
LAUREN KATE FINE ARTIST

ARTIST STATEMENT

Lauren Kate explores her own identity and the impact of chronic pain through an interdisciplinary arts practice. Art is a practice that gives voice to, and enables an exploration of the day to day experiences and vulnerabilities that are part of her working life.

Like Mary Kelly and Jo Spence before her, the artist utilises forms of documentation to underpin and understand the ongoing journey that comes with chronic conditions. A central process of diarised writing instigates works in painting and drawing, photography and film making, collecting and archiving. The collated results of these creative activities reveals a deeply personal and confessional body of works around physical, mental and social wellbeing.

Each piece of work that is produced is a documentation of her life, as well as, a documentation of her health journey. It speaks to a personal experience but reaches out to others and uncovers truths around invisible illnesses.

PROFILE

Lauren Kate is currently a freelance practicing artist. Lauren has given an artist talk at the RBSA Photography Prize 2021 exhibition, guest-lectured for Art Appreciation at St Francis Youth & Community Centre, Birmingham, on art and mental health as well as to talk about her practice, her thesis “How is art used as a coping mechanism for mental and physical traumas?” Her exhibitions include: The University of Wolverhampton MA (Fine Art) Degree Show at The New Art Gallery Walsall where she was awarded The Dean’s Prize for Excellence in Fine Art (2021), RBSA Photography Prize 2021, Ikon for Artists Exhibition (May 2021), Wolverhampton School of Art Degree Show (where she received a Highly Commended award from Wolverhampton Art Gallery, 2019) and Corporis (2018).

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

SEPTEMBER 2019 - OCTOBER 2021: MA Fine Art

UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON

SEPTEMBER 2016 - JULY 2019 : BA(Hons) Fine Art

CADBURY COLLEGE

SEPTEMBER 2014 - JUNE 2015: Foundation Diploma in Art and
Design

EXHIBITIONS & PUBLICATIONS

OCTOBER 1 - 31 2021 - THE NEW ART GALLERY WALSALL: THE UNIVERSITY
OF WOLVERHAMPTON MA (FINE ART) DEGREE SHOW

The New Art Gallery is delighted to present the work of 21 artists as part of their final MA degree shows. Students are graduating from MA Fine Art and MA by Research in Art & Design from the University of Wolverhampton.

The exhibition presents a variety of works in a wide range of media by both full and part-time students. The exhibition includes graduates from last year as well as those who paused their studies due to the pandemic.

(Awarded The Dean's Prize for Excellence in Fine Art)

SEPTEMBER 2 - OCTOBER 16 2021 - RBSA PHOTOGRAPHY PRIZE 2021

The RBSA Photography Prize is open to all UK and International artists working in the photographic medium.

(Selected submissions: *Validate Me, In My Skin* and *Managing Pain*.)

MAY 2021 - IKON FOR ARTISTS EXHIBITION

Ikon reopens after lockdown, devoting its galleries to an exhibition of artworks for sale by over 250 Birmingham artists. Submitted through an open call, work in a range of media is presented both in the gallery and online. 100% of the proceeds from artwork sales go directly to the artists. Formed in response to Covid-19, Ikon for Artists aims to support local artists whose income has been impacted by the pandemic.

(Sold piece: *Do You See What I See?*)

MAY 2021 - ARTIST OF THE WEEK: ODDBALL SPACE

Each week we showcase one artist who we believe are making great work and deserve to be shared.

May 11 2021

<https://www.oddballspace.com/post/lauren-kate-artist-of-the-week>

DECEMBER 2020-MARCH 2021 - IDENTITY: ODDBALL SPACE

An online, virtual exhibition on what identity means to the individual artists and their perspective on identity.

<https://www.oddballspace.com>

SEPTEMBER 2020 - CANCELLED.

An online exhibition, curated by Bethany Dugmore.

JUNE 2019 - BIRMINGHAM PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL JUNE

NEWSLETTER.

The focused artist of the month: a selection of work, talking about my practice and how I use photography within Fine Art.

JUNE 2019 - UNIVERSITY OF WOLVERHAMPTON, SCHOOL OF ART, DEGREE SHOW.

A group exhibition of final year students from multiple courses at the School of Art, University of Wolverhampton where awarded with a Highly Commended award from Wolverhampton Art Gallery for my work exhibited.

JANUARY 2018 - CORPORIS: STRYX GALLERY. 13 MINERVA WORKS, 158 FAZELEY STREET, BIRMINGHAM B5 5RS.

A group exhibition of five Fine Art students from University of Wolverhampton with work produced around the subject of the human body.

JUNE 2015 - HALFWAY DOWN THE STAIRS: CADBURY COLLEGE.

A group exhibition of the Final Major Project work of 11 Foundation Diploma in Art and Design students.

LECTURING EXPERIENCE

JANUARY 2019 - ART APPRECIATION: ST FRANCIS YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE, SYCAMORE ROAD, BOURNVILLE, BIRMINGHAM B30 2AA

Art and Mental Health. Two hour an a half lectures on art and mental health. Firstly speaking about who I am, my art practice and why art is important in health. Then to lecture about other artists whose work explores mental health or is an exploration of their own mental health. This included PowerPoint presentation, preparation for the PowerPoint a week in advance to be reviewed and studying different artists and their works to be included within the talks.

REFERENCES

Available upon request.