PROJECT CASE STUDY

The Nightingale Centre and Genesis Prevention Centre
A creative programme aimed at creating an inspirational hospital environment.

Overview

Lime worked closely with patients, volunteers and staff to integrate a series of art commissions into their new breast cancer care and prevention centre. The aim was to create a calm, warm, welcoming and inspirational environment which complements the excellence of the care patients receive in this new expanded service.

Early intervention in the planning of this new Centre meant that the arts could be integrated into the overall design and build process. Engaging with senior managers, designers, architects, the Centre’s team of staff, volunteers and patients was central to the decision making, appointment of artists and final outcomes. A range of artistic specialisms and media were employed to make a stunning award winning project.

Aim

- To create an inspirational hospital environment through unique and high quality artworks
- To enhance the patient and staff experience
- To work closely with the creative architectural team, artists, senior NHS managers, the Centre’s team of staff, volunteers and patients in the arts programme design and delivery.

Background

The arts programme for the new Centre grew from Lime having delivered many successful arts projects at Wythenshawe Hospital in south Manchester. Lime was approached to become involved by one of the breast care consultants Lester Barr several years before the building of the new centre began. He and colleagues were clear that they wanted to create a therapeutic, holistic environment which included unique and stunning artworks.

Staff and patients identified the creation
of a contemporary Architectural Art Glass Window for their new Centre as a first priority, as a way of referencing and remembering their previous centre which was located in a former Chapel. A coordinated series of commissions followed as additional funding was identified.

Management Team

The building was designed to improve breast care and breast cancer services in Manchester and the surrounding region. It was developed in collaboration with The Genesis Appeal, the only breast cancer charity researching the origins and prevention of breast cancer.

This new centre was developed under ProCure21 with Laing O’Rourke (PSCP) and Gilling Dod Architects. It is Europe’s first purpose built breast cancer prevention centre.

The arts programme was managed by Helen Kitchen from Lime who worked closely with the architects, engineers, hospital estates planners and managers, Centre staff team, volunteers and patient groups. Helen also involved Sale Grammer School and its staff and students to add a community dimension to the programme and offer opportunities to younger people.

The Artwork

42sq/m Architectural Art Glass Window

The main window at the front of the Nightingale Centre and Genesis Prevention Centre has been transformed into a stunning glass collage of rich and vibrant colours. The Aim was to create a welcoming, optimistic and uplifting environment, both on approaching the building from the outside and on entering the main reception space.

The Art Glass Window is designed to have an impact from a distance as well as many subtle textures and treatments at closer inspection, revealing nuances at different times of day and in different weathers. The design is based on natural organic forms including trees, leaves, water, sun and sky. The artwork extracts the essence and nature of these forms, interpreting its subject rather than imitating it. At the start of the project, an arts group comprised of staff and patients were involved in selecting the artist, including writing the artist’s brief and short listing candidates for interview from submissions from glass artists throughout the UK. Staff, patients and volunteers were then invited to a series of creative consultation sessions with the selected artist, Martin Donlin.

During Sessions participants used images from nature, a photocopier, slide projector and coloured gels to visually explore the theme of organic forms. Participants were also able to talk in small groups and one to one with the Artist, see examples of contemporary art glass techniques he has used on other commissions and to express their ideas on the concept, design and ‘feel’ of the Art Glass Window for their new Centre. Patients said that they wanted a design which reflected energy and optimism, and abstract forms which left interpretation open to the viewer.

In addition to the art glass window the Artist created 32 room dedication plaques engraved with the names of donors which were created using the same handmade glass technique. These stunning plaques were sited down the corridors individually and in groups bringing colour and interest to the patient journey.
**Film Installation**

The Film focuses on the landscape of the wider region, filming in different seasons, at different times of day and in different locations. Artist Rob Vale selected locations by running workshops with as many people as possible who would be using the new Centre consulting patients, volunteers and staff, finding their favourite places, views that inspire them, areas of historic and personal significance. The movement on each screen is very subtle, for example water flowing in a stream, the wind gently blowing trees, birds moving across the landscape, hikers taking their dogs for a walk. Together the finished piece on 8 flat screens creates a rhythmic and calming atmosphere in two linked waiting areas, as over 150 filmed shots slowly fade into each other.

