### 1."The Darwin Gate" budget £80k (Mark Renn & Associates)

Gateway to Shrewsbury Town Centre, UK



The challenge was to design a work of quality, which respected its context but also breathed new life into the town as a 21<sup>st</sup> century work of art. With this as my aim, I sought to achieve a fusion of traditional and contemporary materials, forms and technologies. The Darwin Gate celebrates the fact that Charles Darwin was born in Shrewsbury. The sculpture was designed in consultation with the West end regeneration group.

Handmade Glass, steel, copper, bronze, sandstone, light.

\*Collaboration with Shrewsbury & Atcham DC, Form Fabrications Ltd, Nusoft & Nice Glass.

# 2. "Clink" budget £35k (Mark Renn & Associates)

Stainless Steel, Glass, Light.



Stourbridge Junction Railway Station, UK

The golden age of the Stourbridge glass industry was the 19th century, when many new firms were established and new colours and decorating techniques were pioneered locally.

The scheme features two conical elements derived from the form of a champagne flute – which meet to form a triangular archway for the footbridge. Thus, the artwork is in the form of a toast - a toast in this instance, to Stourbridge Crystal. 'Clink!' The work is a celebration of the long past industrial might of this glass producing area of the UK.

\*Collaboration with Centro, Marc Worral Associates, Form Fabrications Ltd. & Nusoft.

# 3. "Shoal" budget £50k (Mark Renn & Associates)

Stainless Steel

Sculpture for a new industrial estate in North Nottinghamshire, UK

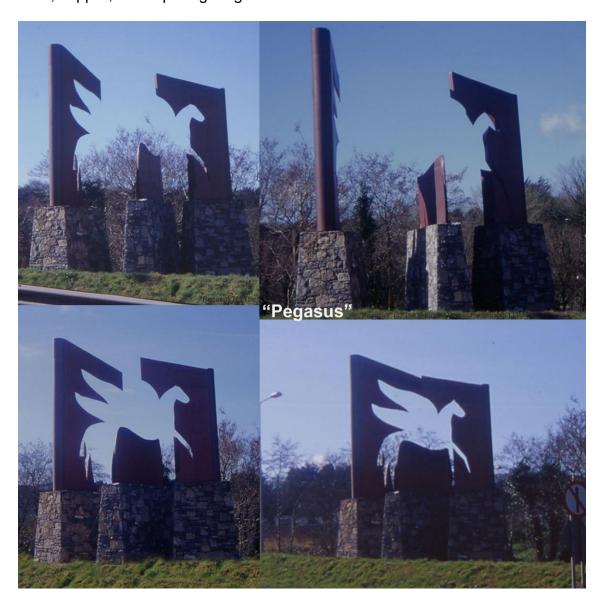


"Shoal" is located in a balancing pond and is based upon the whimsical notion of a shoal of lost fishing lures gone feral.

The work was installed in August 2008.

\*Collaboration with A1 Stainless Ltd, Apollo Fabrications Ltd. Commissioned by Wilson Bowden Developments Ltd.

### 4. "Pegasus" 1999 (Mark Renn & Associates) Steel, copper, fibre-optic lighting



The eight metre high sculpture is sited along the N27 Kinsale road, approaching Cork Airport Ireland. The sculpture is in the form of a copper-clad, steel artwork, which frames the form of a winged horse from the sky behind, when three enigmatically shaped towers coincide. At night, fibre-optic stars reveal Pegasus as a new constellation.

The three towers, which create the illusory sky-horse, are shaped and riveted to suggest aeroplane wings; as if the sculpture had been carved from the wings of a jet from the nearby airport.

\* Collaboration with Cork County Council & Fibrelight . Commissioned by The National Sculpture Factory of Ireland

## 5."Fish swallowing bird" 2004 Budget: £30,000 (Mark Renn & Associates)

Copper clad marine plywood over steel frame





'Fish Swallowing Bird' refers in its theme to the history of Dodshons Drinking Fountain in Ropner Park, Stockton on Tees.

From a distance and approaching from the fountain 'Fish Swallowing Bird' will appear as a two dimensional representation of a leaping salmon, containing the silhouette of a heron. As one nears the work, or approaches it from the two other directions, its actual construction as a three dimensional object will become apparent.

\* Collaboration with Stockton on Tees DC, The Friends of Ropner Park & Form Fabrications Ltd.

## 6. 'Blue Beacon' 2009 budget: £60,000 (Mark Renn & Associates)



Commission for South Wales Police, sited at the new police headquarters in Bute Town, Cardiff.

