



Wendy Mayer RCA RBS(Bursary) Sculptor

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Artist Statement

“Puppets, mannequins, waxworks, automatons, dolls, painted scenery, plaster casts, dummies, secret clockworks, mimesis and illusion.... they give us, for a while, the feeling that a world not ruled by our common laws does exist, a marvellous and uncanny world”

I have always been fascinated by dolls, puppets, mannequins and clockwork mechanisms, the surreal and the uncanny. I am also preoccupied with growing old and this is a subject that is revisited over and again in my work. I love to create work that produces an uncanny response from the viewer and achieve this, in part, by creating highly realistic wax portraits which are housed in unexpected carcasses. The doll form, in particular, provides an ideal vehicle with which to articulate my ideas as it establishes a connection with the feminine and the past. My work focuses on memory, sexuality, childhood and motherhood. I mostly work with papier mache and wax which helps to reflect a sense of fragility and impermanence. My work is accessible whilst maintaining integrity; it can be experienced without exacting an interpretation but can hold the viewer's interest for long enough to reveal deeper meaning.

Education

- 2008 BA (Hons) Fine Art (Sculpture), **First Class**, Loughborough University School of Art and Design
- 2005 Art Foundation, **Distinction**, Coleg Menai, Bangor, Wales

Professional Memberships

- Elected to the Royal Cambrian Academy of Art in April 2010
- Elected to the Royal British Society of Sculptors (Bursary Award) in June 2010

Awards

- July 2010 Shortlisted for the **University of Glamorgan Purchase Art Prize 2010**
- June 2010 Bursary Award from the **Royal British Society of Sculptors**
- April 2010 Winner of the People's Choice Award, **Oriel Gwynedd Open Exhibition 2010**, Bangor, Gwynedd
- March 2010 Winner of the People's Choice Award, **Association of Anglesey Art Clubs Biennial Exhibition 2010**, Oriel Ynys Mon, **Llangefni**, Gwynedd
- February 2010 Judges' Choice Highly Commended, **Oriel Gwynedd Open Exhibition 2010**, Bangor, Gwynedd
- December 2009 Finalist and Runner-up in the **British Women's Art Competition 2009**
- August 2009 Shortlist candidate for the **Celeste Prize for International Contemporary Art 2009**
- August 2009 Finalist for **Art Kudos International Juried Competition and Exhibition 2009**
- August 2009 Highly Commended, **Anglesey Art Group Summer Exhibition 2009**, Beaumaris, Gwynedd
- July 2009 Highly Commended, **University of Glamorgan Art Purchase Prize 2009**
- February 2009 Judges' Choice Highly Commended, **Oriel Gwynedd Open Exhibition 2009**, Bangor, Gwynedd
- July 2008 Initial shortlist candidate for **DLA Piper Art Award 2009**
- June 2007 Runner-up in the **Grieve and Samaritans Art Prize 2007**
- April 2007 Highly Commended in the **3M Healthcare and Loughborough University Design Awards 2007**

Commissions

- May 2009 Wax sculpture for figurative symbolist artists Ed Povey and Donna Tolar, Austin, Texas
- April 2009 Outdoor sculpture for Greenwood Forest Park, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd
- October 2008 Wax sculpture for Greenwood Forest Park, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd
- March 2007 Bronze sculpture for Priory LSST, Lincoln

Work Experience

- January 2010 – to date Part-time Fine Art Lecturer for WJEC Art Foundation and BTEC National Diploma, Coleg Menai, Bangor, Gwynedd
- April 2010 Artist Talk *Perspectives on Sculpture*, Anglesey Art Group, Menai Bridge, Gwynedd
- June 2009 Sculpture workshops at Greenwood Forest Park, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd
- May 2009 Guest Lecturer for Art Foundation, Coleg Menai, Bangor, Gwynedd
- November 2008 Assistant to Ed Povey in his exhibition 'Thirty years of Adventures in Art'
- October 2008 Sculpture workshops at Greenwood Forest Park, Y Felinheli, Gwynedd

