# **Soraya Smithson C.V.**

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My arts practice is diverse. I produce prints, collage, books, ceramics, sewn pieces, paintings and other objects. I work on a trajectory of experimentation, seemingly moving from one random act to another, however there is a thread of self-location running throughout the work. My making process is always ideas led, first the what, then the how. I am interested in the daily rituals of life: the relationship of the domestic environment with the outside world. I create environments and things inspired by and referencing other artists, and literature. I have three threads to my work; self-generated ideas, work in response to a theme for an exhibition call-out and commissions. I like commissions because one works in collaboration, in response to location and they always take me outside my comfort zone.

Education:

Art Foundation at Chelsea College of Art, London

B.A. Fine Art, Middlesex Polytechnic, London

M.A. Fine Art, University of Northumbria, Newcastle-Upon-Tyne

Collections:

National Fairground and Circus Archive, Sheffield

* Stamford Mid-Lent Fair paper peep-show

National Art Library, V&A Museum, London

* Sala Beckett - teatre de Paper.
* Stamford Mid-Lent Fair paper peep Show
* harboring doubt

EMBT Foundation, Barcelona

* Cannongate Wall collage
* Packaging Paintings
* Great Bear Collage
* Lance Corporal J. Jones Medal Blanket

Durham Light Infantry Museum and Art Gallery, Durham.

* Captain Annard. D.L.I. Medal Blanket

HexenHaus Collection -Axel Bruchhäuser

* Lord Mountbatten Medal Blanket
* General Sir de la Billière Medal Blanket
* Fruit Wrapper Boxes
* Fools Chair So’Bosch Ceramics
* Karlshen’s Haus

Selected commissions:

2022: Karlchen’s Haus, childrens pop-up book, Axel Bruchhäser, Karlshaffen, Germany

2017: Sala Beckett - teatre de Paper. Ricardo Flores & Eva Prats, Architects, Barcelona, Spain.

2013: Ingredients & Cakes. StoreFront Gallery window Copenhagen, Denmark

2003-2004: Cannongate Wall, Scottish Parliament, EMBT Architects, Edinburgh.

2001-2002: Architectural Memorial Award. Enric Miralles. COAC, Barcelona, Spain.

1991: Pilare Pez, Circulo de Lecture, Madrid, Spain.

Curated:

2023

Sense of Place - a group show of site-specific art works, Willoughby Memorial Trust Gallery, Corby Glen, Lincolnshire

Solo exhibitions

2020

So’Bosch Willoughby Memorial Trust Gallery, Corby Glen, Lincolnshire

2017

*Random Acts of Soraya Smithson.* Project space, Leicester Print Workshop, Leicester

2009

*‘A Cake For every Day’* Askers Bakery Shop, Stamford, Lincolnshire

*‘A Cake For every Day’* Stamford Art Centre, Stamford, Lincolnshire

2002

*25 years Christmas Cards.* Poetry Society, London

1999

*Blanket Medals.* Durham Light Infantry Museum & Art Gallery

1994

Kuriositätenkabinett. Museum of Mankind

1992

*Spania.* La Galeria del Passatge, Igualada, Catalonia, Spain

1990

*Fruit Boxes,* Spitalfields Workshops, London

1989

*Zoey,* Shop Window display, Barcelona, Spain

Group exhibitions

2023

*Members Show* - Leicester Print Workshop, Leicester

Smock-Raveled, Members Show, 2Queens, Leicester

*Unity,* Stamford Diversity Group, Blond Beat, Stamford, Lincolnshire

Sense of Place - a group show of site-specific art works, Willoughby Memorial Gallery, Corby Glen, Lincolnshire

Emotional Heritage, Sala Beckett, 2023 Architectural Biennial, Venice, Italy

2Queens, Leicester 10th birthday screenings

2022

*Members Show* - Leicester Print Workshop, Leicester

*Celebration of Diversity*, Stamford Art Centre, Lincolnshire

*may show,* X-Church, Gainsborough, Lincolnshire

Duster Project, Vanessa Marr, touring - Women and Domesticity *Muted now Muttering* & *Invisible becoming Visible*

*Litho Press Fund-Raising* Leicester Print Workshop, Leicester

2021

*Pressing on, Pandemic Printing* Leicester Print Workshop, Leicester

*In Your Hands – Home, Klass Rommelaere,* Newlyn Art Gallery, Cornwall. (collaborative cross-stitch installation)

*Art-Pop-Up,* Superdrug Windows*,* Stamford, Lincolnshire

*The Great Big Art Exhibition*, nationwide rolling themed domestic window display, Firstsite, Colchester

*Lockdown but not broken,* D31 Gallery, Doncaster

2020

Extraordinary Postcards for Extraordinary Times, Newlyn Art Gallery& Exchange, Newlyn, Cornwall

*Buildings*, Matchett & Page Gallery, Shatwell Farm, Yarlington, Somerset

2019

Scene, Newlyn Art Gallery, Newlyn, Cornwall

*Re-Form*. Leicester Print Workshop, Leicester

*Harley Open 2019.* Harley Gallery, Welbeck, Nottinghamshire

Film, Free & Easy *GOES TO PRINT.* Leicester Print Workshop, Leicester

2018

Sala Beckett - teatre de Paper. 2018 Architectural Biennial, Venice, Italy.

