

SONYA WILKINS

ARTIST STATEMENT

My practise is driven by my desire to reconnect people with the healing power of nature using art (specifically, clay) as a conduit for increased wellbeing. I curate immersive art installations, functional clay and ceramic vessels (acting as activators for wellbeing) and biophilia & creativity workshops.

I use earth, clay and universal life force energy (Reiki), amalgamated with other mediums such as projection, sound and aroma, to engage all senses. I bring the outside, inside, just for a moment so we can remember our biophilia (our innate connection to nature).

This amalgam holds the potential to raise the frequency of a person's personal energy field (aura); raising wellbeing and in doing so, highlighting the value of nature in our lives. As a consequence, our collective anthropogenic responsibility is raised, to help heal our planet and the connective life it supports.

EXPERIENCE

STUDIO RESIDENCY AT 'EMERGE' POSTGRADUATE PROGRAMME,
BATH SPA UNI 2023-2025 (2 CONSECUTIVE YEARS)

Delivering 'The Versatility of Clay' workshops for BA students at Locksbrook Campus; Running 'Biophilia & Creativity' workshops; Curating 'Urban Biophilia ~ Your Sanctuary' Exhibition for Fringe Arts Bath 2025; Facilitating MAFA student drop in support sessions; Facilitating peer group, art critique meetings.

PROFESSIONAL CERAMICIST, SONYA WILKINS CERAMICS 2023-
PRESENT

Business Owner; Product Research, Testing & Creation (complete supply chain, customer journey, to face to face sales at national shows); Merchandising & Display Curation; Marketing; Website Design & Development; Design & Creation of 'Unearthed' publication; Accounting; Strategic Planning & Business Management. In addition, please reference the historical timeline of exhibitions further below.

PROFESSIONAL CERAMICIST, SONYA CERAMIC ART – 2016-2023

Business Owner; Product Research, Testing & Creation (complete supply chain, customer journey, to face to face sales at national shows); Merchandising & Display Curation; Marketing; Website Development; Accounting; Strategic Planning & Business Management. In addition, please reference the historical timeline of exhibitions further below.



PERSONAL DETAILS

Name: Mrs Sonya Ruth Wilkins

Address: Mendip Croft, Celtic Way,
Bleadon, North Somerset
BS24 0NA

DOB: 06-03-1973

Mobile: 07790012238

Email:

studio@sonyawilkinsceramics.com

EDUCATION

MA Fine Art (Ceramics)

Distinction

Bath Spa University | 2023

BA (Hons) Ceramics

Upper Second Class (2.1)

Bristol Bower Ashton | 1995

Art & Design Foundation

Distinction

Bristol Bower Ashton | 1992

Clifton High School | 1978-1991

A Levels

Art 'A' | Biology 'C'

GCSE's

5 x B's | 4 x A's

QUALIFICATIONS & SKILLS

MBTI Coaching

OPQ Personality Testing

Reiki Master Teacher

Quantum Touch® Level II

Crystal Therapy Diploma

Mendip Croft, Celtic Way, Bleadon, North Somerset, BS24 0NA +447790012238

www.sonyawilkins.com

EXPERIENCE CONTINUED

COMMITTEE MEMBER, WEST COUNTY POTTERS ASSOCIATION;
SOUTH WEST 2024

Website Officer Role; Team Management; Meeting Facilitation; Website Development; Website Dev. Consultation; Google Analytics Reporting; Strategic Planning.

GALLERY PARTNER, SATORI GALLERY; BRISTOL 2016-2018

Event Management; Exhibition Curation; Artist Selection; Marketing & Social Media; Public Relations; Website Development;

CERAMICS SPECIALIST, CLIFTON HIGH SCHOOL; BRISTOL 2013-2016

Managing Ceramics Studio & Kiln Room; Teaching Ceramics Club (ages 10-18yrs); Art Technician Duties; Curation Support to Head of Art; Facilitating Whole School Art Events; Invigilation Duties; Preparing End of Year Art Displays.

HOLISTIC THERAPIST, MENDIP REIKI HEALING ARTS 2014-PRESENT

Business Owner; Client Consultation; Delivering Tailored Holistic Treatments; Facilitating Gatherings; Marketing; Website Development; Accounting.

PEOPLE DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT, ASTRAZENECA; 1999-2006

Supporting Strategic Change Management; Delivering Leadership Programmes; Designing & Delivering Team Building Workshops; Delivering Performance Management Training for Senior Managers; Delivering Coaching Skills Workshops; Delivering 1:1 Career Anchors; Administering Personality Testing; Using High Impact Presentation Skills; Using Facilitation Skills.

