projects:





PETER HILES MEMORIAL
2001
Will Lasdun
location: Isis Courtyard

Peter Hiles was one of the first supporters of the arts at BSUH, realising how the arts can be used to benefit patients and staff enhancing the atmosphere of the caring environment. Peter was in charge of the commissioning team responsible for the development of the Millennium Wing.

This three meter diameter wall relief in stainless steel incorporates images of Peter's passions and interests: shire horses, rugby, cricket and the Sussex countryside. A miniature version was cast in silver as a brooch and presented to his widow.

N.B. The memorial will be difficult to access during the 3Ts build period



ISIS
1998
Sculpture by Will Lasdun
new location: St Mary's

Commissioned as part of a major extension programme, the sculpture depicts the ancient Egyptian goddess Isis who used her wings to breathe new life into the old and the sick. Isis was seen as a maternal figure and a symbol of growth and nourishment, and was often shown with a vulture's head dress. This sculpture is a metamorphic figure, half bird, half woman made from marble resin and standing 2.5 meters high.

The cloak spreads out beneath the sculpture through a change in the colour in the paving slabs in the courtyard, helping the sculpture to integrate with the space in which it stands.



HOMEOSTASIS architectural glass commission by Float Glass Design

location:
foyer area of
The Audrey Emerton Building

Funded through Brighton and Hove City Council's Percent for art mechanism, this impressive artwork was inspired by cells seen under the microscope. Kiln fired glass with metal leaf and coloured details form an eye catching composition which greets visitors to the Audrey Emerton Building, where conferences, lectures, teaching and other such activities take place.



BUOYS 2006

by Ally Wallace

**location: outside Royal Alexandra
Children's Hospital**

The Buoy's form a distinctive and welcoming landmark as you approach the children's hospital from Upper Abbey Road. The shapes and colours are reminiscent of children's toys, and blend well with the colours and children's ark form of the building. Ally had the shapes made from spun aluminium, which was then powder coated, and the nine columns colonise the landscape around the entrance area. The vertical forms also have a connection with Constantin Brancusi's "Endless Column" which was made in Romania in 1938, and both artworks lead the eye upwards to the sky. This artwork was funded through Arts Council England's Grants for the Arts.



**NICHES PROJECT
2008**
**By Juliette Pearce and
Nancy Evans**
**Location: nurses stations
Royal Alexandra
Children's Hospital**

The new Children's hospital was designed with the active input of a Children and Young People's Board. One of the many contributions to the design was the idea for little niches or portholes at child's-eye view. These paper mache creatures were made by young patients working with two artists: Nancy Evans and Juliette Pearce. Eventually there were more than enough to populate all the illuminated nurses stations throughout the building. This artists residency was funded by the Wallace and Grommit foundation.



**OASIS ARTWORKS
2007**

By Walter Bailey

location:
Oasis Multi-faith Space
Royal Alexandra
Children's Hospital

These large yet intricate oak carvings were designed to bring a sense of peace and balance to this important space where parents and children can enjoy an atmosphere which is conducive to contemplation, prayer and emotional recharging.



LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHS

2010

by Speller Milner Design

location:

Park Centre for Breast Care

The new Park Centre is located in a converted former office building just opposite Preston Park. Speller- Milner Design were commissioned to make a series of large scale landscape photographs for the waiting areas, which would have an appropriate reference to nature for this setting. The photographs are not actually completely monochrome, and have a delicate warm tint which brings a very subtle quality of comfort to the exquisite details in these carefully composed images. The fantastic level of detail means that these artworks sustain interest over long periods of time as patients wait for their appointments. The proximity of the park give patients and staff a very welcome place to go and de-stress.



**BREAST CENTRE ARTWORKS
2010
By Float Glass Design (front)
Dawn Stacey (back)
location:
Park Centre For Breast Care**

Beyond the waiting areas slightly smaller scale artworks were chosen to create a homely and comforting feeling, whilst also maintaining the nature themes. Artists include Float Glass Design, Dawn Stacey, and gentle abstract works in the quiet rooms by Barbera Delaney, and dream like garden landscapes by Luella Martin.



CRUMPLESLIDE 2009

By WalterJack Studio

location:
Royal Alexandra Children's
Hospital

Crumpleslide is a sculpture on which you can play. Created for a very challenging site with steep banks and restricted space, Crumpleslide turns these difficulties into assets, making the most of the slopes, and unlike a "normal" slide, it invites the children to play and explore a number of possible journeys down a pretend mountainside.