Materials: Stainless steel, granite, LED lighting system

Concept/design: Mark Renn

Design development: Mark Renn & Mick Thacker

Computer graphics: Pete Whitehouse

Fabrication: A1 Stainless, South Wales Monuments, Richard Williams

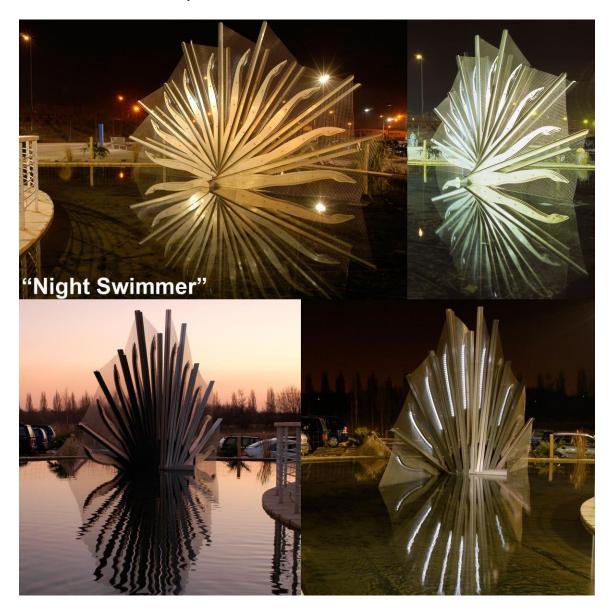
Fabrication management: Mark Renn & Mick Thacker

Ballast Bank Poem by Peter Finch

Blue Beacon expresses the themes of 'warning & 'guidance'. At night the beacon

pulses with a blue light.

## 7. 'Night Swimmer' 2006, budget £40,000 (Mark Renn & Associates)



Sculpture for a leisure & fitness centre in Wolverhampton built on the site of a

former coal mine.

Materials: Stainless steel, LED lighting

Concept/design: Mark Renn Maquette: Mick Thacker

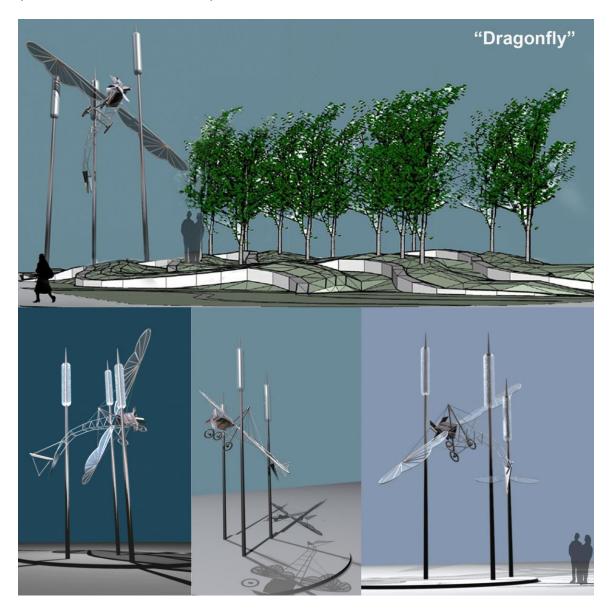
Fabrication: Form Fabrication Ltd., Nusoft

Fabrication management: Mark Renn & Mick Thacker

'Night Swimmer' combines the form of a carboniferous fern with that of a swimmer's arm. At night, the arm appears to 'swim' by virtue of the sequential

lighting system.

## 8. 'Dragonfly' 2007, intended budget £100,000 (Mark Renn & Associates)



Unrealized shortlisted design for a site in Newcastle, County Down. The sculpture refers to the first powered flight in Ireland, which took place on the beach at Newcastle, as well as the area's flora & fauna.

Proposed materials: stainless steel, toughened glass and aluminium

Concept/design: Mark Renn

Computer graphics: Pete Whitehouse

'Dragonfly was designed to celebrate the first powered flight in Ireland, which

took place on the seashore at Newcastle.

## 9. Green Man Walking 2003 Budget £9,000 (Mark Renn & Associates)



Site-specific gateway sculpture, entrance to the Royal Hunters' Way country walks in Sanders Park – Bromsgrove. The Three towers coincide to create the silhouette of a walking figure, made green by the tree line behind and reminiscent of the other green man found on pelican crossings. The sculpture features nesting boxes designed to accommodate sparrows.

