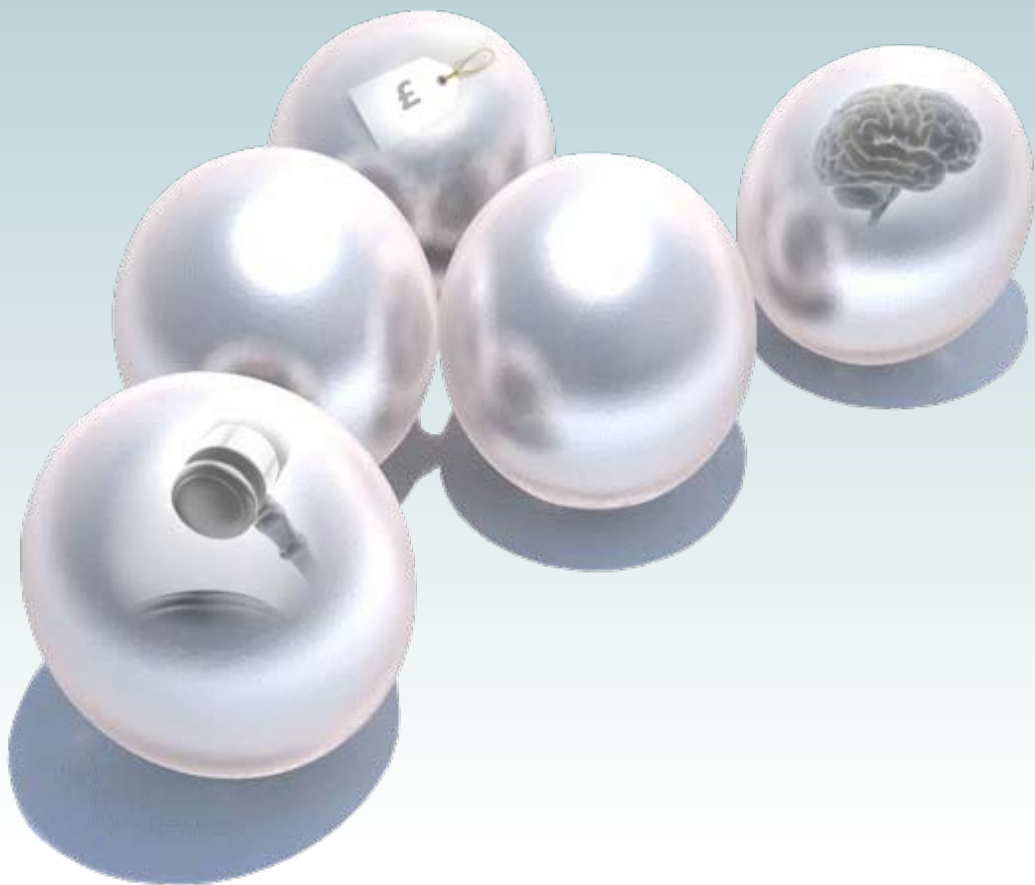


Headway North London Pearl Anniversary Art Exhibition & Auction

Catalogue

Thursday 22 October 2009



 Field Fisher Waterhouse



We would like to thank you for attending the Headway North London Pearl Anniversary Art Exhibition & Auction this evening.

Headway North London has touched so many people's lives over the past 30 years and what better way to celebrate this milestone than to showcase the way in which brain injury survivors express themselves through Art.

Jill Greenfield, partner at Field Fisher Waterhouse and her colleagues are delighted to be able to support Headway North London in hosting this evenings event and certainly hope that it will help raise much needed funds for the group.

We would like to say a huge thank you to the inspiring artists, some of whom are members of Headway and brain injury survivors themselves, for generously donating their time and creativity to make this event possible.

Throughout the evening you will have a chance to purchase individual items or bid in the silent auction. Please note the silent auction will close at 9:00pm. If you are interested in bidding for an item please provide your details on the relevant silent auction form. Remember to keep checking to ensure you do not get out bid during the evening!

Once again, thank you for your support and we hope you enjoy the evening. Please read on to find out more about the participating artists and their work.

Steven Bloch



Steven Bloch, who died in February 2008, was a talented professional photographer, journalist and teacher both in the UK and abroad, specialist in promoting awareness of disabled people. Steven himself acquired hidden disabilities through a severe brain injury when he was a teenager.

Through his photography, Steven aimed to challenge society's perceptions and promote a better understanding of disability and a more inclusive society. His photographs capture ordinary people participating in mainstream activities, "doing" not simply "being." His work aims to show the satisfaction that may be achieved, in spite of the difficulties superimposed on an individual by their disability and society's response to it.

Janet Bloch, Steven's mother has kindly loaned us the 'Art of Disability, Pushing the Boundaries' collection to exhibit this evening. The original photographs are not for sale, however, if you would be interested in buying a print, this can be arranged directly with Julie Bridgewater from Headway North London. Proceeds from any sales will be split between Headway North London and a charitable trust to be established in Steven's name.

