

AGE & BEAUTY EXHIBITION GUIDE

***** **Saturday 14 – Sunday 15 July 2018** *****

“I can only note that the past is beautiful because one never realises an emotion at the time. It expands later, and thus we don't have complete emotions about the present, only about the past.” Virginia Woolf

In response to the unique nature of Poltimore House and the diverse history of the estate, buildings and occupants we explore the ideas of age and beauty in all its forms. Featuring artists and makers from the South West the exhibition takes its inspiration from the beauty to be found within this surprising, unusual and historical space.

Curated by: Helen Creedy & Peter Weedon

***** **ARTISTS:** *****

1. Alice Antliff

I am a third year student studying ceramics and glass at Plymouth college of Art. My work mainly focuses on flowers and plantation but has recently been following the path of plants and animals that are affected by human activity, including areas such as pollution and global warming and the impact of my work on the environment. I have taken inspiration from the rococo style flowers in the Saloon of Poltimore House, using a second hand vase and recycled glass from charity shops for the casting of the flowers. No new materials were used to create the piece.

Exhibiting: ‘Untitled’. Medium: Cast Glass. Price on Application.

2. Bethany Antliff

Bethany Antliff 's practice makes enquiry into the ongoing issues environmental issues resulting from ever-increasing human consumption. During her Bachelor of Arts Degree Bethany has developed a visual language that has resulted from an extensive enquiry into materials and processes. Beth uses an interdisciplinary approach combining glass and ceramics to make aesthetic enquiry of the interrelationship between earth and water. More specifically the symbiotic relationships that make up lichen on land, and coral in the ocean. Bethany uses her aesthetic enquiry to encourage a greater appreciation of the natural world and invites the viewer to reconsider the way we coexist within our shared environment.

Exhibiting: ‘Untitled vessels’. Medium: Glass & Ceramic. Price on Application.

3. Michael Baldwin

I have always been passionate about drawing. I also like watercolour because of its ‘immediacy’. Because of my career as an architect I love drawing buildings, however I am also interested in the human face. Faces of all ages and types are fascinating, even beautiful, to draw. Portraiture is particularly demanding in that it requires acute observation and concentration in order to achieve a ‘likeness’. One can cheat with buildings; portraiture is unforgiving and cheating isn’t possible. The need for accuracy makes even more difficult that elusive quality which gives ‘life’ to a drawing. I am still trying...

Exhibiting: ‘Nigel’; ‘Dee’; ‘Angel Ayestaran’; ‘Sarah’; ‘Charles’.
Medium: Graphite & Watercolour. Price: Not For Sale.

4. Mim Brigham

'Award winning' Cornish Artist Mim Brigham specialises in a combination of hot and warm glass to create stunning pieces that are both literal and abstract, using the glass as a medium. All her current designs are inspired by an image Mim found in an old biology book of a cross-section of a blade of marram grass down the microscope. This is the grass found on the sand dunes around the country. Each piece is handmade and completely unique with colours derived from the seaside. Mim's piece 'Marram Grass' is used as the main image on publicity for the 'Age & Beauty' Exhibition.

Exhibiting: 'Grand Marram' £3,000; 'Marram Grass I' £1,350; 'Marram Grass II' £1,350 Medium: Blown & cast glass.

5. Rebecca Child

"My main career was as an architect, the training and practice influencing my current work, seeing, remembering and imagining places. My work starts with the world around me - a place, a collection of postcards with emotional significance, a jug of tulips. Drawing is the start and the investigation, whether the intention is to make a print or the drawing is the final outcome. I work quickly in charcoal, to change and re-change the drawing, to show the marks which become part of the story. I have been making drawings in different rooms in Poltimore over a few weeks."

Exhibiting: 'Abandonment'; 'Glooming'; 'Shadows'; 'Fragments'. Price: £275 each.
Medium: Mixed media.

6. Christine Cole

Having graduated from Plymouth University in Fine Art, specialising in printmaking, I have since focused on producing layered printed images on canvas and textured surfaces. I have also been experimenting with 3D work which incorporates prints. For this exhibition I have taken images of peeling paint and other distressed surfaces, some of which are from Poltimore House, and have presented them in a way to suggest seascapes and landscapes. Hopefully by doing so, the 'beauty' of the 'ageing' subject matter will become even more evident.

Exhibiting: 'Untitled' 1 – 6. Price: £40 each. 'Untitled' 7 – 11. Price £60 each.
Medium: Photographic Print on canvas & Mixed media.

7. Christopher Custons-Cole

'Tracks'

The shoulder of the Raddon rises to the ridge. At a bend in the lane the farm tractors move into the lower slopes. Tyre marks cut the red earth, and curve up as they disappear over the first fold in the field. Through a gap in the hedge, a pair straight up again, another delicate curve. Almost at the ridge two finer straight lines disappear into the dazzle of the sun. We make and re-shape the land. Inks ran and blurred on the paper. A repetitive activity allowed the accidental to happen. Evening car lights dashed under the bright moonlight. Wind and rain lashed and thrashed their way through the days.