TIMELINE OF CERAMIC EXHIBITIONS & WORKSHOPS

2024

Thrown, Winter Online Exhibition

FORM24, Sculpture By The Lakes

Biophilia & Creativity Workshop, Bath Spa University

Fringe Arts Bath, 'Wilderness Commons' Exhibition

Fringe Arts Bath, 'Alt Wilderness' Exhibition

Celebrating Ceramics, Waterperry Gardens

Biophilia & Creativity Workshop, Bath Spa University

Aga Kubish Gallery, Winter Exhibition, WSM

Art in Clay, Farnham

2023

Art in Clay, Farnham

Sculpture By The Lakes, 'ARBOR' Workshops

Master in Fine Art (Ceramics) Final Show

Celebrating Ceramics, Waterperry Gardens

TECHNICAL PROFICIENCIES

Ceramic Fabrication: Wheel thrown and hand built vessels

Ceramic Glaze Technology: Reduction & Oxidation Fired Stoneware

ACADEMIC RESEARCH

'Ceramic Vessels As Activators For Wellbeing' MAFA Dissertation | 2023

EXHIBITIONS & AWARDS

John James Art Award 1991

Please see next page for Exhibition Timeline

DELIVERY OF ONLINE COURSES

Pottery, Clay & Leaves Online Course with Udemy (144 worldwide students to date)

Quantum Healing & Relationship Coaching Online Courses with Udemy (1,508 worldwide students to date)

Life Purpose Online Coaching Course 'IKIGAI' with Udemy (320 worldwide3 students to date)

DELIVERY OF IN PERSON WORKSHOPS

Biophilia & Creativity Group Workshop, Bath Spa Sion Hill Campus | June & October 2024

Clay Creativity Workshop x2 for Interior Design Students at Bath Spa Locksbrook Campus | November 2023

ABORE: Tree Vessels Workshop x2 at Sculpture By The Lakes | October 2023

TIMELINE OF EXHIBITIONS CONTINUED

2022

Art in Clay, Farnham
RHS Rosemoor, Group Exhibition
Wedmore Sculpture Exhibition
Showborough House, Garden Sculpture Exhibition
Bristol Botanical Gardens, Easter Sculpture Festival

2021

West Bristol Art Trail (Exhibitor & Venue Co-ordinator)
Frampton Country Fair, Craft Marquee
North Somerset Art Week (Venue 3)
Celebrating Ceramics, Waterperry Gardens
ITV Showcase on 'Love Your Weekend' Alan Titchmarsh Series 2, Episode 3

2020

West Bristol Art Online Trail
BBC2 'The Great British Menu' (Chef Niall Keating Uses My Pond Lily Leaf Dishes for the Semi Finals)

2019

Oxford Botanical Gardens, Christmas Fair
North Bristol Art Trail Venue 21
Nature in Art, Twigworth Wallsworth Hall Gallery
West Bristol Art Trail Exhibitor & Venue Co-ordinator (Venue 29)
Tyntesfield National Trust Market
Frampton Country Fair, Craft Marquee
The Bristol Guild, 'Six in The City' Group Exhibition
Showborough House, Garden Sculpture Exhibition

2018

North Bristol Art Trail (Venue 21)
Brackenwood Art & Craft Fair
Westonbirt Arboretum, Great Oak Hall Group Exhibition
West Bristol Art Trail (Venue 25)
Malvern Autumn Festival, 3 Counties Show Ground
Blenheim Palace, Flower Show
RHS Malvern Flower Show, 3 Counties Show Ground

2017

Bristol Artisan Show, Royal West of England Academy
North Bristol Art Trail (Venue 22)
West Bristol Art Trail (Venue 25)
The Artful Dodgers, Group Exhibition 1
Satori Gallery, Launch Exhibition with Lillian Delevoryas
The Artful Dodgers, Group Exhibition 2

2016-2014

West Bristol Art Trail (Venue 26)
BS9 Art Trail
Steak of The Art, Bristol Harbourside, 'Passion' Solo Show
Grant Bradley Gallery, Solo Exhibition, 'Passion' Solo Show

REFERENCES

Mr Paul Ayers
Head of Art & Design
Clifton High School
Bristol
Email: payers@cliftonhigh.co.uk
Mobile: 07443531917

Mrs Ruth Gillbanks
Head of Art & Design
Ashton Park School
Email:
ruthgillbanks@yahoo.co.uk
Mobile: 07766594289

Mr Rob Stinchcombe
Retired Change Consultant &
Manager
Astrazeneca Pharmaceuticals
Email: robert-stinchcombe@tiscali.co.uk
Mobile: 07949828359