Materials: Stained marine plywood, mild steel and stainless steel.

Concept/Design: Mark Renn

Fabrication: Form Fabrications Ltd. Installation: R&C Williams

# 10. 'Lost Property Sun' 2010 Budget £30,000 (Mark Renn & Associates)



Commission for Centro's new second access station at Snowhill, Birmingham, located on an escalator landing. The cast bronze umbrellas are lit from the centre by argon light.

Collaboration with City Neon, Apollo Fabrications Ltd. & Red Temple foundry

# 11. 'Whistle Blizzard' 2010 Budget £30,000 (Mark Renn & Associates)



Commission for Centro's new second access station at Snowhill, Birmingham, located on an escalator landing. The stainless perforated steel cloud is backlit with argon lighting, creating a moiré effect. 200 train whistles apparently fall from the cloud.

Collaboration with Nusoft & Form Fabrications Ltd.

# 12. "The Copernican Gate" 2006. Budget £60k (Mark Renn & Associates)



Commission for Stratford upon Avon council. "The Copernican Gate" celebrates Stratford Upon Avon's status as a renaissance town and marks one of the town's important gateways.

Based upon the form of an armillary, which refers to Copernicus's discovery of the true nature of the solar system

Materials: Cor ten steel Concept/Design: Mark Renn

Fabrication management: Mark Renn & Mick Thacker

Fabrication: Form Fabrications Ltd. Installation: Form Fabrications Ltd.

## 13. "When Traffic Cones Take Root" 2000. Budget £30,000 (Mark Renn & Associates)



Commission for Sustrans, sited beneath Junction 34 of the M6. An avenue of steel lilies, whimsically based upon the idea of traffic cones falling from the motorway above and taking root, the 'lilies were illuminated by a fibre optic system, which gradually changed colour from red to amber to green, casting gobo effects onto the walls and ceiling of the tunnel. The stained glass-like effect was achieved by the use of road map imagery being laser cut onto the lily heads.

Concept/design: Mark Renn Fabrication: Corley Welding

Fabrication management: Mark Renn

Fibre Optics: Fibrelight Installation: Corley welding

## 14. The Linkspots. Overall budget £100k (Mark Renn & Associates)



### "Juggernaut" budget £10k

One of ten information points located over seven different transport interchange locations in the Greater Birmingham area. Each of the ten information points now hosts a 'specially commissioned site-specific artwork.

The Renn & Thacker Partnership LLP was appointed to act as lead artists for the project. Renn & Thacker tailored each of the commission briefs for the seven locations, identifying appropriate themes and pointing-up constraints and possibilities. Five young emerging artists were given commissions and mentored during the project

The commissioned artists were encouraged to work closely with the lead artists, drawing on the partnership's experience and network as a resource.

## 15 " Shadow Games" 2003 budget £80k (Mark Renn & Associates)



Shadow Games is the title of the series of projection works, designed to celebrate the city of Birmingham's hosting of the 9th IAAF World Championships in Athletics and the city's nomination for European Capital of Culture 2008.

Inspiration for the projections came from the groundbreaking work of the eccentric 19th century inventor Eadweard Muybridge. His experiments with tripwire-operated cameras increased our understanding of how animals and people move through space. The inventor's eleven volume photographic work, "Animal Locomotion", also radically influenced the art of the twentieth century

The event involved projecting five digitally remastered, video film 'loops', four of which were projected onto the NIA, and one onto a water screen on the nearby canal. Five 5000 ansi lumens projectors were used. Linford Christie kicked-off Shadow Games with a gold plated whistle at 7.30pm on March 13. Images of the water screen projection were broadcast internationally to fifty countries worldwide.

