

BEN LAWSON

Born 1976

Lives and works in Newcastle upon Tyne



Statement

Benjamin Lawson is an artist and engineer with a physics degree from Bristol University and an MSc from Cranfield University. He has previously exhibited throughout the UK and internationally including with The Natural History Museum's Blaschka collection. He has previously participated in the Pacific Northwest tree octopus internet hoax and was recently commissioned by the Austrian art technology group, Monochrom as part of their 20 year anniversary exhibition in Vienna.

Much of Benjamin's work is concerned with the subjective and fragmentary nature of scientific enquiry and more particularly with the impact of cultural paradigms on the scientific imagination.

Current work and practice utilises the implied gravitas that comes from the language of scientific visualisation to create playful work that questions the veracity of received knowledge.

Influences are many but Benjamin has a particular soft spot for the antiquarian imagination noting, that that which seems obvious in hindsight never is at the time and that human perspective, now as then, is finite and narrow, mutable by cultural circumstance.

Education

2013 - 14	PGCE, Durham University
2001 - 02	M.Sc. Global Security, Royal Military College of Science, Cranfield University
1994 - 97	B.Sc. Physics, Bristol University

Selected Exhibitions

2013	<i>Mapping the Return</i> , Literary & Philosophical Society, Newcastle upon Tyne
2013	<i>Return to the Philosopher's Table</i> , Literary & Philosophical Society, Newcastle upon Tyne
2013	<i>Performance & installation</i> , Late Shows, Literary & Philosophical Society, Newcastle upon Tyne
2013	<i>Prologue</i> , The Gallery of Wonder: Great North Museum
2010	<i>No Fanfare</i> , Made In Newcastle, Newcastle Upon Tyne
2010	<i>Factory Folk Event</i> , Literary & Philosophical Society, Newcastle upon Tyne
2008	<i>Art Forms from the Ocean</i> , National Glass Centre, Sunderland
2008	<i>Free for Wall</i> , Brick Lane Gallery, London, E2
2008	<i>Lost North</i> , Literary & Philosophical Society, Newcastle upon Tyne
2008	<i>Defector</i> , Format Gallery, Newcastle upon Tyne
2007	<i>Autumn Exhibition</i> , Trattles and Gealls Fine Art, Whitby, North Yorkshire
2007	<i>Summer Exhibition</i> , Alnwick Gardens, Northumberland
2007	<i>Holocaust Exhibition</i> , Art Café Project, Newcastle upon Tyne
2007	Gallery Glue, Newcastle upon Tyne
2007	The Art Works Galleries, Newcastle upon Tyne

Workshops & Residencies

2014	<i>Artist's talk</i> , St Thomas More School, Blaydon
2010	<i>Science for artists</i> , at 25 Stratford Grove, Newcastle Upon Tyne
2010	<i>Science for artists</i> , at Made In Newcastle, Newcastle Upon Tyne
2008	Blue Reef Aquarium, Whitley Bay, Tyne and Wear

Selected Commissions

2013	<i>They used to be better, monochrom (1993-2013)</i> at MUSA, Vienna, Austria
2013	<i>Electricity</i> , production for theatre group Helictite, Newcastle upon Tyne
2013	<i>Fish under the Table</i> , Literary & Philosophical Society, Newcastle upon Tyne
2010	Red Nile Projects, Sunderland
2009	CREST Research Group, Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne

Additional

2009 - Present	Artwork used to teach GCSE and A-level at St Thomas More School, Blaydon
2008	<i>Art Forms from the Ocean</i> , Exhibition Catalogue, National Glass Centre, Sunderland

Website

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