**Photographic Artwork**

Radiographer Gill Brett who works at the Nightingale Centre is also a highly accomplished and award winning photographer in her free time. Six of her floral studies and landscapes have been selected for the counselling rooms, adding warmth and beauty to the environment. Lime also coordinated additional elements to soften the feeling of the rooms including cushions, roller blinds, mosaic mirrors and handmade felt flowers. Staff who use the room to break difficult news to patients have commented, ‘The artwork makes a palpable difference. It softens the atmosphere, the rooms feel so much less formal now . . . we were using the rooms for several weeks before the artwork was installed and my colleagues and I can definitely say that the artwork has had a very positive effect.’ In addition to the counselling rooms Lime worked with Gill to select four more of her stunning images from around the world which have now been enlarged and are permanently displayed in the Nightingale Centre, including one of the patient mammography rooms.

**Wall of Thanks**

Over 250 individuals and companies raised money to help fund the new Centre. Artist Lesley Fallais was commissioned to design an artwork incorporating these names for a prominent wall within the main atrium. The design for this piece of site-specific artwork evolved through close consultation with hospital staff and patients and volunteers. The style and mood of the artwork is intended to work in harmony with the architecture of the new building and the large-scale architectural glass window. The names of individuals and companies are etched into clear panels and supported on a stainless steel framework which spreads across the double height atrium wall. The names sit amongst silhouette shapes of natural forms in brushed aluminium along with hand carved strips of oak decorated with metallic rings of silver, titanium, copper and bronze created by jeweler Kate Rhodes in collaboration with Lesley Fallais.

**The Harmony Suite**

The Manager for orthotics at UHSM, Lynn Smith, had a vision for providing a very special service for patients. With the expanded breast care services now being located under one roof, this provided an excellent opportunity to realise this vision. Lynn says, ‘Some of the ladies who come to us still cannot look at themselves in the mirror, even years after their surgery. We wanted the Harmony Suite to feel feminine, like an up market boutique where they could buy pretty bras, matching pants and swimsuits. Creating the right atmosphere affects people’s self confidence and how they feel about their body image.’
Colour Scheme

Lime worked closely with staff and patients on aspects of interior design to create a warm and friendly and non-institutional environment. This included choosing seating colours and fabrics and coordinating the colour scheme with a professional interior designer who is also a Nurse who had been a patient of the Nightingale Centre.

The Summit

A set of photographs were donated by Alexandra Barrie a volunteer who raised money for the new Centre by climbing Mount Kilimanjaro. Lime had the photos printed onto clear acrylic panels which sit proud of the wall on steel locator fixings to work in harmony with the room dedication plaques designed by glass artist Martin Donlin.

Sale Grammar School Collaboration

Sale Grammar School Year 12 students created original artworks for the therapy, counseling and waiting areas within the Centre. At the beginning of the project students along with their art teachers visited the Centre and met with the specialist breast care nurses who provide health information, support and counseling.

The brief for students was to create artworks which would ‘bring life into the space’ along the suggested themes of growth and nature. The finished artworks including engravings, photography, textiles and collages now enhance the atmosphere, making it warm, welcoming and intriguing. This project with Sale Grammar School is part of an ongoing partnership linking the school with Lime and University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust. Lime works closely with the school’s Community Coordinator, Ms Clare Bedford to develop and coordinate the programme. The artworks have been kindly donated by each student and funding for the cost of framing was raised by the Genesis Appeal.


The project has also attracted interest from the production company Centini who have followed the project for a mini TV documentary that celebrates and focuses upon young people doing great things for their local community.

Budgets and Scheme of Work

Funding came from a variety of sources including: the capital build budget, the Centre’s Endowment Funds and the Genesis Appeal raised significant money from businesses and private individuals.

