



Matt Smart

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Sculpture

Affiliations

LAS. Ludlow Art Society, UK. Member, Committee member since 2016

CSA. Cotswold Sculptors Association. Committee member since 2019

Current and Future

Jun-Oct20 **Creating Spaces** The exhibition of the [Cotswold Sculptors Association](#)
Venue: [Abbey House Gardens, Malmesbury](#), Wiltshire, UK. Group exhibition.
Video: www.facebook.com/abbeyhousegardensuk/videos/1012514702477330/
[Venue and exhibition](#) have monthly 'Clothes Optional' days, with indoor changing area.

2021: 7-8August 2021 **Art In The Park** Royal Leamington Spa, UK.
Commissioned for the main sculptural and landscape installations of the annual regional arts festival. (The event was scheduled for 1-2Aug20). 55,000 attendance expected. Contributes £2M to the regional economy. Very high ACE visitor satisfaction rating

2021: **UPFEST**, Bristol, UK. Europe's largest street art festival. 300 artists.
[I am one of 3 European sculptors selected.](#) My location: Live-building of sculptures in the marquee in the Stadium park. (Event rescheduled from 30May-1June 2020)

2021: **Noisily Festival**, UK. July 2021 (rescheduled from 9-12July 2020).
Creating and displaying the central installation of the 'Mind Body Soul' zone, which is the festival's large zone hosting all daytime and evening talks, physical exercises, meditation spaces and workshops. The installation is a series of large figures which incorporate living plants and flowers into the large, strong sculptures.

Previous work

Group exhibitions

Oct-Nov19 'Reinvention', Turrill Sculpture Garden, Summertown, Oxford UK

Apr-Sep19 Cotswold Sculpture Park, UK. 45 artists from 5 countries

Apr19 'Chromantics', Cornerstone Gallery, Didcot, Oxfordshire

Nov18 'Present, Perfect, Continuous', Bermondsey, London

Sep-Nov18 'The Great Divide', OVADA, Oxford UK 60 artists from 12 countries

- Jul18 'Upfest', Bristol. Europe's largest street art festival
- 17-Nov19 Nomadic Community Gardens, Shoreditch
- May16 Oxford Town Hall, Artweeks (most central of Artweeks' 300 venues)
- May-Sep15 Borde Hill Sculpture Exhibition, East Sussex

Solo exhibitions

- Aug-Sep18 Rough Trade Records UK flagship store, Shoreditch, London
- Nov17 Botanical Gardens, Sheffield (10,000 counted visitors)
- Jun-Jul17 Ludlow Fringe Festival Artist in Residence. Installations included an aeroplane 4 metres tall (35,000 visitors)
- Jun16 The Turrill Sculpture Garden, Oxford
- Jun-Jul16 'The 5th Plinth', Ludlow. The town's only annual solo exhibition. Exhibited a Fist made of earth, 2 metres tall, bursting from the Parish Church graveyard

Music and Arts Festivals

- Jul-Aug19 Art In The Park, Royal Leamington Spa, UK. The event includes >190 stallholding artists. Invited to participate as commissioned guest sculptor for the 2019 theme (Water), and give two talks in the Festival programme. 45,500 attended. AITP now contributes £2M to Warwickshire's economy.
- Jul19 Noisily Festival, UK (6,000 attendance)
- Jun19 OddBall Visionary Festival, Oxfordshire UK. Committee member
- Jul18 CATCH 23, Notwork, Sheffield, UK
- Mar18 Rocket Recordings 20, Islington Garage, London
Record label's 20th Anniversary celebration with full performances by 23 of its 30 signed bands, plus extra side project performances. Commissioned to produce a wall sculpture of the label's logo for the event. In association with Baba Yaga's Hut promoters.
- Jul16 Festival 23, UK Steering Board member. Installations across the site, and artist talk. Advisor on outdoor arts installations and health and safety.
- Jun16 Low Carbon Oxford Week
- Aug15 Supernormal (1,500 attendance)
- Jun-Jul15 Ludlow Fringe Festival (20,000 visitors)
- Aug14 Shambala (15,000 attendance)
- Aug14 Supernormal (1,200 attendance)



Prizes

'Change The World' competition, Poseytude Gallery, Oxford City Hall, 2016.
200 entrants. 40 entrants were exhibited. Won 3 of the 10 prizes, including the Grand Prize, from 2 sculptures (Other competitions entered: none.)

Publications

Arts writer, B4 magazine. Oxfordshire's bi-monthly magazine for all Oxfordshire's business infrastructure and community:

"Brand Connection" article, 'B4 Business' magazine, Sep18 [issue 54, Focus Edition \(p.121\)](#)

"Modern Art" 2-page feature, Apr19 [issue 57, Global Leaders Edition \(p.110-111\)](#)

2020: VocalEsk magazine, Toronto

Statement

Matt Smart is a sculptor and installation artist. He works in resins, molehills and other earths, metal, wood, polymers, and fabric.

His practice is informed through collective interests in land uses, environmental research and sustainability, human interactions with place, prehistoric cave art, street art, and archaeological excavations in which the land is a time-layered document. Matt was in the team that found two Saints and royal heirs (Anastasia/Maria and Alexei Romanov) in a Russian forest.

Technically, Matt works to develop new construction techniques and ways to use materials to achieve robust, lightweight sculpture. The purpose is to expand the possibilities of how and where public sculptures are installed, and to reduce the material input and carbon footprint of public sculpture. Expanding the materials and production methods may also facilitate broader expression in public art.

He has managed research portfolios in climate change and adaptation, national energy systems, and low-carbon economic planning. He has worked in animal tracking, traded in precious metals, and managed healthcare for performing artists. He is published in psychiatry. He is on arts festival committees and steering groups.

Matt Smart exhibits in public spaces, music festivals, parks and clubs. He makes works to be solid in concept and physically robust to resist high spirited interactions.

His artistic themes include collective responsibility, heritage and land use, imprinted memory, the recognition of pioneering women, and the evolution of language.

The sculptures celebrate the earth and us.

