



PRESS RELEASE

Title: *One Island - Many Visions* [exhibition & symposium]

Venue: **Portland Sculpture & Quarry Trust:** Drill Hall Gallery, Easton Street, Portland DT5 1BW and Tout Quarry Sculpture Park & Nature Reserve.

Date: Exhibition and installations: 6 September - 31 October 2025. PV: 6 September 6-9pm. Symposium: Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 September 2025.

Open Times: Drill Hall Gallery, Thursday - Sunday weekly 11- 4pm. Tout Quarry open all hours.

Free Admission : donations welcomed.

Pulling life out of the scarred earth, contemporary artists break new ground in a place of historical extraction, now turned into a SSSI nature reserve of conservation.

'One Island – Many Visions' is a curated exhibition of research and site responses by 25 sculptors from Royal Society of Sculptors in collaboration with Portland Sculpture Quarry Trust (PSQT). The exhibition is accompanied by a symposium focusing on art and nature featuring among others David Buckland, Founder/Director of Cape Farewell project on Climate Change. The project runs from September to October 2025 at Drill Hall Gallery and project space and Tout Quarry Sculpture Park & Nature Reserve (42 acres with public access).

PSQT have a long-established track record of pioneering interdisciplinary site-specific work across the arts, earth sciences and heritage. Hannah Sofaer, Creative Director, said "the project has enabled a number of artists to develop and expand their work - discovering new ways of working and furthering their practice." The partnership is led by artists Dr Kate Parsons (MRSS) and Hannah Sofaer MA (RCA).

The title of the show reflects the unique nature of Portland and its ability to engage diverse responses by artists to its landscape and features. Participating artists include leading international names and emerging contemporary talents. The project represents a fresh artist response to this now SSSI site since the inaugural sculptors Antony Gormley, Philip King, Phyllida Barlow, and Richard Long were involved with the conservation of Tout Quarry.

Hannah Sofaer's 'Living Land Archive', that she has collected and recorded over 40 years, documents the landscape in continuous change. This has been a powerful resource for the participating artists' work, contributing to the archival process and legacy of the environmental debate.

"It is through art that we communicate what it feels like to be alive... Can we use art as a way of investigating this perilous time?" Antony Gormley

These artworks, transmitted or perceived by the senses to the landscape, reflect the context of Tout Quarry Sculpture Park and Nature Reserve with its Site of Special Scientific Interest status (SSSI). Not only in a physical sense, but dynamically through concepts including sound, movement, poetry and performance. Tout Quarry naturally displays change through flora and fauna, and weather patterns that gauge what survives and what is in decline. The quarry acts as a barometer for these climate changes. The symposium will raise debate, awareness and engagement with these issues.

One Island – Many Visions is thrilled to have received generous support from PSQT, The Arts Society Wessex Area, Bath University, Dorset Dry Stone Walling, Albion Stone, Russell Sach and Steve Russell Studios. Fundraising is ongoing , so any further support is welcomed. During the show, the artists will be holding community workshops, performances and collaborative events. For details visit Instagram [@oneislandmanyvisions](#).

Participating Artists: [Tabatha Andrews @tabathaandrews_art](#) / [Barbara Beyer @beyer.ba](#) /

[Karen Browning @glasslightspace](#) / [Ros Burgin @rosburgin](#) / [Fiona Campbell @fionacampbellartist](#) / [Dallas Collins @dalsartwork](#) / [Deborah Duffin @deborahcduffin](#) / [Chris Dunseath @chrisdunseath](#) / [Jane Fox @janefoxsculptor](#) / [Alice Freeman @alicehfreeman](#) / [Anna Gillespie @annagillespiesculpture](#) / [Dr Wen-hsi Harman @wenhsiharmanporcelainart](#) / [Robert Marshall @robertjmarshall](#) / [Seamus Moran @seamus7160](#) / [Rebecca Newnham @rebeccanewnhamsculptor](#) / [Dr Kate Parsons @kate4492](#) / [Colin Reid @colinreidglass](#) / [Mark Richards @markmarkrichards](#) / [Caroline Saunders @carolinesaunders.art](#) / [Alice Sheppard Fidler @alicesheppardfidler](#) / [Hannah Sofaer @hannahsofaer2](#) / [Livia Spinolo @liviaspinolo.art](#) / [Roger Stephens #RogerStephens](#) / [Christopher Summerfield @christopher.summerfield](#) / [Nicola Turner @nicolaturner.art](#)

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Notes to Editor

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For details of programmed events/performances see Instagram [@oneislandmanyvisions](#)

Info & events will also be on YouTube PSQT channel, QR codes, and PSQT & Royal Society of Sculptors websites.

