

Victoria DAWE

Victoria grew up near the idyllic north Cornwall coastline, in the south west of England, an environment of green fields, open spaces, expansive Moore land areas all littered with small towns and tiny villages, which is bordered by the Atlantic Ocean. It is a place of inspiration where nature more than man has shaped the landscape through time.

From Cornwall she moved to the city in 1996 to study photography and then in 2000 chose London to follow a career as an artist and photographer. The contrast Victoria experienced between this rural environment and the urban landscape of the city with its eclectic mix of people, buzzing street scenes and impressive architecture is what inspired her to create and develop her art projects. Victoria is captivated by the way we construct our environments "everywhere I look I see the result of human thought and endeavour, buildings and scenes that have come in to existence shaped through imagination, economics and cultural dynamics".

"I love city life, when I look at a long stretch of buildings I am reminded that behind each window/door exists another life, whether at work or at home someone fills that space."

"My father is a keen amateur photographer, hence my initial interest in the medium. I started off borrowing his cameras and using up his valuable chemicals and paper in countless darkroom sessions at home in the Den.

I then studied a Bachelor of Arts degree in Photo media at PCAD university which gave me a chance to dream artistically and come up with the first sketches of my now successful cities project. I have had the privilege to travel extensively.

With my camera, for this art project and for comic relief who support many amazing charities world wide.

It is an honour to meet the people I encounter with my camera whether they are "show business" or a character with an intriguing story. I enjoy the challenge of capturing that moment with them and telling their story. I would be a fraction of the photographer I am today without the training, the experience and support of all the amazing photographers I had the privilege to assist.

The idea for my city joiners project was born during a time when I was able to dream, my artistic, naive, studious years of university.

I believe the concept came from the influence of my childhood. I grew up in Cornwall, on a farm, in a hamlet and went to school in a small town nearby. My landscape was open spaces, small Cornish houses and the occasional castle.

My first experience of the city was startling, I remember sitting on the south bank of the river Thames, on my first trip to London to visit my uncle, aged seven. Looking up at a plethora of gigantic buildings I began counting the windows, whilst imagining that somebody lived or worked behind each one. I wanted to build one of those buildings, so for a time the dream was to be an architect. At school I excelled at art, my father had a small darkroom at home, so I could experiment printing techniques and slowly grew passionate about photography.

When studying a degree in photo media, at university, the artist David Hockney and images taken on the moon landings by NASA inspired me to photograph landscapes using multiple images merged together. I studied animals and open spaces, then I tried the concept with architecture and the results were exciting.

What I love about these images is they are often of an impossible view. I photograph the view as I walk the street, so in some cases these views cannot be seen at once, they express the identity of a city's streets, but one that is seen in the mind's eye.

What is also exciting is that skylines and city's shift and change so I am interested to return to the places I have been and enjoy seeing this change and making comparisons. Each city has inspired me in different ways and traveling through these cultures has helped me grow. I am grateful to have visited these beautiful intriguing places and look forward to visiting many more.

I am very grateful to have travelled worldwide to build on this Art project through the years. Along side being an artist I am also a successful Press, portrait and Event photographer.

I have worked for Comic Relief for over 10 years photographing the celebrities that give their time and energy to this great cause. I have also been documenting projects all over the UK and in Africa, India and Bangladesh.

My Artwork has been on display with Envie d'Art for over 8 years, in Paris, London and all over the world. They work tirelessly and are an amazing team, I feel very privileged to be part of the waves they have made in the contemporary art movement over the years.

Each Image is sold as a limited addition of seven. They are beautifully displayed using a Durospect mount, which is an archival mounting solution, also known as Perspex Reverse or Face Mounting. This Durospect is then backed with a 3mm Dibond backing. Once the Perspex has been bonded to the front of your print the refraction of light through the Perspex gives a high definition effect and brilliant colour, with stunning flawless results that will last for many years. The finished piece is supplied ready to hang on the wall, eliminating the need for a picture frame.

EDUCATION

Plymouth College of Art and Design PCAD

1996 - 1997 Foundation lens based media

1997 - 1999 Higher National Diploma media production

1997 - 2000 Bachelor of Arts with Honors

2000 Distinction PQE (professional qualifying exam) awarded membership of the BIPP (British Institute of professional photography).

EXHIBITIONS

2016

AAF Singapore

2015

Enviedart, London

AAF Barcelona

AAF Hong Kong

AAF Singapore

Calamart Gallery Genève Switzerland

2013

Envie d'Art Galleries London & Paris 8

Affordable Art Fair, Hong Kong

AAF Battersea

2012
Envie d'Art, Paris 16
Affordable Art Fair, Singapore

2011
Enviedart, Paris 8
Revitalize Brighton
Calamart Gallery Genève Switzerland

2010
Affordable Art Fair, Brussels
Affordable Art Fair, London
Exhibition Envie d'Art, Paris 16 & London
Calamart Gallery, Geneva

2009
Affordable Art Fair, Brussels
Affordable Art Fair, London
Envie d'Art, Paris 16

2008
Bridge Art Fair, London
Form Art Fair, London
Envie d'Art, Paris 7
Affordable Art Fair, London
Envie d'Art, Bruxelles
Affordable Art Fair, Paris
Santa Fe Art Fair, Santa Fe
Affordable Art Fair, Amsterdam
Envie d'Art, London

2007
Enviedart, Paris 8
Affordable Art Fair, London
Affordable Art Fair, New York
Affordable Art Fair, Amsterdam

2006
Envie d'Art, Paris 16
Envie d'Art, London

2005
Envie d'Art, Paris 8