2017

*Hidden Talent,* Stamford Decorative & Fine Art Society, Gallery Stamford, Lincolnshire.

*Petri Project, McFarland&Singer,* Department of Genetics, Leicester University.

*A study in Stone* Tarpey Gallery, North Leicestershire.

*Exchange Project, Journeys Festival International*, LBC Depot Print Room, Leicester.

*BABE Bristol Artist Book Event.* Arnolfini, Bristol

2016

*Passion2Print.* Leicester Print Workshop, Leicester

2015

*Strepitus Crepitus Fragor*. Penwith Gallery, St. Ives, Cornwall

2014

*Passion2Print.* Curve, LCB Depot, & Phoenix, Leicester

*Fosse Arts Ceramic Studio.* Pedestrian Gallery, LCB Depot, Leicester

*Fantastical Animal Alphabet.* Alfred East Gallery, Kettering, Northamptonshire

2013

*Ingredients & Cakes*. StoreFront Gallery window, Copenhagen, Denmark

*Fantastical Animal Alphabet.* Compton Verney, Warwickshire

2012

*Passion2Print.* Embrace Arts, Leicester

Wistow Gallery, Leicestershire

*Open. H is for……* Harley Gallery, Welbeck, Nottinghamshire

2011

*Print Out.* Embrace Arts, Leicester

*Small Print/Big Impression,* mac Birmingham,Gallery Top, Matlock, 78 Dengate Northampton, New Walk Museum & Art Gallery, Leicester, Derbyshire*,* Rufford Craft Centre, Nottinghamshire*,*

*A4 Printmakers Open*, The Exchange Gallery, Penzance, Cornwall

*Collage & Assemblages*, Embrace Arts, Leicester

2010

*Open 22.* The City Gallery at New Walk Museum & Art Gallery, Leicester

*Open 8,* Catmose gallery, Oakham

*Welland Valley Arts Society - Autumn Show*, Stamford Art Centre

*Passion2Print,* King’s Lynn Art Centre, Norfolk,Embrace Arts. Leicester, Rugby Art Gallery & Museum, Rugby

*A4 Printmakers Open,* Open Space Galleries, Cornwall

*Gloucester Print Co-operative - Open Small Print.* Stroud Subscription Rooms

2009

*Passion2Print*. Rufford Craft Centre, Nottinghamshire

*‘Trafalgar Squares’* *Quilt made by ladies of East Midland (August).* Forth Plinth Trafalgar Square

*Welland Valley Arts Society - Spring Show*. Stamford Art Centre

*Passion2Print.* Rufford Craft Centre, Nottinghamshire, & City Gallery, Leicester

2008

*Passion2Print,* City Gallery, Leicester

*Bookmarks VI.* [www.bookarts.uwe.ac.uk/bkmks6](http://www.bookarts.uwe.ac.uk/bkmks6)

*Tea Time Assorted - Frears Biscuits,* Public Arts Project, Leicester

*Postcard Portraits,* Ripple Six Art Fair, Huddersfied

2007

*Nottingham Castle Open,* Angel Row Gallery, Nottingham

### Derby City Open, Silk Mill, Derby

*Postcards From Darwi,* Exeter Phoenix Galleries

*Open 5.* Catmose gallery, Oakham

*Welland Valley Arts Society – Autumn Show,* Stamford Art Centre

2005

*Body & Soul.* Stamford Arts Centre

2001

*Public Auction of Artworks, Nina Pope & Commissions East.* Kimbolton Castle, Cambridgeshire

2000

*Mappin Open,* Mappin Art gallery, Sheffield

*It’s Your Turn.* Kettles Yard, Cambridge

1999

*Medway Open,* Rochester Art Gallery

*Networking*, P-House, Tokyo, Japan

1998

*The Bible of Networking,* Konstakuten Stockholm, Sweden

*The Bible of Networking*, Sali Gai Gallery, London

*Jungle Fever,* (sets design and creation) Wolsingham Primary School, Wolsingham, County Durham

1997

*Soraya Smithson & Klega.* Konstakuten, Stockholm, Sweden

*Soraya Smithson & Klega.* Konstakuten, Galleri SUB BAU, Göteborg, Sweden

*Newcastle 16*, The Tannery Gallery, London

1995

*Wall Mural,* (incorporating pupils drawings) Wolsingham Primary School, Wolsingham, County Durham

1990

*Riverside One*, Sir Norman Foster’s Business Complex, London

1988

*Mapping, Celestial Beings, & Billboard*, BA degree show, Middlesex Polytechnic

1986

*60 Masks*, Theo Crosby House, Spitalfields, London

1977

*Art into Landscape*, Serpentine Gallery, London