If you would care to see more of Steven Bloch's work, please visit www.imageofdisability.com



Please note we would like to apologise for the misprint of Steven Bloch's photograph in our original invitation for this event. Correct photographs are displayed above and we sincerely apologise to Janet Bloch for any offence caused.

William Fairbank



William Fairbank set out to find himself through working with wood after a car accident in 1987 left him with serious brain injury. He studied at Ravensbourne College of Art and was taught by the eminent designer, David Jesse-Jones. Prior to his accident he ran his own carpentry and joinery business for many years but the wood sculpting played an important part of his occupational therapy.

For seven years after his accident, William worked on the Forest Stations, fifteen wood sculptures, containing 139 different timbers which now have a semi-permanent home in the Nave of Lincoln Cathedral. William has appeared on BBC Songs of Praise being interviewed by Aled Jones in front of the sculptures. William was also commissioned to do the Heart of Yew sculpture and Time Line was entered for the Turner Prize in 2000.

As well as an accomplished wood sculptor, William also makes films. He has made the film 'Head On', about life after head injury and is now working on the Living in the Present film, which is about how people with short term memory loss experience life, from moment to moment, in a very different way to 'normal memory' people, like he was before the accident.

William has carved three wood sculptures for the silent auction, which illustrate the relationship between the brain bashed mind and the 'normal' pre-incident mind.



100% of the proceeds raised from William's work will be donated to Headway North London.

Kendra Gare



Kendra Gare graduated from the University of Georgia with a degree in Criminal Justice in 1998 and followed with a degree in Fine Arts Painting and Drawing in 2000. It was on her year abroad at Lancaster University where she first forayed into the arts. Her work is extremely diverse and she enjoys using many different mediums.

Kendra has shown her work in various venues in Athens, Georgia and East London.

"The Journeyman" has been kindly donated by Kendra for the silent auction. It is said that the number of possible synapse connections in the human brain is greater than the number of atoms in the universe. This piece contemplates this concept and the unseen possibilities of the human mind.



100% of the proceeds raised from Kendra's work will be donated to Headway North London.

Christine Hawthorne



Christine Hawthorne has always been interested in art and creative work, however only in more recent years has she devoted time to the pursuit of art by painting floral arrangements for family and friends. She was fortunate to have a very inspirational tutor who took her through impressionism and surrealism, plus frequently visits art galleries whenever she travels.

The project which she has been developing over a period of years evolved from just one knot of wood [The Eye]. One knot became four knots and four became twelve. Each inspired a piece of prose; a poem and a painting. The knots and an extract of the poem for each are contained in a calendar which is available for purchase these evening. The calendar has been made 'any year' for practical purposes.

In addition to her calendars, Christine will be exhibiting some of her paintings this evening. Christine hopes that the whole project will appear in book form next year – hence the pictures are not, at present, available for purchase. However, should you have an interest in any particular one, please feel free to contact Christine through Headway North London.



100% of the proceeds raised from Christine's calendars will be donated to Headway North London.

Christa Joyce



Christa Joyce was a successful senior manager and a published writer who took part in performance readings at literary events, and ran creative writing workshops for beginners. In the summer of 2006 she had an accident, sustaining a brain injury, and her life changed forever.

During her recovery, Christa got involved in paper craft after a friend suggested that she tried scrap-booking in an attempt to record all the major events in her life, as she no longer has a short-term memory. Initially she thought it was a great idea, but it turned out to be a disaster as she struggled to get to grips with the whole concept. However she eventually stumbled across card-making which has proven to be a really important creative outlet.

Christa now makes cards for all occasions using a variety of techniques; including matting & layering, decoupage, paper folding and embossing. Each of her cards are unique; individually designed and made by hand. She is very conscious of environmental issues and wherever possible uses recycled materials or paper from sustainable sources. All products used, including adhesives and inks, are acid and lignin free.

To show her appreciation of the support Headway North London has given her, Christa is bringing along a wide selection of her cards to sell.



100% of the proceeds raised from Christa's work will be donated to Headway North London.

David Mercer



David Mercer had little interest in art until he was diagnosed with viral Encephalitis three years ago. Encephalitis is caused by a viral infection and leads to rare inflammation in the brain which has similar symptoms to a brain injury.

This condition ended up opening David's mind to a whole new creative way of thinking and expressing himself and has resulted in him becoming the artist he is today.

David has donated 10 pieces of his work to be auctioned this evening, ranging from cartoon collages and small canvasses to larger abstracts.



Proceeds raised from David's work will be split equally between Headway North London and The Encephalitis Society

Monica Pennino



Monica graduated with a degree in Economics & Politics but after 18 years in Investment banking, she was "grounded" for 2 years with illness. As she recovered, she made a life changing decision to follow her life-long passion for pearls and founded her shop, M&P Le Mie Perle.