The Portland Sculpture Quarry Trust, run by Creative Director, Hannah Sofaer, is unique and 'among the best achievements for outdoor sculpture in this country' (P. Davies in 'A Sense of Place'). It has been engaging with arts led regeneration projects for over 40 years, well respected by local and County Authorities, Arts Council, University Research Depts, local Schools and Community organisations, and with artists site specific work in the quarry listed in 'Destination Art' by Amy Dempsey.

The PSQT has become a regenerative enabler for artists work effecting step-changes within the community and will be facilitating numerous events and displays this year for the much celebrated 'Towns of Culture' project 2025. Within this PSQT is leading on the heritage, environment, nature of Portland. PSQT website will be updated by June with further info.

Dorset has won the *County of Culture for 2025* and *Portland and Weymouth the Towns of Culture 2025*, so there will be numerous activities leading up to and during this exhibition and symposium in Portland. The exhibition and symposium are coinciding with PSQT New Art and Landscape projects, PSQT National Heritage Open Day events, and B-Side Festival, PSQT are associated with a multitude of organisations, with a very broad public reach and cultural benefit.

All the artists involved are professional sculptors who have exhibited together previously at Tremenhoe Sculpture and Gardens and Gallery, Cornwall (Wander_Land, '23) and Chichester Cathedral (Together We Rise, '22) and have their own impressive track records. Artworks will comprise a broad range of media and materials reflecting a contemporary and conceptual approach to the natural environment. This includes site specific installations, subtle interventions, performative work, sound, as well as more traditional methods of making using casting, carving and assemblage. There will be a catalogue produced as a legacy document housed in the British Library and other archives of note.

Colin Reid is included in the V&A collections; **Nicola Turner** featured in the courtyard of the RA 2024; **Karen Browning** Best in Show at British Glass Biennale 2022/First Prize Glass Art Society Green/Sustainability Awards 2024; **Jane Fox's** sculptural material, probiotic microbial cellulose, was accepted into the Future Materials Bank, Jan Van Eyck Academie, Maastricht; **Alice Sheppard Fidler** is curator of Hide Artist Residency Retreat / founding member of Studio Voltaire Gallery & Arts Charity in London; **Anna Gillespie** is represented by Beaux Arts Gallery, Bath/London; **Dr Kate Parsons** worked on Damien Hirst's 'Treasures of the Wreck of the Unbelievable', has background in art education/multiculturalism; **Alice Freeman** was awarded a scholarship to participate in a project with Mark Dion and Amy Yoes at Siena Art Institute, Siena, Italy; **Fiona Campbell** gained Royal Society of Sculptors Gilbert Bayes Award; Arts Council England Grant Awards for her curated projects include 'step in stone' (artscapes in quarries); **Chris Summerfield** was assistant to Henry Moore and Subject Leader in Sculpture, Norwich University of Arts; **Chris Dunseath** has work in extensive public collections/exhibits internationally; **Tabatha Andrews** is included in *50 Women Sculptors* (Aurora Metro); Arts Council funded project exploring sculpture & resonance with composer John Matthias and blind opera singer Victoria Oruware (ROOMartspace London and KARST Plymouth), winner of the 'First@108' Public Art Award; **Barbara Beyer** has extensive experience in public engagement, public commissions in Switzerland, Norway, UK; **Ros Burgin's** work is in private collections in UK, Holland, France and USA, has worked for Cass Foundation, London; **Deborah Duffin** solo show at Barbican Art Gallery & Saatchi Gallery, London, has been visiting lecturer at RCA, Glasgow and Canterbury Schools of Art, New York Summer School, writer for AN Publications; **Dallas Collins** short-listed to represent Wales in 54th Venice Biennale; specialised in foundry art practice at RCA and lectures in Sculpture at Cardiff Metropolitan University; **Dr Wen-hsi Harman** travels between Taiwan her country of origin and UK, participates in conferences on ceramics and exhibits globally; **Robert Marshall** set up ArtLab studios in Dorset; **Seamus Moran** started as mould-maker, set up 'Design Clinic'; his work "Harness" toured Royal Armouries including Tower of London; **Rebecca Newnham's** numerous public art commissions and personal work are influenced by nature. Her work *Surge*

reflects STEAM education; **Mark Richards'** public figurative sculpture commissions include Ernest Shackleton, Capt. Matthew Flinders, Roger Casement among other dignitaries; **Caroline Saunders** former geologist, awarded Arts Council England grant to develop her own practice; **Livia Spinolo** former geologist, won Guildford Design Award for best Public Art for her 'Vertical Undergrowth'; her work is in collections in UK, Australia, USA, & Italy; **Roger Stephens** worked as stonemason at Salisbury Cathedral. Through quarrying of stone he is increasingly concerned about the threat of climate change and governments' decisions that affect us/the environment.

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Still Falling, Antony Gormley