

Robyn Woolston: Degree Show 2007

Wirral Met College offered an unparalleled space to explore large-scale sculptural outputs within onsite & offsite locations. Through self-initiated exhibitions and studio-based tutorials it provided a test-bed for physical and philosophical experimentation and fostered a sense of endeavour, possibility and potential. Whilst studying I started to explore the inherent value and potential of waste materials, from everyday rubbish to the by-products of manufacturing processes. Treating waste as an art material in its own right allowed me to question environmental use and abuse as well as the impacts of globalised supply chains within consumer-based systems. All of which lead me to my final degree show work: 'Supa Scoop' (2007). An installation containing 7500 ice-cream cartons.

13 years on and my work is resolutely interdisciplinary, spanning installation, moving image, print and socially engaged practice. I frequently work within archives and across sites of listed significance including completing commissions for Penrhyn Castle National Trust, the Queen's Own Highlanders Museum at Fort George, the Walker Art Gallery and the Holst Birthplace Museum. I've exhibited internationally too, presenting my work at the World Congress of Solid Waste Management in São Paulo, Brazil, producing a film at Mauthausen Concentration Camp, which was exhibited at Galerie Maerz, Linz, Austria and working with Metal (Peterborough) & Studio Orta, in Les Moulins, Paris.

Currently I'm working on a residency that focuses upon Climate Anxiety and Eco Grief within the extraction rich environment of Fort Worth, Texas. As the largest energy-producing and energy-consuming state in the nation, the location provides a rich backdrop to my conversations between The Art Galleries at TCU, the Department of Psychology and the Institute for Environmental Studies. The project will culminate in a programme of socially engaged practice, an installation and a site-responsive Artists' Film in 2021.



Robyn Woolston TCU Texas Residency