



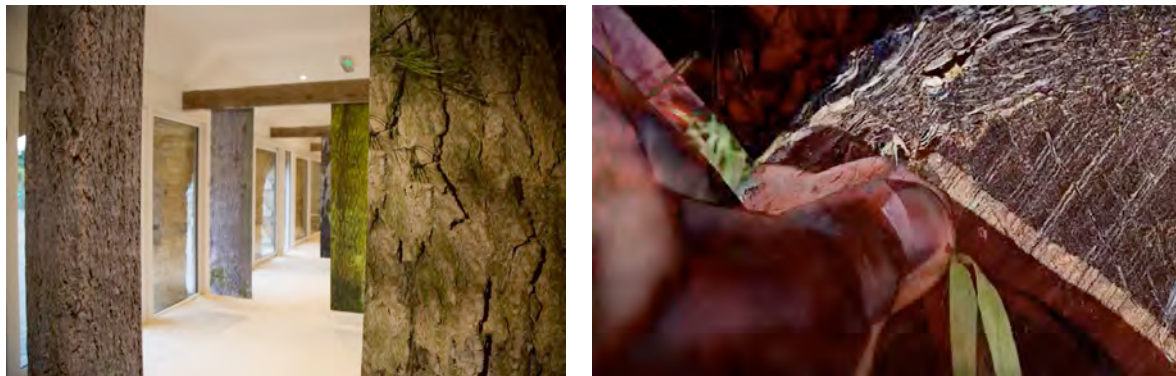
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PRESS RELEASE

SPECIAL COMMENDATION - 2019 NICK REEVES ARTS & ENVIRONMENT AWARD

Fermynwoods Contemporary Art has received a special commendation as part of the 2019 Nick Reeves Arts & Environment Award for our current programme, The Forest is the Museum.



The Forest is the Museum is a programme of artists in residence at Fineshade Wood, a Forestry Commission managed natural habitat and ancient mixed broadleaf and conifer woodland, heritage site and leisure facility in Northamptonshire, 13 miles outside of Corby.

The four residencies include Edwina fitzPatrick, Justin Carter, Owl Project, plus Abigail Lane and Lala Meredith-Vula. Edwina fitzPatrick used her residency to address climate change in both scientific and anecdotal terms, while Justin Carter encapsulated the area's historic relationship between the natural and industrial with prints produced from homemade iron gall inks. Artist collective Owl Project connected natural systems with computer algorithms, ultimately producing a multimedia installation inspired by both insect and human activity. The final residency with artists Abigail Lane and Lala Meredith-Vula is currently underway and will culminate in an exhibition at the Arches at Fineshade Wood this winter.

The Nick Reeves Award celebrates an artwork, project or field of activity by an artist (or group) that has contributed innovatively to the Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management's vision of putting creativity at the heart of environmental policy and action. The judging panel, when discussing The Forest is The Museum, were impressed by "the astute curating" of our artists residencies, and "the imaginative and strongly place-based explorations of meaning and process in the forest, in a way that is accessible to the public."

The Nick Reeves Award is organised annually by The Chartered Institution of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM)'s Arts and Environment Network in association with the Centre for Contemporary Art and the Natural World (CCANW), in celebration of outstanding contributions in the field of environmental arts. This special commendation was given alongside overall Award winner 'Waterweek', a UK based project which focuses on community engagement in the water environment, and a second commendation given to Sarah Cameron Sunde for '36.5 / A Durational Performance with the Sea'.

Editors Notes

Fermynwoods Contemporary Art is an educational charity that commissions innovative and meaningful ways for artists to engage with audiences, in public spaces across Northamptonshire and online.

The Forest is the Museum is funded by Arts Council England and The Foyle Foundation, in partnership with Forestry England.

For more information please contact James Steventon, Director, on 01832 731257 or via james@fermynwoods.org