

Louise Griffiths-Kimber



Artist Profile

Louise studied Fine Art to Degree level at Oxford Brookes University where she graduated in 1999. From 1999 until 2005 Louise studied Ceramic Sculpture at Aylesbury College under Megan di Girolamo and Tony Southwell. Since then Louise has been producing mixed media paintings and ceramic sculptures. Colour, gesture and expression are integral elements in her work. Louise often references ancient cultures in both her paintings and sculptures, and is particularly drawn to Standing Stones, where she sometimes works 'in situ'. She is fascinated by mythology and some of her more recent work considers Creation myths, namely the Temptation of Adam and Eve.

Louise has exhibited at The Mall Galleries in London; Henley Exhibition Centre; the District Council Offices and Civic Centre in Aylesbury; Obsidian Art, Stoke Mandeville; St, Mary's Church, Aylesbury; Waddesdon Plant Centre; Tendercare Nurseries in Denham and Gaea Crystals in Wendover.. She has also exhibited previously with The Winslow Group as part of Bucks Art Week. She was the first artist to be featured in Aylesbury District Councils 'Adopt an Artist' scheme. Her sculptures have previously been featured on the Art Outside website. Louise has a piece of sculpture in a public art installation entitled 'Antonia's Playground' at the Medway Maritime Hospital in Kent, which was a collaborative project with other ceramic students at Aylesbury College. Louise has contributed to the public artwork in Kingsbury Square in Aylesbury. She also has work in private collections in Australia, England and Germany.



Pentre Ifan 4th

Louise has been visiting Pembrokeshire for the past 23 years, and has subsequently discovered that she had relatives living in Letterston and on the Parrog in Newport in the past. Her maternal great grandparents both went to school in Mathry. So Louise has a strong attachment to the area. Ten years ago Louise completed her first painting of Pentre Ifan, and since then she has produced pictures of the cromlech, in various guises. Louise has been fascinated with the changes of light on

the standing stones, especially at sunrise and at sunset. Last year, she was also lucky enough to witness a full moon over the stones. For Louise the cromlech represents an enigmatic link to the past and all our ancestors. Through their burial chamber, which almost seems like a part of the landscape itself, the changing weather, light and seasonal conditions come and go. She sees the stones as a motif to explore these ideas - and here is influenced by Monet, who used such motifs as Rouen Cathedral, the Haystacks, and the infamous Water-Lily pond at Giverny to investigate these ever-changing and fascinating permutations of colour and light. Louise's other artistic influences, apart from Monet, include Jackson Pollack, Picasso, Matisse, De Kooning, Paul Klee, The Fauves and the German Expressionists, and last, but not least, local artist David Tress, whose work Louise has been following for at least 15 years.

Working in the natural environment is always a challenge – but usually produces some exciting results. As the skies change over Carn Ingli and the Newport Estuary it is sometimes a furious battle to capture the essence of the moment – hence the paintings are usually completed very quickly, and are rarely worked on later, as even if imperfect they convey the fleeting effects that were experienced. Working in this way also emphasises the passing of time and how the monument itself has been witnessing the changes in its surroundings over the centuries.

Louise sees the residency at Nant-y-Coy as an opportunity to push her work into new territory. She is hoping to work on larger versions of Pentre Ifan – and to explore further her use of mixed media; as well as the possibility of painting the Iron Age Fort at Treffgarne. She is very much looking forward to this exciting opportunity, meeting the general public and talking about her working methods. She is extremely grateful to Margaret Merritt and Nant-y-Coy Arts for inviting her to work in this, one of her favourite parts of the world.