Exhibiting: 'Tracks' 81; 82; 83; 99. Medium: Ink on paper. Price £90 each.
'Tracks' 349; 293; 294; 419; 436; 428. Medium: Ink on paper. Price £60 each.

8. Helen Creedy (Exhibition Curator)

Helen graduated from Plymouth College of Art in 2016 having decided to pursue her passion for glass as a mature student. She primarily works in warm and cast glass and has a particular interest in printing with enamels. She says of her work: "Glass as a material seems to have magical qualities and I often lose track of time as I work with it. The pieces I create can be driven by an emotional response to a snippet of music, a glimpse of a beautiful work of art or often an issue that moves me and I specialise in one-off or limited edition contemporary pieces designed to inspire and provoke."

Exhibiting: 'Recruitment 2015' £100 – all proceeds to Combat Stress. Original Images © Imperial War Museum; 'Contemplation I – III' £30 each; 'Unhandy' £100; 'Fishy' £150; 'I see no ships' £125.
Medium: Enamel screen-print on glass. Glass – blown, cast & fused.

9. Emily Hakin

With a passion for drawing and writing, Emily often creates portraits and illustrations that visually represent a current time or place through a figurative and traditional style. The themes of her works revolve around, but are not confined to, memory, nostalgia and storytelling. As an artist Emily is interested in history and conservation, archiving, memory, story telling and challenging disappearance through drawing. Although her practice is mainly graphite based, she is excited to work with mixed media in response to her time spent at Poltimore House and is looking forward to expanding her use of materials and experimenting with display.

Exhibiting: 'Mnemonic' One – Twelve. Medium: Graphite & foil on paper.
Individually priced £50 - £100.

10. Katherine Howes

Katherine is a student at Plymouth College of Art. The work she has chosen to exhibit is a representation of forgotten loves; taking the gramophone, an iconic subject of music culture and depicting it in glass and copper foil, a process that was first started in the 19th century. 'Gramophone' is an acknowledgment to a non-digital time, a simpler life, a beautiful technique and a piece of equipment that changed music forever.

Exhibiting: 'Gramophone'. Medium: Glass & copper foil. Price £550.

11. Kirstie Montague

Kirstie graduated from Plymouth University of Art in 2010 to pursue a career as a Graphic Designer. In her spare time, she has created illustrations for the R.N.L.I., R.S.P.B. and local companies. Kirstie creates beautiful illustration using ink and watercolours playfully capturing the energy of the animal subject. She has a real passion for nature and her impact on it and loves all animals, completing illustrations of a number of people's pets on commission. She also illustrates using her beloved sewing machine using free hand appliqué. She loves all things creative and her art is designed to inspire a positive emotion and make people smile.

Exhibiting: 'Elephant'; 'Rhino'; 'Buffalo'. Medium: Watercolour on paper.
Price (unframed) £100 each.

12. Ratna Saksena

Ratna Saksena is a multimedia artist who works with everyday objects and materials to explore the meaning of things. In an ongoing printmaking project she has used pharmaceutical packaging. One strand uses the physical presence of the tablet cartons and blisters to reveal overlooked marks, wear and tear, hidden language and Braille. The other strand is the box itself acting as a ground on which to rest the imagery. She is showing work for the exhibition inspired by Poltimore House, its history and objects she discovered during her recent visits.

Exhibiting: 'Drawing from Life', Mixed media, Price on Application. 'The Poison Chalice', Audio-Visual Installation. Not For Sale. 'The Great PFI Swindle', Screen-print. Price on Application. 'Blood, Sweat & Tears', Monoprint. Price on Application.

13. Karen Waterlow

I am an artist printmaker and am inspired by nature and both natural and manmade landscapes to produce original prints. I primarily use collagraph and drypoint techniques to produce highly textural images. I am a member of the Double Elephant printmaking group who are based in Exeter and have also trained at the London Print Studio. My work can be found on Facebook & Instagram under karenwaterlowprintmaker.

