



CANARY WHARF
ARTS + EVENTS

***Where are we now? Sculpture exhibition by Michael Pennie and Andrew Sabin
launches at Canary Wharf***

What: *Where are we now?* Sculpture by Michael Pennie and Andrew Sabin

When: Tuesday 28th August - Friday 19th October 2018

Time: Daily

Where: Lobby, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf

How much: Free

Further details: For more information on the events at Canary Wharf, please visit:
www.canarywharf.com

Description:

A new sculpture exhibition, '*Where are we now?*' by Michael Pennie and Andrew Sabin opens in Canary Wharf this month.

Bringing the work of Pennie and Sabin together, two considerations will be showcased: Pennie has chosen to exhibit a selection of sculpture made over the past forty-six years, while Sabin has crafted new pieces made in an energetic frenzy of creative activity.

Curator Ann Elliott's decision to exhibit the work of these two artists together arose from her interest in setting up a curious and informative dialogue between them. In the event it emerged that Pennie and Sabin are former colleagues who hold each other's work in high regard.

Materially the sculptures differ but are brought together through the artists' attention to surface detail and appropriate scale. Pennie's use of the sculptor's traditional materials of clay, bronze, plaster, stone is in great contrast with Sabin's choices that include highly pigmented, soft and hard polyurethane and reconstituted stone. Pennie may work traditionally, but his combinations of bronze with clay, wood or stone set up telling contrasts, particularly when he echoes the surface treatment of one medium in another material. Sabin's methodology is radical, experimental and adventurous, as he uses the most unlikely substance – margarine – to create the unusual textured surfaces of his colourful monumental works shown for the first time in this exhibition.

The exhibition will go on show on 28th August as part of Canary Wharf's on-going temporary exhibition programme. Since the inception of Canary Wharf's cultural master plan, the arts have played an important role in the development and success of the 128-acre Estate. Canary Wharf has one of the UK's largest collections of public art, with more than 70 permanent works by over 50 world-renowned artists and craftsmen.

Visitors can attend a tour of the exhibition, hosted by curator Ann Elliott, on Tuesday 2nd October, 6.30pm – 7.15pm. The tour is free, but visitors should email publicart@canarywharf.com to reserve a space.



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Michael Pennie

Born in 1936 in the northeast of England, Michael Pennie is an Associate of the Royal College of Art and was awarded the Rome Scholarship in 1961. He joined Bath Academy of Art in 1962 as a visiting lecturer, where he developed both his teaching career and practice as an artist in parallel. In 1996 he was appointed Professor of Sculpture at Bath University College.

Pennie has a long and profound interest in the carving of West African artists, in particular those of the Lobi people, making his first of annual visits to the region in 1987. His research was manifest in three touring exhibitions in Britain in 1988, 1994 and 1999. Pennie's work has been exhibited largely in Britain. He lives and works in Wiltshire.

Michael Pennie comments on his work: 'I have always considered working in wood to be my primary activity: the surface tells the history of the making - my works are hybrids, carved constructions and combinations [of materials]. Made where I was and where I am. Being inventive should not be confused with being creative.'

Andrew Sabin

Born in 1958, Andrew Sabin studied at Chelsea College of Art between 1979 and 1983 where he taught as a Senior Lecturer between 1997 and 2006. His work is wide-ranging, with significant contributions to sculpture, installation, land art and art in the public realm, the most ambitious being *The Coldstones Cut* made in the period 2006-2010 in the Yorkshire Dales. Described by *The Guardian* as 'The giant of the Dales and the best public artwork of the year', it won the Marsh Award for Public Sculpture in 2011.

Known for his wide-ranging projects and few, but significant gallery exhibitions, Sabin's shows include 'Material Evidence' show at Cubitt Street Gallery, London, *Other Criteria* 2004 at Henry Moore Institute taking stock of *One hundred years of British Sculpture* and in *Over Under* 2007 at Canary Wharf with Keith Wilson and Franz West. Sabin lives and works in London and West Sussex.

Sabin says; 'I am a lucky artist - I have a palette of materials that is quick, surprising and exciting to use and my process, mainly casting into margarine moulds, seems to offer me infinite possibilities of form and texture - a gift that keeps giving'.

Film

The exhibition premieres a 20-minute film made by Fiona Cassidy and Michael Pennie, *When Chances Present Themselves*. The film is centred on Pennie's friendships with former students and fellow teachers from Bath Academy of Art, and features Richard Deacon, Bridget Heal, Ivor Heal, Laura Ford, Nicholas Pope, Peter Randall-Page and Andrew Sabin. These artists explore moments in their creative journeys through conversations that take place in their studios and Tate Modern.

ENDS



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About Canary Wharf Group

Canary Wharf Group plc has overseen the largest urban regeneration project ever undertaken in Europe, designing and building more than 16.5m sq ft of London real estate, which now houses local and international companies and renowned retailers.

The Canary Wharf estate is a major retail destination comprising around 1m sq ft across five shopping malls, including the award-winning leisure development, Crossrail Place, housing one of London's most stunning roof gardens. It also has a world-class, year-round arts and events programme offering over 200 diverse and culturally inspiring events performed throughout the Estate.

Canary Wharf's new district, Wood Wharf, will provide up to 3,600 new homes, 2.8m sq ft of office space, 380,000 sq ft of retail space and over eight acres of public spaces, squares and parks. There will also be a GP surgery and a two-form primary school for 420 children.

Canary Wharf Group is a wholly owned joint venture between Brookfield Property Partners and the Qatar Investment Authority.

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