BOY AND GIRL 2007

**By Jon Mills
Location: North Car Park
outside Royal Alexandra
Children's Hospital**

Renowned Brighton artist Jon Mills generously donated the Boy and Girl sculptures after they had been on show as part of a major retrospective exhibition at Brighton Museum and Art Gallery. Made from colourful powder-coated steel they create a friendly welcome at the entrance to the children's hospital. Wit, humour and cartoon-like qualities have long been a feature of Jon's work which in this instance help to bring cheer as you arrive.

As well as making sculptures Jon has now begun creating wonderful humorous books for children.



SOUND AND SONG
By Lou Beckerman
music therapy sessions
Location: The Royal Alexandra
Children's Hospital

Lou Beckerman trained originally as a fine artist, and then as a nurse going on to become a practice nurse and also a professional midwife and then became a professional musician. Music, has always been a big part of Lou's life and those of us who have been present when Lou sets her extraordinary voice free, can bear witness to the powerful positive emotional and physiological effects which she creates. Working wherever she is needed, with children in the Alex, or adult and elderly patients in the main hospital and at the Princess Royal, Haywards Heath, Lou has an uncanny ability to change the energy in the room and help people begin to smile and laugh and feel positively motivated where they had perhaps been down, afraid or ready to give up.

Homegrown Films made a sensitive and emotional film of Lou's work at the Alex work in 2009.



**SOUNDING OUT &
JUST A SONG AT TWILIGHT**
By Lou Beckerman
sound and song therapy sessions
Location: The Princess Royal Hospital
& Brighton General Hospital

Just A Song At Twilight was initially a twelve week project which Lou ran with frail older patients at Brighton General Hospital in 2003/2004. The project was seen as so successful that it was extended for a six month period.

Sounding Out was also a six month project with patients at the Stroke Rehabilitation unit at Haywards Heath. A moving film of this project was made by Barbara Myers and Paul Loman of Homegrown films, and can be seen at:
www.homegrownfilms.co.uk



LIFE BEGINS
By George Cutts
polished stainless steel
play sculpture 2009
location: level 6 Royal Alexandra
Children's Hospital

The sculpture works like a fairground hall of mirrors, making crazy reflections in its convex and concave surfaces, different curves making different distortions. Set on safety matting, children are encouraged to climb on this artwork.



LANDSCAPE PHOTOGRAPHS
By Steve Geliot 2015
location: Renal Unit

Purchased to provide visual windows for people who often have to wait for long periods in the renal unit. A variety of local scenes were chosen by staff in the unit.

bo><clever

FLOW

In partnership with The Sussex Kidney Unit, Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust *present a short film*

FLOW

Journeys into Renal Care

Nobody knows what it's like to be on dialysis -except if you are on dialysis

Nobody knows what it's like to be told that you have renal failure

-except those who have been

told

- Nobody knows what it's like to hoe for a kidney - knowing that a donor may never appear



Box Clever was commissioned to make a film recording how patients cope with renal failure, dialysis and transplant in everyday life.

The resulting DVD was made available to new patients at the Sussex Kidney Unit, providing the reassurance of seeing the experience of other people in a similar situation, and giving a very honest, real but positive idea of what life might hold for them.

A promotional graphic for 'Relax & Dream' featuring a background of pink flowers in the foreground and a blue sky/sea in the background. The text 'RELAX & DREAM' is at the top in large white letters, with the website 'www.relaxanddream.co.uk' below it. A QR code is centered, with 'FREE DOWNLOAD' to its left. At the bottom, contact information for Kate Murdoch is provided.

RELAX & DREAM
www.relaxanddream.co.uk

FREE
DOWNLOAD

Kate Murdoch, kutuliamusic@gmail.com - 07806 489482

RELAX AND DREAM
Kate Murdoch

Relax and Dream is a DVD of ambient films created in natural settings set to soothing music. It is used on the wards and in certain waiting areas to reduce stress and create a feeling of calm.



Floral Batik
Jeni Sharpstone

Location: Cancer Centre Chemotherapy waiting room



Jeni Sharpstone was chair of Onward Arts for many years until her passing in 2013. A passionate advocate for the arts in healthcare, Jeni was herself a talented artist. This piece was kindly donated by her family and is appropriately on display in the Sussex Cancer Centre.