



21-24 July 2011

Art in Action Newsletter

May 2011 No.1

Welcome!

Welcome to the first Art in Action newsletter. Over the next few months we'll be bringing you all the latest news on this year's event including new artists as they're confirmed, changes to the layout and those all important weather predictions. Put the dates in your diary now...

Chapungu Sculpture Park

Chapungu Sculpture Park has a long relationship with Art in Action and is returning for the 5th time in 2011, bringing Zimbabwean master sculptors who will demonstrate their powerful and evocative stonework. They are also exhibiting in Waterperry Gardens for a year from April 2011 and tours entitled 'Embracing the Spirit Master Sculptors of Zimbabwe' will be conducted by Chapungu's founder Roy Guthrie during Art in Action.

Chapungu Sculpture Park was set up in 1970 and has pioneered the promotion of stone sculpture (Shona sculpture), building up the most important permanent collection of this work in existence. From its humble beginnings as a small gallery in Zimbabwe's capital city to a 20 acre park on the outskirts of Harare and now also with a park in Colorado in the US, it has remained steadfast to its mission to:

- promote the stone sculptors of Zimbabwe through world wide exhibitions, documentation, workshops, preservation and sales
- make viewers aware of the expressive power and artistic validity of these contemporary African artists
- bring, through the sculptures, an awareness of the depth and wisdom of the traditional African cultures

"This is the birth of a great national art, capable of speaking about the whole creation, from personal and family feeling to the world of spirit, soul and self. It is a thrilling adventure of contemporary art."
Art's Review, London, 1990, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Wakefield, United Kingdom



Sharing the Strength
by Agnes Nyanhongo



Mediator by Nicholas Mukomberanwa

Artists Confirmed

Many artists have already been confirmed to appear this July including some popular choices from last year's line-up:

- Linda Dangoor returns to Ceramics with her pots and vessels made from clay ribbons
- Frode Bolhuis from The Netherlands whose sculpture stood majestic on the front lawn last year
- Anna Knights last appeared in Nature in Art in 2009 with her paintings of flowers and vegetables that have a photographic realism
- Jane Moore appears in the Metalwork and Jewellery section for the 3rd year running with her silver and enamel pendants and earrings.



Linda Dangoor



Jane Moore. Metalwork and Jewellery. demonstrating in 2010

Staffing Art in Action

Historically speaking, Art in Action has always been staffed voluntarily by students from the School of Economic Science. In recent years they have been joined by family and friends and a more recent development has been the addition of members of public (often previous visitors) and undergraduate art students - eager to get some hands on experience of the professional life of an artist.

Finding the appropriate staff for the numerous roles is currently the responsibility of Mark Toole. He must find people willing to clean toilets, direct traffic in the rain, assist the artists, help the public and much more, always taking into consideration the nature of the role and the abilities of the volunteer!

However, the feedback suggests that volunteers get more out of the experience than they put in:

"It is I who really should be thanking you as it was a great pleasure to have helped out with Art in Action. I enjoyed the experience immensely as well as learning a great deal."

"I thoroughly enjoyed helping this time as I usually attend as a visitor."

"It was great to be on the other side for a change."

The volunteers at Art in Action are the backbone of the event, without their generous donation of time and effort, it simply could not happen. The service they offer also creates a very special atmosphere, often commented on by visitors. At a time when customer care is sometimes forgotten, Art in Action really does try to give the very best to its visitors and the artists, in whose honour the event is held.

If you are interested in volunteering at Art in Action please contact Daphne Aza-Selinger on aiavolunteers@gmail.com.

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