Exhibitions

- November – December 2010 Royal British Society of Sculptors Annual Bursary Exhibition, 108 Old Brompton Road, **London**
- October 12th – 17th 2010 The Future Can Wait, Shoreditch Town Hall, **London**
- September – October 2010 Sing Silent Songs, Trove Gallery **Birmingham**
- August – October 2010 Female Wales, University of Glamorgan Art Purchase Prize Exhibition 2010, **Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff** 3rd – 26th August and at **Ty Crawshay Galleries**, University of Glamorgan, **Pontypridd** 6th September to 18th October
- July 31st – August 7th 2010 Eisteddfod Genedlaethol Cymru 2010 The National Eisteddfod of Wales, **Blaenau Gwent and the Heads of the Valleys**
- July - September 2010 The Royal Cambrian Academy's 128th Annual Summer Exhibition, **Royal Cambrian Academy, Conwy**, Gwynedd from July 3rd until September 15th
- June – August 2010 Welsh Artist of the Year Exhibition, **St David's Hall Neuadd Dewi Sant**, The Hayes, **Cardiff**, Wales from 20th June until 6th August
- May – August 2010 North and South: Royal Cambrian Academy Invited Artists Exhibition 2010, **Orielau Y Bont Galleries**, University of Glamorgan, **Pontypridd** 17th May until 14th June and 12th July until 9th August
- March 6th 2010 Creative Bangor Creadigol Exhibition, International Women's Day 2010, Main Arts Building, **Bangor University, Bangor**, Gwynedd, Wales
- February – April 2010 Open Exhibition 2010, **Oriel Gwynedd, Bangor**, Gwynedd, Wales
- February – March 2010 Association of Anglesey Art Clubs Biennial Exhibition, **Oriel Ynys Mon, Llangefni**, Anglesey, Wales
- January - February 2010 Removed from the Eyes of Strangers Group Exhibition, **Matt Roberts Arts Project Space, 25 Vyner Street, London**
- November 2009 – to date International Artists Postcard Exhibition and Distribution, **Atelier 340 Muzeum, Brussels, Belgium**
- November 2009 – January 2010 Creative Bangor Creadigol Group Exhibition, Deiniol Centre, **Bangor**, Gwynedd, Wales from 7th November 2009 until 7th January 2010
- October – December 2009 Removed from the Eyes of Strangers Group Exhibition, Matt Roberts Arts, **Galleri Andersson Sandstrom**, Umea, **Sweden** from 9th October until 30th October and **Co-Lab**, Copenhagen, **Denmark** from 20th November until 18th December
- August 2009 Anglesey Art Group Summer Exhibition 2009, **David Hughes Centre, Beaumaris**, Anglesey, Wales
- July – October 2009 Memory/Imagination, University of Glamorgan Art Purchase Prize Exhibition 2009, **Wales Millennium Centre, Cardiff**, 16th July to 17th August and at **Ty Crawshay Galleries**, University of Glamorgan, **Pontypridd**, from 24th August to 9th October
- May 2009 Waxing Lyrical Group Exhibition, **Thomas Telford Centre, Menai Bridge**, Anglesey, Wales
- February 2009 Open Exhibition 2009, **Oriel Gwynedd, Bangor**, Gwynedd, Wales
- October 2008 Solo show, **Greenwood Forest Park, Y Felinheli**, Gwynedd, Wales
- September 2008 Selected works taken to **Japan, Hong Kong, Singapore and Taiwan** for marketing purposes by Loughborough University School of Art and Design during academic year 08/09
- July 2008 Degree Show Selected Exhibition, **AirSpace Gallery**, Broad Street, **Stoke-on-Trent**
- June 2008 Loughborough University School of Art Final Show, **Loughborough**
- June 2007 Grieve and Samaritans Art Prize Exhibition, **House of Commons, London**