

# Matt Smart

Sculpture

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## Group exhibitions

- Nov18 'Present, Perfect, Continuous', Bermondsey, London
- Sep-Nov18 'The Great Divide', OVADA, Oxford UK 60 artists from 12 countries
- Jul18 'Upfest', Bristol. Europe's biggest street art festival
- Apr17- 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

- Jul18 CATCH 23, Notwork. Yellow Arch, Sheffield
- Mar18 Rocket Recordings 20. Record label 20th Anniversary celebration with full performances by 23 of its 25 signed bands, plus extra side project performances. Commission to produce a wall sculpture of the label's logo for the event. In association with Baba Yaga's Hut promoters. Islington Garage, London.
- Jul16 Festival 23. Installations across the site, and an artist talk. Advisor on outdoor arts installations and health and safety. Member of Steering Board
- Jun16 Low Carbon Oxford Week
- Aug15 Supernormal (1,500 attendance)
- Jun-Jul15 Ludlow Fringe Festival, Shropshire (20,000 visitors)
- Aug14 Shambala (15,000 attendance)
- Aug14 Supernormal (1,200 attendance)

## Prizes

- 'Change The World' competition, Poseytube 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.)

## **Project commissions**

Mar17-Apr18 The Carbon Innovation Programme, University of Oxford.  
Behavioural change sculpture trail, *Sculpting Hearts and Minds*.  
A carbon reduction project, including behaviour change evaluation  
and evidence to inform funding strategies for public arts  
interventions, with assistance of a consultancy organisation

## **Social Enterprise**

Jan16 onwards Director, ITSUP C.I.C.  
Founder of community interest company limited by guarantee.

Objects of the Company:

"...improving awareness of the social aims and benefits of urban art; share and showcase developments in materials and techniques; enhance the local recognition and ability of art to communicate on collective issues and opportunities for social improvements; contribute to social cohesion through culture; and improve the respect and quality of the contributions of urban art."

## **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 land use, 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. He was in the team that found two Saints and royal heirs (Anastasia 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.

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 and music 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, tribal heritage and land use, imprinted memory, the recognition of pioneering women, beliefs of protection and ritual, and the evolution of language.

The sculptures celebrate the earth, collectives, and us.