## 16. 'The Acme Meteor' (Mark Renn & Associates)



### 'The Acme Meteor' 2001 budget £2000

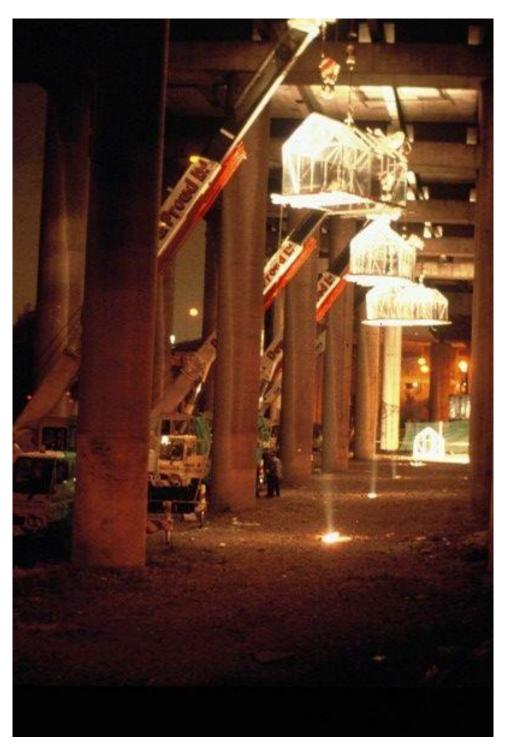
The world's first, two seater, flying whistle. Designed to be dropped from an aeroplane at 10,000 ft. A collaboration with 'Acme Whistyles' Ltd.

Concept/design: Mark Renn

Fabrication: Form Fabrications Ltd. Fabrication Management: Mark Renn

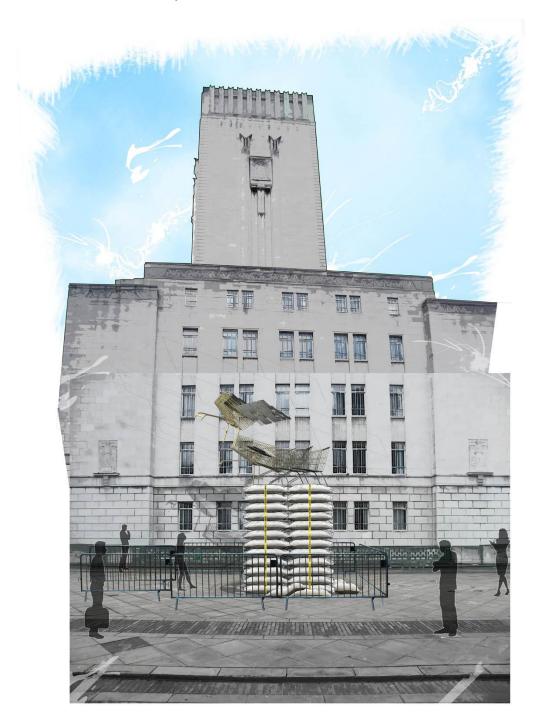
Materials: Brass-plated mild steel, stainless steel & impeller motor

## 16. 'The Fall' 1993 budget £5000 Mark Renn



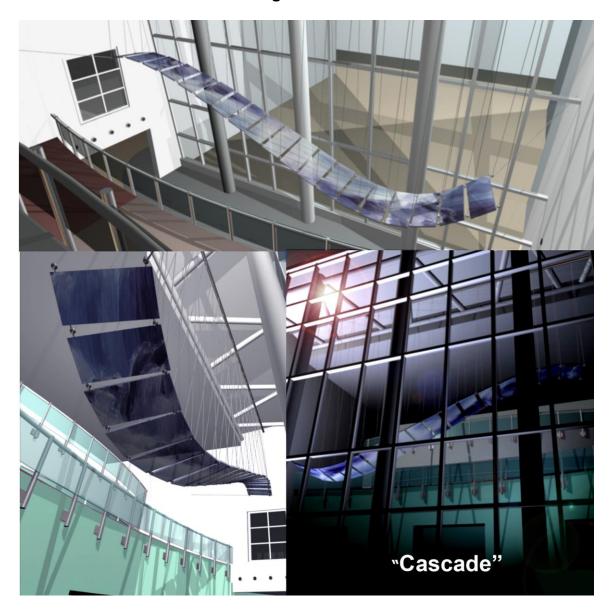
5 greenhouses dropped from cranes over 2 nights according to the rules of a game of Bingo. The nocturnal exhibition was titled 'Under Spaghetti Junction', staged by Fine Rats International, a live art group founded by Mark Renn.

# 17. 'The Plinth' November 2010, intended budget £10,000 (Mark Renn & Associates)



Unrealized design for a temporary sculpture, developed for a site in Liverpool for The Liverpool Lantern Company. The theme for the site was Trade & Commerce and the sculpture design combines an angelic celebration of affluence with a crime scène, referencing the use of slavery in the sugar trade.

