

Anthony Corner Biography

Born in London.

Lives and works in Oxfordshire, UK.

Born and bred in South East London, then worked in an Australian abattoir in his teens before returning to London for education which was instrumental in developing the thematic current of 'Wayfinding' that runs throughout his work. The way that we navigate - a choice between this way and that - is apparent across his use of drawing as a language. Artistic decisions are fundamentally binary and each mark made is reflective of the choice between one word and another, this way or that.

Drawing's utilitarian nature and ability to establish complex and rudimentary meaning is the foundation of his work. It has a universal visual code that stretches from speculative sketches through to measurable draftsmanship - this is a language that allows him to articulate both an implied narrative and an underlying abstract. His sketchbooks are a manifestation of this, a conduit between intellectual speculation and concrete visual in the same way that a word has both a sign and a signifier. By collaborating with professionals from both the arts and sciences he has developed a greater awareness of the differences and similarities between the languages' of these disciplines.

Performance:

Collaborating with performers has been key to the development of his practice. This approach has embraced contemporary opera, including a major piece for Royal Opera House Covent Garden in 1993 when he was commissioned to design the set, costume and lighting for a new contemporary opera "Beyond Men and Dreams". This was directed by Wilf Judd, composed by Bennett Hogg and had a libretto by Marion Lomax.

He was commissioned by Opera South to design the costume and sets for Orfeo and Eurydice and created installation pieces for Demarco's Gallery Edinburgh and St George's-in-the-East London.

In addition, he have taken part in devising workshops at the Royal Opera House at Dartington Hall, a Royal College of Art visual verbal sound workshop at Boars Place and an education workshop organised by The Royal Opera House for Inner London Schools.

Teaching:

Taught extensively from foundation to postgraduate level across a range of disciplines from location and life drawing to painting, printmaking, graphic design and illustration.

Jointly ran the Central St. Martin's illustration degree course and taught life drawing at Chelsea College of Art and the Royal College of Art. Other teaching institutions include Cardiff School of Art, the University of Gloucestershire and Anglia Ruskin University. Covent Garden Opera House workshops for schools and led a number of study tours both at home and overseas.

Exhibitions:

Exhibited in a range of galleries with solo, joint and group shows that encompassed drawings, paintings and prints. The themes covered travel experiences in Paris, the Royal College of Art studio in Venice, work at Glyndebourne Opera Company Sussex and a series of exhibitions at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden.

The Royal Opera House exhibitions were based on his two-year tenure as artist in residence and explored the creative process within the venue. In addition he has curated a collaborative show between the Royal Opera House and the Royal College of Art.

Selected Solo Exhibitions:

2014 Wayfinder, Gallery 41, London

Selected Group Exhibitions:

2014 Summer Exhibition, Royal Academy

Awards:

1986 Folio Society Award

1981 Thames Television Travel Award

Education:

1993-1994 Royal College of Art, Research Methods

1983-1986 Royal College of Art, M.A

1979-1982 Chelsea School of Art, B.A (Hons) First Class

1977-1978 St. Martin's School of Art, Foundation Studies in Art and Design