

Nicole Wassall British



Nicole Wassall is a London based artist whose focus is to juggle with our intuition. It is therefore no surprise that her work spans across mediums, including video, sculpture, photography and installation. The use of parts of the brain usually left latent is the focus, rather than the choice of media.

Neuroscientists discovered with fMRI scans (Functional Magnetic Resonance Imaging) that, throughout history, certain groups of artists have created work that stimulates the brain in unexpected ways. Neuroscientists have used this research to gain a better understanding of how the mind works. However, Wassall looks at it from the opposite direction and actively seeks to borrow from the informed understanding of neuroscience to enrich her work.

In the most part it is not about awakening parts of the brain that have until now remained dormant but rather it is about processing the information differently with different parts of the brain. Perhaps incredibly, many people report they can feel this difference.

Wassall describes her practice as using “an understanding of neuroscience to push open the swing doors of hunches and blur the dotted lines between senses and perception. Neuroscience on its own is a theory of flat surfaces. It needs the laws of unplanned consequence that thread through life for it to resonate.” From her perspective neuroscience is one of the most exciting areas in art because of its potential to push the boundaries of contemporary art.

Wassall’s work has been exhibited in Australia, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Poland in the USA. She completed an MA in Fine Art (Central Saint Martins, London), has been shortlisted for

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numerous awards and included in various competition style exhibitions (including Survival 10 - a Polish art competition for international talent, which resulted in her work being discussed at the Barbican in a lecture about the future of video art).

Wassall's work has been included in the book 'What is an Artbook?' by 'The Modern Language Experiment' and it has been used in a photo shoot of Morrissey by GQ magazine. She has various works in the Ramsey collection and has been commissioned to develop work for Harriet Varney (creative commentator for the likes of Vogue, i-D and Tank magazine).

Education

2009 MA Fine Art, Central Saint Martins, London
2007 Foundation, Central Saint Martins, London

Awards

2014 Art 14 – Olympia Grand, Hammersmith Road, Kensington, London
2013 Pop-Up linked to ISEA Sydney 2013 – 51 William Street, Sydney Australia
Night projection of Bird in a Cage, projected in the gallery and viewed from the street
2012 SURVIVAL 10–ART TRANSPARENT Olawka stadium at ul, Wrocław, Poland, 10th anniversary show, included in a 'best of' selection from previous years (see Survival 8)
2011 DAZED LIVE FESTIVAL–DAZED and CONFUSED magazine, East London
Selected to exhibit images from 'Bouville' – Photographs of gagged London statues
2010 SURVIVAL 8 – ART TRANSPARENT Bunkier Strzegomski, Wrocław, Poland
2009 International art competition for emerging artists, Clifford Chance Sculpture Award
EXHIBIT 09 – The Arts Gallery, Davies Street, London
Selected as finalist in competition judged by David Buckland from Cape Farewell project
2007 Saatchi New Sensations – selected as one of 20 Saatchi New Sensations (later disqualified for not yet having obtained a BA or MA)

Bibliography

2014 Nicole Wassall, The law of unplanned consequence, Fiumano Projects Publishing, London, 1st edition of 100 signed and numbered copies, ISBN 978-0-9928481-0-1
2012 Londonart.co.uk – Reviews by Chris Mugan
Byoutiful.com – But is it just a little too shocking? Review by Alex Zagalsky

Bibliography continued

2012 What is an Artbook? – Published by The Modern Language Experiment. Selected artists contributing a chapter each. Book launch at Mews Project Space, London, ISBN
2011 GQ Magazine – Product placement in photo shoot with Morrissey
2010 Interview on Resonance FM

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Included in BBC radio interview, Lesley Joseph – with special guest Jenny Éclair (Director of the East End Film Festival)–in connection with BARMY PARK Survival Review – Featured artist in Survival 8 catalogue

2009 The Grand Plasto – Baader-Books, KALEID, Redchurch Street, London

Selected Solo Exhibitions

2021 Magic, Mischief & Mayhem, Rick Wester Fine Art, New York, USA

2019 Precious Mettle, Fiumano Clase, London

2013 Outside in, Fiumano Projects, Connaught Street, London

2008 A Very Private View – Gallery 51, 51 William Street, Sydney, Australia

Selected Group Exhibitions

2022 One by One, Fiumano Clase Pall Mall location launch exhibition

2021 TRANS/FORM, curated by Gita Joshi, Cello Factory, London (cancelled due to Covid

Re:store, Re:new, Re:imagine, Willesden Gallery, London

Love Devotion Surrender Dedication, Rick Wester Galery, New York

Soundstripes 5, The Abbeydale Picture House, Sheffield

Every Woman Biennial, London & New York

Silent Film, Fringe Arts Bath

While we Wait: Branching Out, Vacant Museum, virtual/online

Different Strokes Project, Female Artists Club, Belgium

Imprints: Past & Present, Vacant Museum, virtual/online

Summer exhibition, online, Fiumano Clase

Once Upon a Time, and Now!, Studio 3 Gallery, Kent University, Canterbury

Really/Real, Fringe Arts Bath Festival, Bath

Digital Quilt, Art in Flux, London

Lethaby Gallery, London

2018 Rick Wester Fine Art, New York

2017 With Fiumano Clase at Pulse Miami Beach, Miami, USA

Wassall & Lohe, Fiumano Clase, London

2016 Editions, Orion Contemporary, London

2014 With Fiumano Projects at Art14, London

With Fiumano Projects at Art Central, Hong Kong

2013 Touch Art Fair, West London

2013-16 The Blake Society illuminated manuscripts, various locations, UK

2012 London Art Pop Up – Dulwich Village, London

Red Door Studios – Visiting artist, East Ham, London

Out there – The Round Chapel, Clapton Road, London

2011 Sluice Art Fair – 26 South Molton Lane, London

Selected Group Exhibitions continued

The Artists Book Weekend – The Mews Project Space, London

2010 BARMY PARK, London, Bethnal Green

Hot Boredom, Redchurch Street, London

2009 MA Fine Art Degree Show – Central Saint Martins, London

Catch my drift, Oxo Tower, London

2008 Wanted, The Rag Factory, East London

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