## 18. "Cascade" 2007 intended budget £100k

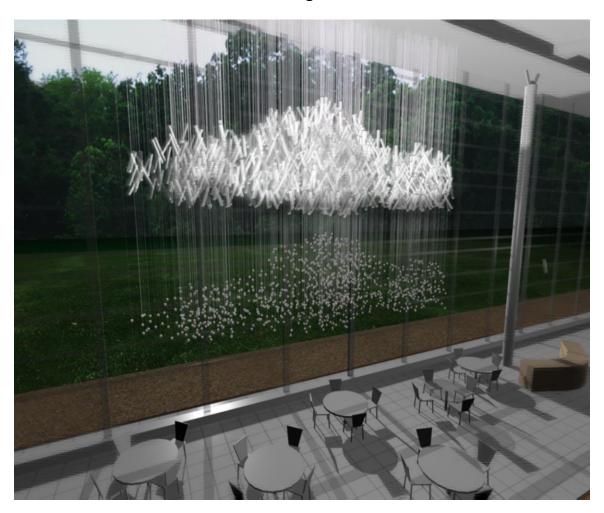


Design developed for the new imaging unit at Victoria hospital, Belfast. The sculpture takes the form of a rope and plank bridge, curved like a human spine, with the image of a waterfall expressed along its length.

Concept/design: Mark Renn

Materials: steel hawser, stainless steel connectors & lightfast prints onto acetate.

### 19. "Clever Cloud" 2008. Intended budget £100k



### Design developed for a new water treatment centre, Hanningfield, Essex.

The sculpture featured 2000 suspended test tubes with a LED system concealed within. The lighting system was intended to have been connected to an anenometer on the roof; when the wind was high the LEDS would have been triggered to create lightning flashes within the cloud.

Concept/design: Mark Renn

Materials: Glass test tubes, piano wire, fishing weights, LED lighting system & an

anenometer.

## 20. "Timefall" 1996. Budget £20k



Atrium sculpture designed for Jubilee house, Madeley, Shropshire. During its lifetime, The former Victorian market hall had been a garage, a nut & bolt factory and a cushion factory. The 200 cast glass objects reflected the buildings past. They included glass spark plugs, fruit & vegetables, tools & cushions. The glass objects appear to be falling from a stylized giant pocket watch

Concept/design: Mark Renn

Materials: Piano wire, cast leaded crystal objects (produced at Edinburgh Crystal), stainless steel.

#### Mark Renn & Associates

#### Established 2009

Mark Renn Born 1952 Grays, Essex

#### QUALIFICATIONS

Foundation in Art, Thurrock Technical College 1971 BA (Hons) Fine Art, Birmingham College of Art 1975 Mphil (Mural Design), Wolverhampton Polytechnic 1984

### Work Experience

1975 – 1991: Freelance Artist

1991-93: set design & build for The Custard Factory Theatre company

1991- 1993: Founder/Director Fine Rats International

1994-95: set dsigner for Gazebo TIE

1992-1995: Founder/Director *The Bond Gallery* 

1994 – 2009: Partner, *The Renn & Thacker Partnership LLP Agugust 2009* formed The Big Pan Man Ltd. (extreme catering)

www.thebigpanman.co.uk

September 2009 onwards Freelance Artist, trading as

Mark Renn & Associates

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#### **Practice Statement**

"My starting point, rather than a particular medium or process, is the site itself. With this approach and through collaboration, I strive to expand the limits of possibility.

#### **ARTFORMS**

- Concept, design and fabrication of site specific sculpture commissions for corporate/business/public sector clients, public buildings, public spaces
- Films, photography, corporate art
- Project management, master planning, consultancy

My working method proceeds from an understanding of the physical and social context of the intended work. My therefore includes and is built upon, thorough research into the 'site'.

I develop designs, taking the particular character and needs of a given location as my starting point and often collaborate with other professionals to realise the work. Such an approach means that I am not tied to a specific material, medium or style.

I have a mixed portfolio and the range of skills I offer include planning, consultancy, compiling feasibility studies/reports and project management. I also have a large and expanding network of other design professionals I work with on a wide and varied range of projects. This associate relationship expands the scope of work that I can undertake.

