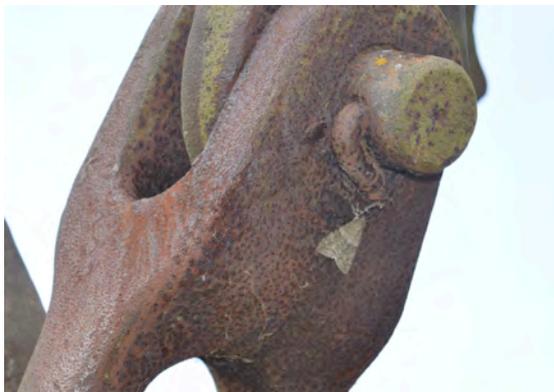


PRESS RELEASE

BLOOD FROM STONE

Artist Justin Carter draws on local history of Oak and Ore for new exhibition



The Arches

Fineshade Wood, Nr Corby, Northants, NN17 3BB

Exhibition Launch - from 5pm

Artist Talk – from 7-8.30pm

Thursday 20 December 2018

Blood from Stone is a body of work produced by Justin Carter during the summer of 2018 and inspired by the regional relationship between Oak and Ore. During his research, Justin identified this as an area of ancient industry, iron smelters having been fuelled by the abundance of wood fuel from Rockingham Forest. Transforming this historic relationship to the visual, Justin combined oak galls and bark from the landscape with rust removed from local ironstone quarries' dragline buckets to make iron gall ink.

The hundreds of images on display capture the unpredictable character of the iron gall ink in

klecksographic prints (also known as inkblots). They suggest various lifeforms, from zoological specimens to human portraits, the ink literally emerging from the surrounding rocks and trees. Along with the displayed images on paper, Justin has included the detritus of his own industry; by-products of his studio activity reflecting the uncertainty of the creative process.

As part of the exhibition launch, Justin will be in conversation with conservation officer Susannah O'Riordan, delving further into the ways insects, people and trees interact, with a particular focus on the locally reintroduced Chequered Skipper butterfly.

Editors Notes

Justin Carter is Reader in Contemporary Practice: Art & Environment and Lecturer in Sculpture & Environmental Art at Glasgow School of Art. He was selected for New Contemporaries (2000) and developed work during the inaugural residency at Cove Park (2000) shown at Tramway, Glasgow. In 2000 he won the Bulkhead Prize for Public Art in Glasgow for his work 'Wasteland'. He has been artist in residence at Tate Liverpool (2001), Grizedale (2002) and Berwick Gymnasium (2004). In 2013 Justin was commissioned by Trust New Art to make a response to Leigh Woods in Bristol.

Susannah O'Riordan is the Roots of Rockingham Project Officer for the Back from the Brink project, led by Butterfly Conservation.

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 Fermynwoods Contemporary Art's programme of artists in residence at Fineshade Wood, taking place between 2018 and 2020. This programme will situate itself in the surrounding environment as well as The Arches, a project space and artist studio renovated by the Forestry Commission to celebrate their 100th anniversary and Fermynwoods Contemporary Art's 20th.

The Forest Is the Museum is funded by Arts Council England, the Forestry Commission, and the Foyle Foundation.

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