

Helen Elizabeth Kuumbi

contemporary landscape and seascape artist

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My Practice

I work in oil, acrylic and mixed media. In my work I am drawn to explore the themes our relationship to the natural world, the personal or collective memory of place, deep history and folk memory. Much of my practice is concerned in evoking the experiences of sublime and timelessness of the landscapes, open seas and deep history through the representation of natural places and megalithic structures. Walking and exploring, then reading and discovering is the first part of my artistic process when explore a new subject.

I sell direct to the public from my studio which is ideally located in a location that attracts summer visitors. My paintings are in private collections in Australia, Switzerland, USA and Austria.

Education

2017: MA Music - Open university

2013 - BSc Open science - Open university - 1:1

2009 - NVQ 3 Health and social care

2004 - A level Chemistry, English, Biology, Math- Torpoint Community College - AAAB

Solo exhibitions

2023 *Cornwall Open Studios* The Barracks, Maker Heights

2019 *Mountains are Beautiful* The Cells, Plymouth

2017 *Wild Wanderings*, The Balcony Room, Millbrook

Group exhibitions

2023 Rame Art Show, Congregation Hall, Kingsand

2022 *Echoes in the landscape* joint show with Rosie French, Garrison Gallery, Maker

2022 *Havow* Garrison Gallery, Maker

2022 *Christmas Show*, Awenek Studio, Maker

2022 Rame art show, Congregation hall, Kingsand

2021 *Artist of Maker past and present* Garrison Gallery, Maker

2020 *Little things* Awenek Studio, Millbrook

2019 *Moorii* Ocean Studios, Plymouth

2019 *Summer Exhibition*, Old Ship, Cawsand,

2018 *Maker art collective*, Barrack Block, Maker

2018 *Plymouth Art Weekender*, Studio 201, PCAS, Plymouth

2018 *Moorland collection*, White thorn, Shuagh prior

2018 *Coastlines*, Victoria Sewert, Plymouth

2017 *Summer exhibition* The Gallery, Maker Heights

2012 *Nomadic Traces*, Pipe Gallery, Plymouth

2012 *Spaces* Pipe gallery, Plymouth Barbican

2012 *Horror and Harmony* Plymouth art centre, Plymouth

2011 *Party for your Eyes* Broadmead Shopping Centre, Bristol

2011 *Relaunch exhibition*, Number 8 , Plymouth

Performance, installation and socially engaged practice

2022 *Rame Peninsula through time mural*, Mount Edgecumbe: one of three lead artists

2021 *Fourlanesend school mural: Our village*, Kingsand: one of three lead artists

2018 *Cleaning in Progress*, Plymouth Art Weekender: supporting performance artist

2017-2023: *St Germans May Tree Fair*: workshop leader for procession sculptures.

2013 *A trip to the moon Puppet theatre*, Port Eliot Festival, St Germans: lead creator, performer

2012 *Splinter* Plymouth arts centre, installation and community workshops

2012 *Nomadic Traces*, BAS 7 fringe, Plymouth: supporting performance artist, mobile sculpture and workshop leader

2012 *Transition Spaces*, Plymouth City centre Shops: installation in empty shop windows

2012 *Roodwah*, Maker festival, Maker: immersive outdoor installation

Other

2018-2023 Creative practitioner, Studio assistant and workshop leader, Awenek Studio CIC, Millbrook

2019 approached by Visto Art Consultancy , provided artwork for a large hotel client in Switzerland.

Member of *Drawn to the Valley* And *CAMP* (Plymouth)

Memberships/ Collectives

2024 - *Drawn to the Valley*, Cornwall/Devon

2024- *CAMP*, Plymouth

2018 - *Maker Heights Art Collective*, Maker

2011-2013 *U1 Arts collective/Splinter*, Plymouth/Bristol (in association with Plymouth Arts centre)

Additional information

I am a painter and musician. I perform with a well-established folk band, playing bass guitar and double bass and session on fiddle. I am a director of a community woodland; volunteering on the practical side and taking a role in conservation projects. I am interested in local heritage and tradition, and have written the book 'The revival of tradition: St Germans May Tree Fair' (2019, Golden Hare press) . I live on a boat which my husband and cat, which is an ongoing project.