Artist:
Martin Donlin, 2007

Artwork:
Architectural Art Glass Window, 42 m/sq. Main Entrance. 
Room Dedication Plaques throughout building.
Circular Manifestations for waiting room windows
Handmade Mouth Blown Antique Glass

Budget:
Architectural Art Glass Window and Circular Manifestations: £62,102.00 + VAT
32 Room Dedication Plaques: 13,500 + VAT

Responsible to:
Project Manager, Helen Kitchen, Lime
Artist: Rob Vale, 2007
Artwork: Film Installation of Collaged Landscapes from Across the Northwest
8 Flat Screens in two linked Patient Waiting Areas
Budget: £18,000
Responsible to: Project Manager Helen Kitchen, Lime

Artist and staff member: Gill Brett, 2007 to 2008
Artwork: Photographic Artwork for Counselling Rooms, Treatment Rooms, Corridors and Staff Hub
Budget to enlarge and install photos: £1,808
The photographer did not charge for the use of her images.
Responsible to: Project Manager Helen Kitchen, Lime

Artist: Lesley Fallais, 2008
Artwork: ‘Wall of Thanks’ incorporating names of all donors
Budget: £18,000 plus VAT
Responsible to: Project Manager Helen Kitchen, Lime

Artist: Sue Warburton, 2008
Artwork: The Harmony Suite
Lime coordinated the Interior Design and commissioned Textile Artworks
Budget: £2,600
The Artist donated one of the three textiles.
Responsible to: Project Manager Helen Kitchen, Lime

Artist and Volunteer: Alexandra Barrie, 2008
Budget: Printing photos onto acrylic and installation £1,500. The photographer did not charge for the use of her images.
Responsible to: Project Manager Helen Kitchen, Lime

Artists: Sale Grammar School Students, 2008
Artwork: Various Student Artwork
Budget: Including framing and specialist arts materials and installation; £2,180
Students donated artworks to the Centre
Responsible to: Project Manager Helen Kitchen, Lime

Consultation & Evaluation
Consultation was key to the success of the arts programme. Over 300 individuals in the local community as well as patients, volunteers and staff throughout the breast care services, from the Clinical Director to the Receptionists, have been involved in consultaion throughout the arts programme for their new Centre.

Artists Brief’s and Proposal’s
Artists were interviewed but not asked to do proposals for interview. Their designs developed in workshops with staff volunteers and patients. See Artists Brief example for the Architectural Glass Art Window below:
Artists Brief

Architectural Glass Art Commission

For the Main Entrance Area of the new Breast Care Centre due to open in summer 2007 commission located at Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester, University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust

University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust (UHSM) and Lime, an organisation providing arts project management within healthcare settings, invite expressions of interest from Architectural Glass Artists. Lime are coordinating the commission as one of the UKs leading Arts in Healthcare organisations. We welcome approaches from Artists with good communication skills, interested in working in this sensitive environment.

LOCATION:

Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester

The Nightingale Centre and Genesis Research Centre:

The Centre is Europe’s first purpose built Breast Cancer Prevention Centre and we are looking for an Artist to bring inspiration to the building’s glass entrance. The Centre is a collaboration between the NHS, thousands of volunteers and supporters and the Genesis Appeal.

More than 100 staff will be working in this new Centre with approximately 100 patients, often accompanied by a family member or friend, visiting per day.

The Centre will include:

- The most comprehensive programme of prevention projects in Europe.
- The largest family history clinic in the UK
- Thousands of women already registered as volunteers
- Training of specialists from every discipline
- An education centre for the public and for GPs
- State of the art diagnostic services
- One of the largest breast screening centres in Europe
- Screening, early diagnosis and prevention – all under one roof

Healthcare Context:

One in ten women will develop breast cancer. Despite new drug therapies more than a third will never be cured. Only 2% of all cancer research funding is spent on prevention. Despite decades of research into new treatments, breast cancer continues to rise in incidence across the Western World. It has become one of the most devastating health problems of our time. For that reason, breast cancer specialists in Manchester believe the key to help future generation may be ‘prevention is better than cure.’

The overall Aim of the Arts Programme for the new building:

The overall aim of the arts programme is to enhance the healing environment through inclusion of visual arts into this new build with a strong emphasis on consulting and involving staff and patients and visitors.

