

Science of Sand

25 – 28 MAR 2019

The Five Islands Academy, Primary Bases, Isles of Scilly

Project Description

In March 2019, Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange travelled to the Isles of Scilly with artist James Hankey to run workshops with primary school groups on four of the islands: St Mary's, St Martin's, St Agnes and Treco. The workshops, entitled 'Science of Sand', included a range of activities to explore sand: how it's made and what you can make with it. James led discussions around different types of sand, the natural processes by which it is made and the many items we use that contain sand, from computers to washing machines! Pupils then designed their own sandcastles before walking to the local beach to build them. They presented their sandcastles to the group and offered feedback on each other's designs. Back in the classroom, groups of schoolchildren made their own sand by smashing up shells with larger rocks. The resulting sand was viewed through a powerful microscope to reveal a multitude of colours and shapes.

The 'Science of Sand' workshops were inspired by a nationwide participatory project by artist Katie Paterson called 'First There is a Mountain' (<https://vimeo.com/316767895>) which travelled the UK in spring/summer 2019. Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange returned to the Isles of Scilly to host 'First there is a Mountain', a public sandcastle building event, on Sunday 14th April at Porthcressa Beach, St Mary's.

Arts Award

As part of these workshops, the pupils completed their Discover Arts Award. This enabled discussions around different art forms and encouraged the school children to think about which arts activities they engaged in and enjoyed most. The research element of the Arts Award required that they researched either James Hankey or Katie Paterson. This led to animated discussions around the artists' practice and questioning 'What does an artist do?'

Quote

"A great mix of theory and practice meant that the children were offered a range of unexpected 'ways in' to fine art practice - through science, geology, geography, design, making and physical exertion!"

Megan Beck, Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange

Project Details

Lead Artist: James Hankey / www.jameshankey.com

Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange facilitator: Megan Beck

Dates & Locations:

Day 1, Carn Gwaval, St Mary's; Day 2, St. Martin's Primary Base

Day 3, St Agnes Primary Base; Day 4, Treco & Bryher Primary Base

No. of children engaged: 55

Newlyn Art Gallery & The Exchange / Project Photograph Sheet

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CG_SM_2019-03-25_MeganBeck_01



CG_SM_2019-03-25_MeganBeck_02



CG_SM_2019-03-25_MeganBeck_03



CG_SM_2019-03-25_MeganBeck_04



CG_SM_2019-03-25_MeganBeck_05

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CG_SM_2019-03-25_MeganBeck_06



CG_SM_2019-03-25_MeganBeck_07



CG_SM_2019-03-25_MeganBeck_08



CG_SM_2019-03-25_MeganBeck_09



CG_SM_2019-03-25_MeganBeck_10



StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_01



StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_02



StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_03

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StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_04



StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_05



StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_06



StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_07



StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_08

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StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_09



StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_10



StM_2019-03-26_MeganBeck_01



StM_2019-03-26_MeganBeck_02



StM_2019-03-26_MeganBeck_03



StM_2019-03-26_MeganBeck_04



StM_2019-03-26_MeganBeck_05

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StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_06



StA_2019-03-27_MeganBeck_07



StM_2019-03-26_MeganBeck_08



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