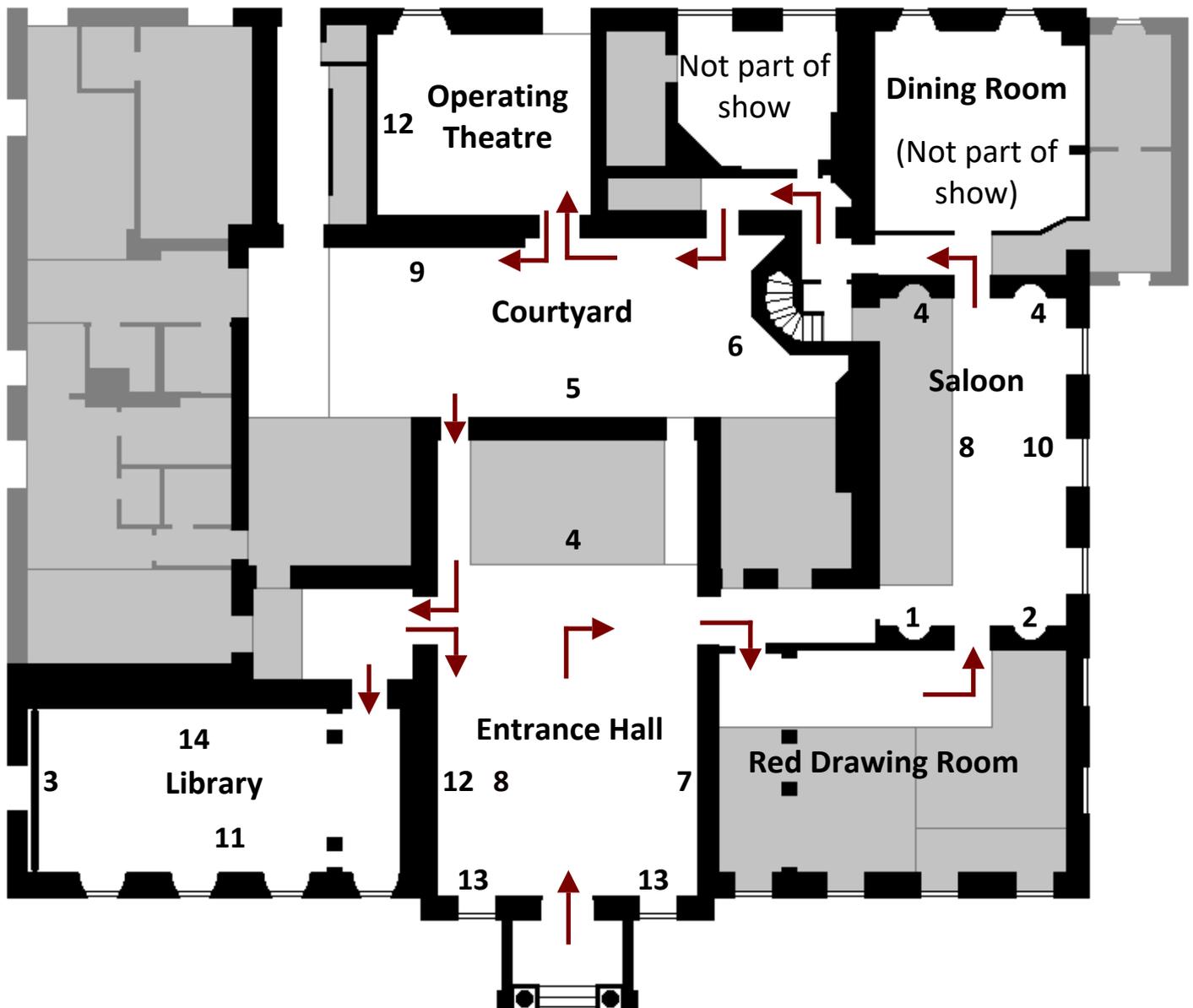
Exhibiting: 'Otterton Ledge' (framed); 'Unity Chapel' (framed); 'Faded Beauty I'; 'Faded Beauty II'; 'The Fells'; 'Twilight'; 'Angel'; 'Scorhill Stones'. Unframed unless indicated. Medium: Original print, Collagraph, Linocut & Drypoint. Individually priced between £60 & £85.

14. Helena Whitten

Helena has recently completed a BA in Fine Art the University Somerset, and an FDA at Exeter School of Art. Her long exposure photography challenges the concept of the frozen instant conventionally depicted by the photograph. Paradoxically, people move within her still images, and their actions hint at longer narratives and timeframes. As these ghostly figures blur and fade they seem to succumb to the act of forgetting. She says, "I find myself drawn to buildings such as Poltimore. There is unexpected beauty in these secret ruined places, as crumbling buildings struggle valiantly against their final obliteration."

Exhibiting: 'Forgotten'; 'Frame'; 'Paper Ghosts' (Hand bound Artist's Book); 'Pillar'; 'She dreamt upon.....'; 'She woke in the strangest place'; 'She wrapped herself in the walls'; 'Snail'; 'Tattered'; 'Their names once lost'; 'The other side of the window'; 'Threshold'; 'Walking through Walls IV'. Medium: Limited edition Digital Print. Price: (unframed) £12 each.

Age And Beauty 2018 - Exhibition Plan



1. Alice Antliff

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2. Bethany Antliff

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3. Mike Baldwin

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