

PRESS RELEASE 5th April 2012

Vote today in the Big Oxfordshire Artweeks Poll

To celebrate the 30th anniversary of Oxfordshire Artweeks, local web publishers Artistpublishers.com has launched an Oxfordshire-wide public vote for a piece of work being exhibited during Artweeks which particularly sums up living in the county.

30 artists taking part in Oxfordshire Artweeks have submitted a work of their choice – not necessarily a landscape but an image that captures the spirit of the county - for this competition.

Members of the public are being invited to view and vote for the work they feel most reflects Oxfordshire life in a poll taking place from 2nd April to 27th May.

You can vote in person - at Artweeks Taster Exhibition at the Jam Factory from 2-30th April or Online - @ www.artistpublishers.com

Those who place a vote, will be entered into a prize draw to win a beautiful print of one of the “30 Choices” on display while the winning artist will receive £300 worth of printing from Artistpublishers.com

Esther Browning, Executive Director of Oxfordshire Artweeks said: “This is a great opportunity for the Artweeks exhibitors and it is wonderful to see the 30 diverse representations of Oxfordshire showcased in this way. I am sure that the public will enjoy this surprising selection of images, that they’ll vote for the one that most captures their heart, and then take the opportunity to visit the artists’ exhibition during May to see more of their artwork.”

Artistpublishers.com is a unique virtual gallery showcasing the work of a fantastic and eclectic mix of working artists from Oxfordshire and throughout Britain.

This website gives artists the chance to “self-publish” their work and enables art lovers, shops and galleries to buy greetings cards and prints by Oxfordshire artists at the click of a button.

Simon Nutbrown from artistpublishers.com said: “We are delighted to be able to support Oxfordshire Artweeks in celebrating this milestone year and to help showcase to the public the wonderful breadth of work and artistic talent across the county. Local art and events such as Oxfordshire Artweeks are part of the lifeblood of the creative arts in this country and artistpublishers.com can help make this wonderful art more accessible through greeting cards and prints.”

Robin Wilson, one of the competition entrants exhibiting at the Natural History Museum and at The Strawbale Studio, Duns Tew said “I think artistpublishers.com is a great idea for artists because personally once I have finished a piece of art I move onto the next one and I don’t have the time to then market it. Artistpublishers.com helps me do this for me which is great. It is also a nice way to extend my art to a wider audience. Not everyone has the money to buy or space to display original pieces, but they would maybe buy a piece of my work in card or print formats.”

Rosie Fairfax -Cholmeley another entrant exhibiting at the National History Museum and Duns Tew near Bicester said "Artistpublishers.com helps improve the range of cards available to art lovers. Whenever you go into shops you tend to see the same ranges and this website broadens the range of cards available for individuals to buy and retailers to stock. It also gives local retailers a chance to stock cards by local artists."

ENDS

For more information please contact Janet Carruzzo 07788 141997 pangvalleymarketing@gmail.com

About Artistpublishers.com

Artistpublishers.com is a unique virtual gallery showcasing the work of a fantastic and eclectic mix of working artists around Britain and beyond. The site enables artists to "self-publish" their work as greetings cards and prints for art lovers, shops and galleries to buy at the click of a button.

Visit www.artistpublishers.com to buy cards or prints featuring any of these works.

About Oxfordshire Artweeks

Oxfordshire Artweeks www.artweeks.org

Artweeks is Oxfordshire's largest visual arts festival, a three-week celebration in May each year of the county's artistic and creative talent., and the UK's oldest and biggest Open Studios event. Almost 1000 artists open the doors to their homes and studios and welcome the public to see their creations and watch them work. In 2010 over 107,000 people visited nearly 500 venues across the county.

All exhibitions are free

Oxfordshire Artweeks 2012 will run from Saturday 5th – 27th May 2012 and is organised into three geographical areas

North Oxfordshire Exhibitions: Saturday 5th - Sunday 13th May

City Exhibitions: Saturday 12th - Sunday 20th May

South Oxfordshire Exhibitions: Saturday 19th - Sunday 27th May

The *Oxfordshire Visual Arts Festival (Artweeks)* is a non profit-making company, limited by guarantee and owned by its members. Everyone is welcome to take part and there is no selection process for artists wishing to participate.

Further press information & photographs from Esther Browning 01865 821090 or 07776 196967 esther@artweeks.org

Esther Browning, and dozens of artists, are also available for interview.

For more information about all the free Artweeks exhibitions visit www.artweeks.org or collect a free festival guide from The Jam Factory, Hamptons International offices, libraries and local information points.