Early discussions have identified the type of environment staff and patients wish to create, one which feels serene and tranquil and welcoming. Creating a reassuring and relaxing atmosphere is fundamental as those visiting the Centre may be nervous and frightened. The majority of people coming to the Centre will have been or will be diagnosed with Breast Cancer and all are anxious about their prognosis.
Lime:

Lime, an arts organisation working within healthcare settings, is currently developing and managing the Art Programme at Wythenshawe Hospital for University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust (UHSM).

Recent Awards for the Arts Programme at Wythenshawe Hospital include: The national NHS Estates Award for ‘Outstanding Use of Art in Hospitals’ and the Arts and Business Workforce Creativity Award 2004.

ARTIST’S BRIEF

Architectural Glass Art Commission in the main entrance area.

The commissioned artist will work closely with Helen Kitchen, Arts Project Manager at Lime, as well as the project team and architect. There are a number of possibilities for incorporating glass artwork into the main entrance area including the two story glass frontage of the building, the glass balcony within the atrium and a suspended glass screen.

The Architectural Glass should make an impact without being too dramatic, ideally we want to ‘woo’ people rather than ‘wow’ them. The glass artwork will act as icon for the Centre, flooding the entrance area with coloured light and making an immediate positive and uplifting impression on all those visiting and working in the new Centre.

We want to create a comforting, calming and welcoming environment, one which draws people in and feels warm and hopeful, non-institutional, and allays their fears and anxieties. As one ex patient commented, ‘I found, for me, it took quite a lot of courage to walk through the entrance door’.

Degree of Consultation / Participation:

To ensure a sense of ownership the commissioned Artist will engage with staff and individuals from the Genesis Appeals Team as a means of consultation and exploration of the selected theme ‘genesis’. A maximum of 6 days is allocated for a series of open, drop-in sessions at the Hospital. These sessions should be fun and stress-free and introduce participants to the creative process. We are not expecting the Artist to design by committee, we want the sessions to inform and influence the Artist as well as enthuse staff.

We welcome proposals from the Artist about involvement and consultation methods they wish to use.

The Artist will be expected to discuss initial design ideas with Lime and other members of the project team.

Theme:

The theme is ‘genesis’ which could make reference to, for example creation, beginnings, origins, dawn, the wonder of life. It is important that this theme not be interpreted in a specifically religious way and that no imagery of the human form/body is included.
Budget and Fees:

£33,000 plus VAT. This amount is expected to increase and more information will be available at interview in April.

(please note: more funding was identified and the total commission budget rose to £62,102 + VAT after the artist was selected)

Installation:

To be agreed and arranged in consultation with the Procure 21 builders Liang O’Rourke and the Estates Team at University Hospital of South Manchester NHS Foundation Trust (UHSM).

Shortlisting and Interview:

Interview Fee:
Fee to each artist £750 plus VAT. Travel @ 23 pence a mile

Three Artists will be invited to a two stage interview process:

Stage 1: opportunity for short listed artists, as a group, to view plans with Architect and meet SMUHT staff and ex patient representatives to gain a fuller understanding of the context. 30th March starting at 2pm.

Stage 2: Formal Interview / presentation by Artists. 4th of April, from 9am to 12noon (45 minutes per candidate)

Time Table:

1st March 2006- Deadline for Expressions of Interest – send to Helen Kitchen at Lime (see address below).

9th March 2006- Short listed Artists notified

30th March 2006- Stage 1: Group Site Visit for three short listed Artists
2pm to 3.30pm: Opportunity to talk to SMUHT departmental staff and ex patients and Helen Kitchen from Lime.

4th April 2006- Stage 2: Formal Interviews of short listed Artists, 9am to 12noon, 45minutes per interview

By the 6th April 2006 the successful Artist will be notified

Dates to be agreed: Consultation/Workshops with staff and Genesis Appeals group(s)

November/December: Installation – date may change
Expressions of Interest to include:

- No more than 15 images - transparencies, cd or printed up to size A4.
- Expression of Interest which includes initial ideas for engaging staff.
- A CV with two referees on commissioned work.
- A SAE for the return of transparencies/enclosures.

