

This booklet is issued by

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Journey to the Podium

a collaboration between artists and athletes in the lead up to the
London 2012 Games

2010 commissions





Damien Robinson
New and Mixed Media

Chimerascope

Disability Sailing
Hannah Stodel

Inspired by Hannah's role as team tactician and the interdependent nature of the three-man Sonar crew, Damien developed the 'Chimerascope', reflecting and refracting her experiences of Hannah's training through a kaleidoscope of the shifting conditions and constant change that Hannah manages.

Containing the core of the work within a decorated cabinet reflects the athlete's (often hidden) core of determination and perseverance.



Helen Morse Palmer
Live Artist

The Collection

Shooting
James Huckle

The first time Helen met James Huckle they talked for nine hours straight about guns, live art and shooting. During this time, they grew increasingly animated by the quantity of common ground between their seemingly disparate practices.

Utilising this common ground has been key to the commission. The work produced is the result of a series of live art experiments, devised in response to this initial discussion, using James' technical skill under Helen's creative instruction.



Lisa Temple Fox
Mixed Media

Postcards

Disability Swimming
Emma Hollis

Lisa has envisioned this project as a number of transitions: she has traced Emma's journey through life as well as her progress as an athlete. The three series of postcards reflect moments of transformation and flux: coming of age, becoming a sportsperson, leaving home: a visual record of progress and change. Mailing these cards gave them both a journey across Essex and an existence as public works of art before their exhibition in a gallery.



Rob Smith
Animator

Player

Judo
Faith Pitman

Rob's approach to the commission began with the complex physical movements of Judo throws. Each throw is a set of actions designed to take an opponent off balance and land them on their back within an instant. Having worked with Faith it became apparent to Rob through the continuous repetition in training these moves have become reflex; but at the same time athletes have an acute awareness of their movements and are able to stop, repeat and analyze their every move.

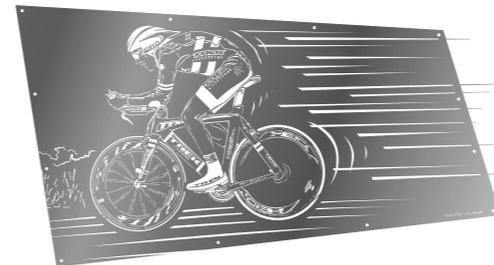


Stuart Bowditch
Sound Artist

First Flight

Disability Power Lifting
Adam Alderman

Stuart's interest in everyday sounds, rhythm and place, led him to working with Powerlifting Paralympian Adam Alderman. He was particularly drawn to the equipment Adam uses, the metallic construction and weight, the repetition of mechanical apparatus and the synergies between these and every day life routines. The personal drive of training and competition, the push to grow and to do better was familiar to the artist. Although these concepts are in a world unknown to Stuart, they have captivated him, inspiring his creative work.



Valerie Osment
Artist

Time Trial

Endurance Cycling
Alex Dowsett

Working with the concept of the visual poetry of athletic movement and symbolically created in steel to reflect his strength, focus, drive and dedicated disciplined nature, 'Time Trial' portrays cyclist Alex Dowsett competing in the event he excels at. A multitude of interacting lines and shapes creates the cut-out imagery, the abstracted figure identified from the vinyl text that reveals a glimpse into Alex's life and character.

Journey to the Podium 2009 Commissions



Leap of Faith
Fencing Alex O Connell
Ben Dearnley



Olympia the Athlete', 2010
Athletics (Wheelchair racing)
Anne Wafula Strike
Elaine Tribley



Intervals 3 and 9
Endurance Cycling
Russell Hampton
Marc Burden



Realisation
Athletics
(100m Hurdle)
Sarah Claxton
Mark Orbell



Disability Sailing
Hannah Stodel



Shooting
James Huckle



Disability Swimming
Emma Hollis



The Swimmer
Disability Swimming Ryan
Crouch
Paul Heard



Leap of Faith
Athletics (Race Walking)
Daniel and Dominic King
Ron Suffield



Bully
Hockey Chloe Rogers
Tim Skinner



Day Job
Basketball Francesca Whitby
Wei Ong (aka Silent Hobo)



Judo
Faith Pitman



Disability Power Lifting
Adam Alderman



Endurance Cycling
Alex Dowsett

2010 Team Essex Ambassadors Award Athletes involved in Journey to the Podium

Journey to the Podium

In the build up to the London 2012 Olympic Games and Paralympic Games, Essex County Council's 2012 Legacy Team established the Team Essex Ambassadors Award, which aims to support and nurture local athletes who have been identified as having the potential to compete in the London 2012 games. Awards will be given every year up to 2012.

To celebrate and capture these talented athletes Essex County Council's Arts Development Team is annually commissioning artists to 'Adopt an Athlete' and create artworks that mark their journey to the podium, or at least the 2012 Games. The commissions can be realistic or abstract and in any medium. The artists have to work with the athletes to develop a piece that captures the essence of their personalities and sport.

Essex County Council would like to thank the following partners for housing the Journey to the Podium exhibition



The Weston Homes Community Stadium

Gibberd GALLERY

The Gibberd Gallery

An annual art commission sponsored by Essex County Council

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The Team Essex Ambassador's Award and the Journey to the Podium project have been accredited with the London 2012 inspire mark

