

What's it Worth?

One Person's TRASH is another Person's
TREASURE

An Exhibition Exploring Found Objects

The Undercroft,
Winchester Cathedral
Visitor Centre, Inner Close

Saturday 17th May
11.30am – 5.00pm

“What's it Worth?” was the question being asked by postgraduates studying at Winchester School of Art. The group of future museum professionals arranged a unique one day exhibition to explore the value we give objects. Held in the historic Undercroft building behind the Winchester Cathedral, the exhibition attracted over 175 visitors. Split into three sections – Museum disposals, artistic response and found objects, the exhibition investigated differences between public and museum disposals and the artistic interpretation of value.

All objects within the exhibition had been thrown away by previous owners. Sandy the toy dog, who was rescued from the tip, proved to be the most talked about object of the day and even found a new home! Sinéad Kirkwood, age 12 said “Me and my mum are going to brush him down and repair him, I don't want to throw him away – he's lovely!”

Artist Julia Flatman whose artwork was exhibited on the day applauded the group for organising the exhibition - “it's such a wonderful space and the idea of object worth is a fantastic way of making people think about the things they see”. Julia's work entitled Personal Reminiscences of a Great Crusade directly responded to the Undercroft building and how the building has been used throughout its history. Each sculpture represented a significant episode in the history of Winchester all created from reclaimed materials.

Mary Brooks, senior lecturer at Textile Conservation Centre said “I am very proud of the end result of months of hard work by this group of students. The exhibition looks wonderful and they have received lots of positive feedback from visitors.”

What's it Worth? was made possible through several businesses and institutions all keen to address ideas of recycling and sustainability. The project was funded with donations from the University of Southampton, Freelance Graphic Designer – Sonja Stender, Image XL Printing, Bournemouth, FWB Printing, Wincanton, and waste disposal company SERCO, with generous object loans from Winchester Museums Service, and Private Collections. The accompanying catalogue was made possible through help from the Arts Institute at Bournemouth.

For more information and images please contact:

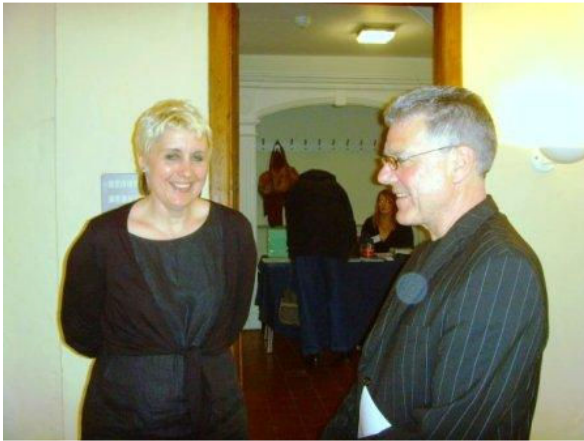
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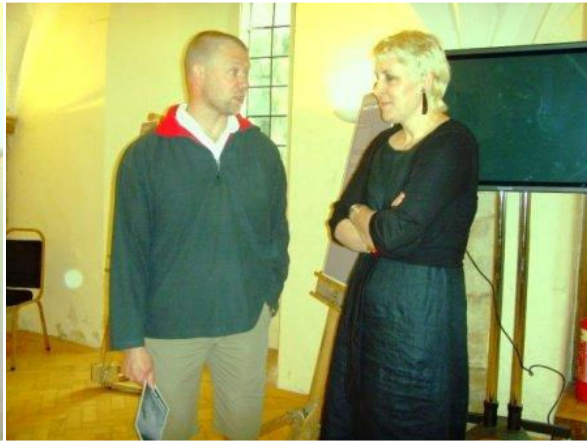
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IMAGE SHEET:

(All images available for press, please contact press & marketing officers if larger size needed)



Artist with Stephen Foster, Director of John Hansard Gallery



Artist with Ross Tearl, Winchester Museums Service



Artist with visitor



Artist talk



Exhibition visitors



Exhibition visitors looking at found objects display



Exhibition Team from LtoR: Naomi McGrew, Laura Miller, Sacha Lee, Violet McClean, Tinka Hsu, Artist Julia Flatman, Louise Healey, Heidi Wells, Regina Li, Pete Martin and Fernanda Grebe



Exhibition set-up: Museum objects and MA students



Exhibition visitors



Visitors with Sandy – the dog



Sandy the dog with new owner Sinead Kirkwood, age 12, Ringwood, Dorset