Send Expressions of Interest by 1st March 2006 to:

Helen Kitchen, Arts Project Manager, Lime, St Mary’s Hospital, Hathersage Road, Manchester M13 OJH (please note – this is not the location where the glass commission will be sited).

For More Information:

For an informal discussion ring Helen Kitchen at Lime 0161 256 4389.

Provisional Floor Plans and Elevations are attached and also available on www.limeart.org in the Opportunities section.

The building’s exterior finishes and colour are not definite at this point.
Gill Brett

Photography has been a main interest for as long as I can remember. Over the years I have used many different film cameras and for the past ten years have moved over to digital imaging completely, using a succession of Canon cameras and their professional quality lenses.

My career in Radiography, has kept alive my interest in photography as both have similarities; using the same darkroom skills and a desire to create the perfect image.

For almost twenty years I have worked for the NHS breast screening programme based at the Nightingale Centre in Manchester. Here I have been encouraged to bring my photography into the work place and given several talks about digital photography and its uses within the department.

Photography remains a priority for me and I have recently added to my experiences by being invited to join the Faculty of the Royal College of Surgeons for their Clinical Digital Photography Courses for Doctors, Dentists and Surgeons. Following on from this I have also been invited to get involved with a local Clinical Photography Course and develop an interest in macro video.

Recently, I have been fortunate to be successful in many photographic competitions, both national and international and have had my work exhibited in several locations.

www.gillbrettphotography.co.uk

Martin Donlin

Martin is an award winning architectural glass artist working in stained glass, acid-etched and enamelled glass. He works in all areas of public architecture and is available for commissions worldwide; both large and small scale, sacred or secular. Recent works includes: Abingdon School in Oxford, Queen Alexandra Hospital in Portsmouth, Southampton Row, Holborn, London, Basingstoke and North Hampshire Hospital and Indianapolis Airport, USA.

www.martindonlin.com

Lesley Fallais

Lesley makes large-scale, mixed media artworks for interior and external public spaces. Developing site-specific design concepts via a creative dialogue with stakeholders and in relation to each unique space. Meaningful, arts based engagement with communities is central to her work. Lesley works with robust materials including stone, steel and architectural ceramic.

www.lesleyfallais.co.uk

Rob Vale

Rob Vale combines elements of installation, dance and music through film. Each project that he approach develops from an exploration of the emotions of an environment, aiming to capture the essence of a place, space or feeling as a moment on film. In previous work this has been through a symphonic film capturing the thoughts and feelings of community musicians in a church in Barnsley (orkestra), using visual motifs and sound as a representation of human nature (fourth), or beauty, magic and majesty of Tatton Park sewn together through dance in Le Ballet De Cour.
Rob creates work that is a representation of spaces, a sort of visual poem that coaxes the viewer into considering a place, and plays with their expectations. He frequently incorporates the use of multiple imagery, to show a number of environments side by side, allowing one shot to resonate against another.

Rob is dedicated to the production of quality work that pushes the boundaries of art forms, and fuses many styles of working. He often works collaboratively, opening up the creative process with other practitioners and participants. As an arts projects manager Rob has the necessary skills to see a unique, many faceted commission of this sort to its conclusion, and his past work shows an engagement with location that would be of significant importance to the Salford LIFT projects.

Rob Vale is a LIME Arts Projects Manager, as well as artist for this project. He has been working for Lime for six years across the Pennine NHS Trust by delivering and developing at least ten projects a year, which included the Kings Fund Enhancing the Healing Environment project.
1. Architectural Art Glass Window by Martin Donlin.
2 & 5. Workshop with Martin Donlin and staff at the Nightingale and Genesis Prevention Centre.
3. Detailed section of Architectural Art Glass Window.
4. Room dedication plaques by Martin Donlin.
Project Images

6. Wall of Thanks by Lesley Fallais.
7. Colour Scheme workshop lead by Lesley Fallais.
8. Film Installation by Rob Vale.
9. Photographic artwork by photographer and staff member Gill Brett.
10. ‘The Summit’ photographs of Mount Kilimanjaro by Alexandra Barrie.
11. Commissioned textile artwork by Sue Warburton located in the Harmony Suite.