M&P Le Mie Perle is a specialist pearl jewellers based in Bishop's Stortford that offer an exceptional range of pearls sourced from the best farms around the world, jewellery designs by Monica, fine unique pieces by world leading designers and bespoke pieces made on request.

Monica is a GIA graduate (Gemmological Institute of America), GIA Alumni and a proud member of GEM-A and the BJA.

To mark the approaching 2nd Birthday of M&P's Le Mie Perle, Monica has kindly donated a 27 strands freshwater pearls necklace called 'Illusion', which was Monica's first necklace design (see image left), along with matching earrings for the silent auction.

Monica will be bringing a selection of her jewellery to sell tonight, 20% of the proceeds raised will be donated to Headway North London.



100% of the proceeds raised from the pearl necklace and earrings will be donated to Headway North London.

Sharon Salazar



Sharon's extensive experience in the arts range from writing scripts, poetry, plays, painting and sculpture, theatre and film. As a performer Sharon has acted, danced and sang professionally, she has over 20 years of experience within the many aspects of theatre and film, in directing, behind the scenes set design and building, make-up and wardrobe.

Sharon's uncompromising pursuit of freedom, sense of justice and quirky humour allows her to playfully push boundaries in her films whilst addressing serious taboos. Sharon treats the subjects of her films with real compassion. With a unique creative sensitivity she entices us to participate emotionally by stimulating our senses just enough.

The 10 minute short film we will see tonight is an excerpt from the first of three documentary films in which Sharon documented the lives of different Londoners, some of whom have brain injuries, and the magnificence of each individual journey. These films are a personal and cultural narrative into today's London and its great diversity. Music composer, Phil Garrod has collaborated on the films and an expert will be featured this evening.

Sophie Sweetbaum



Sophie Sweetbaum lives in North London where she has established herself as a well respected portrait photographer; largely focusing on photographing children. She is a graduate of the Parsons School of Design in New York as well as having a Masters Degree from the Royal College of Art where she studied photography between 1991 and 1993. In the early part of her career Sophie was assistant to Steve Pyke who's portraiture photography is known throughout the world.

Sophie's photographic style has been recognised for its uniqueness including winning the Sunday Times Award, the National Magazine Award and coming 2nd in the South Bank Photo Show at the Royal Festival Hall where she has exhibited on two occasions. She has also showed her work at The Isis Gallery and Arts Institute.

All of Sophie's pictures are taken in black and white format. Through her pictures Sophie seeks to capture the inner being of those she is photographing and this is one of the reasons she feels it is so important to support Headway North London's Pearl Event which is helping to transform the lives of those with brain injuries. Sophie has been generous enough to donate a photography session for two children to the highest bidder in our silent auction, which will include two black and white images.



100% of the proceeds raised from Sophie's work will be donated to Headway North London.

Xavier White



Xavier White is a London based artist who has been involved with Headway North London since sustaining a head injury from an RTA in 1985. Since his accident Xavier has rebuilt his life and capabilities using his creativity as a stimulus through his rehabilitation as an alternative artist.

Xavier graduated from the Swansea Metropolitan University with a degree in Architectural Glass last year and is already becoming recognised for his skill. One of his larger pieces 'All the worlds a stage' glass model, was auctioned at Bonham's Contemporary and modern art sale in May and is here this evening on loan from the buyer.

Xavier has created several pieces around the theme of head injury and pearls for the silent auction this evening.



50% of the proceeds raised from Xavier's work will be donated to Headway North London.

Headway North London & Friends

It is estimated that there are over 60,000 people in London who have a brain injury and Headway North London plays a vital role in many of these people's lives.

An important part of rehabilitation for many brain injury survivors is through finding a creative outlet and this is something Headway encourages its members to get involved with in regular art projects. The first art project the members took part in Ros Lewis Williams Art of Community's 'One Canvas Many Lives' project in 2007 successfully exhibiting at City Hall and Guildhall hosted by Architect, Sir Jeremy Dixon. The second, a triptych entitled 'Neuro Logically Sensitive', was only completed yesterday. We are proud to present both of these wonderful pieces in our exhibition this evening. There are also six special canvasses that were created especially for tonight by Headway members that are available to the highest bidder in our silent auction.

As well as all of the featured artists, we have been given some other very special pieces to auction at this evening's event. These items include an antique Pearl and White gold ring worth over £600, an antique pearl caviar knife and spoon set (with 50g of Beluga caviar) and various pieces of bespoke jewellery. There will also be an opportunity to purchase a selection of mounted photographs from the collection of one of our artists Jonathan Sharpe. Please note 100% of the proceeds raised at this event will be donated to Headway North London.

We would like to give a special mention to Julie Bridgewater, Vice chair of Headway North London. Without her hard work and generous donations, this event would not have been possible.



Field Fisher Waterhouse