## **Experience and transferable skills**

- 31 years experience of working in the field of visual arts, specialising in Public Art
- Master planning and project design.
- Wide range of project management and delivery experience including strategies for engaging people at all levels of a project
- Extensive experience of working with design teams current client George Wimpey Homes and Nicholl Thomas Architects
- Feasibility study work over a period of 10 years including
  Gallery in the Trees Birmingham City Council, C4 a Public Art strategy for
  CPlex, Balti Generation an Arts led initiative for the regeneration of The
  Balti Triangle Birmingham, Virtual The Gallery on your Desktop in
  collaboration with Arts & Business, Virtual Collect a corporate art
  collection strategy for EXPERIAN in Nottingham, Linkspots a strategy for
  developing information point artworks for CENTRO
- Extensive experience of working with fabrication companies and procurement of fabrication services
- Extensive experience of working with both public and private sector clients (see below)
- Experience of budget management
- Experience of working with Birmingham City Council on economic development and regeneration projects (Knowledge support for SB, EQUAL)
- Recruitment and interview experience
- Extensive experience of designing for public spaces
- Experience of mentoring and teaching
- Commission and project brief writing and delivery, ranging from public art commission opportunities through to writing the Public Art, Sculpture in Environment and Working with Others modules for Edexcel
- Public presentation and speaking experience (each of my projects requires at least one presentation)
- Thorough understanding of funding and creative ways of exploring funding opportunities
- Film production
- Collaboratively developing creative marketing and advocacy strategies
- Experience of the planning process
- Understanding of health and safety and safe working methods
- IT skilled including MS Word, MS PowerPoint and adobe Photoshop
- Extensive experience of designing collaboration into arts projects

### **Associates**

Ravi Deepres......Film maker/ Photographer

NuSoft.....Lighting Design

Pete Whitehouse......Product Design and 3d modeling

Lee Valentine......Spatial Design
Gordon Rogers.....Designer/fabricator

### **Current and previous clients include:**

ABRA Asian Balti Restaurateurs Association, Advantage West Midlands, Arts Council of England, A&B Arts & Business, Barrat Homes, Bewdley Civic Society, Barrat Homes, Birmingham City Council, BMW, Bromsgrove District Council, Cambridge City Council, CENTRO, Chartwell Land P.L.C., Cork County Council, Cork institute of Technology, Crosby Homes, Experian LTD, Groundwork Trust, Hirsch Bedner Associates, Hyatt International, IKEA, Joseph Rowntree Foundation, Lancaster District Council, Levitt Bernstein Associates, Louth Playgoers Society, Madeley Parish Council, Marsh & Grochowski Architects, MCD

(Midland & City Developments), Midlands Arts Centre, Wm. Morrison Supermarkets PLC, Mowlem, Nationwide Building Society, Rydale Group, Peterborough Council, Sandwell M.B.C. Solihull M.B.C, South Staffs District Council, Staffordshire University, Staffordshire Moorlands District Council, Stockton on Tees District Council, Sedgley Parish Council, University of Central England, Warwickshire County Cricket Club, Wellington Health Practice, Wolverhampton Museum and Art Gallery, Worcester City Museum and Art Gallery

#### **Engagement Experience**

- 1977 worked with Jubilee Community Arts and with children at West Smethwick estate to create a number of murals focusing on housing problems.
- 1977-78 worked with the community in Handsworth to create 'The Handsworth Triptych' 3 gable end murals, which lasted 27 years.
- 1995-6 Lead artist on Jubilee House Lottery-funded arts project in Madeley. Worked with Madeley Parish Council and 4 local schools to design & realize a number of sculpture commissions inside the refurbished building.
- 1997-1998 'The Garden of Hope'. Worked with members of Sedgley Parish Council and with children from the summer playgroup to design a

sculptural peace garden, using money, which had been ring-fenced for a war memorial. This project won the City of Birmingham Fine Art Award

- !999-2000 Organized and participated in 'A terracotta trail around the world'. The project engaged with local mothers and children, with Poet Simon Rae, to produce a series of terra cotta plaques to hang inside Warwickshire County Cricket Club's new cricket school.
- 2000-2001 Designed and managed 'The Charm Bracelet', a series of bronze pavement inserts, which unpacked the history of the area. The plaques were designed through consultation with local businesses and residents.
- 2002-2003 'Shed', South Staffs'. Worked with Agricultural workers, The Rural Emotional Support Team and film-maker George Saxon to produce a series of filmic poems, featuring the views of a diverse group of people connected with the rural economy.
- 2003-2006 'The Linkspots'. Consulted with a variety of stakeholders & residents groups at 10 locations along Birmingham bus routes to design a series of sculptures, which sit on top of Centro information points. The 'Linkspots' project also featured a mentoring programme for 5 graduates, who were commissioned to deliver some of the individual commissions. This and other works won the Industry & Genius award 2007.
- 2009 'Blue Beacon'. Worked with South Wales Police Force & SAFLE to design and deliver a landmark artwork for the new police headquarters in Bute Town Cardiff.

#### REFEREES

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