

Esther Lafferty

From: Oxfordshire Artweeks <artweeks@artweeks.org>
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To: esther@artweeks.org
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March 2019

Plan ahead for May!

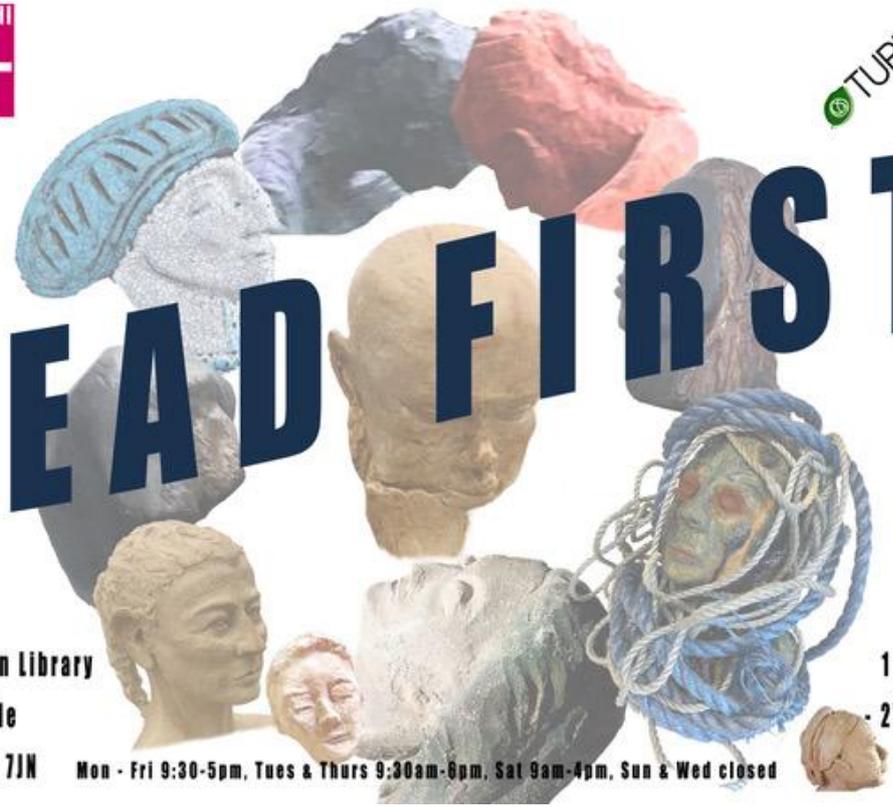
The Oxfordshire Artweeks festival guide is now rolling through the printing presses packed with information about nearly 500 exhibitions taking place later in the spring (4th-27th May). You will be able to collect one at local information points from early April and you can already browse the website by location, artist or media [here](#).

In the meantime, here are five suggestions of places to go this month and enjoy Oxfordshire art, in Oxford, in Chipping Norton and Bampton.

Sunningwell
School of
ART

TURRILL
SCULPTURE GARDEN

HEAD FIRST



Through
Summertown Library
South Parade
Oxford OX2 7JH

Mon - Fri 9:30-5pm, Tues & Thurs 9:30am-6pm, Sat 9am-4pm, Sun & Wed closed

1 March
- 27 April
2019

A great place to head!

In North Oxford, Summertown's [Turrill Sculpture Garden](#) you can enjoy Head First – an exhibition of sculptural pieces of the head in multiple styles and with many interpretations of the human face. During the first half of the twentieth century, realist portrait sculpture began to decline in popularity because of its reference to classical busts, to be superseded by modernist art trends and there was a movement towards non-realist, non-portrait works. Rodin taught that you don't need to show the exact likeness of a face but to convey the intensity and vitality of character, the multiplicity of faces in one face and this is the trend in the group of heads on show by **The Lifers Sculpture Group**, all students of the [Sunningwell School of Art](#), from a tiny cellist lost in his own art to the beautiful 'Kanchen' bedecked with jewelry and a terrifying medusa-like creation. Other plaques and busts reveal not only the variety of human expression but of techniques and artistic imagination.



Karen L French: Through the woods & Kay Jamieson: Relaxing in the Orchard.

The Artistic Imagination

There's a rich vein of artistic imagination too in [Oxford's Jam Factory](#) Boiler Room Gallery, where Frank Cooper boiled the marmalade that made him famous. Here the [LiterArties](#), a group of Oxfordshire writer-artists all of whom are passionate about are capturing creativity through different mediums, showcase many flavours of art, as varied as their writing genre.

Amongst their number, for example, artist [Kay Jamieson](#), inspired initially by the landscape of her native New Zealand, hopes to capture some of the visual and spiritual beauty of the natural world in her harmonious landscapes, while [Karen L French](#) as both a mathematician and artist has always been fascinated by the patterns underlying life. Why are they there? What are they for? What do they mean? In her art Karen uses numbers, shapes, colours and even materials, considering their purpose as symbols in artwork, spirituality and the development of human consciousness, aiming to convey the magic of 'alchemical art' to elicit various sub-conscious responses from the viewer.



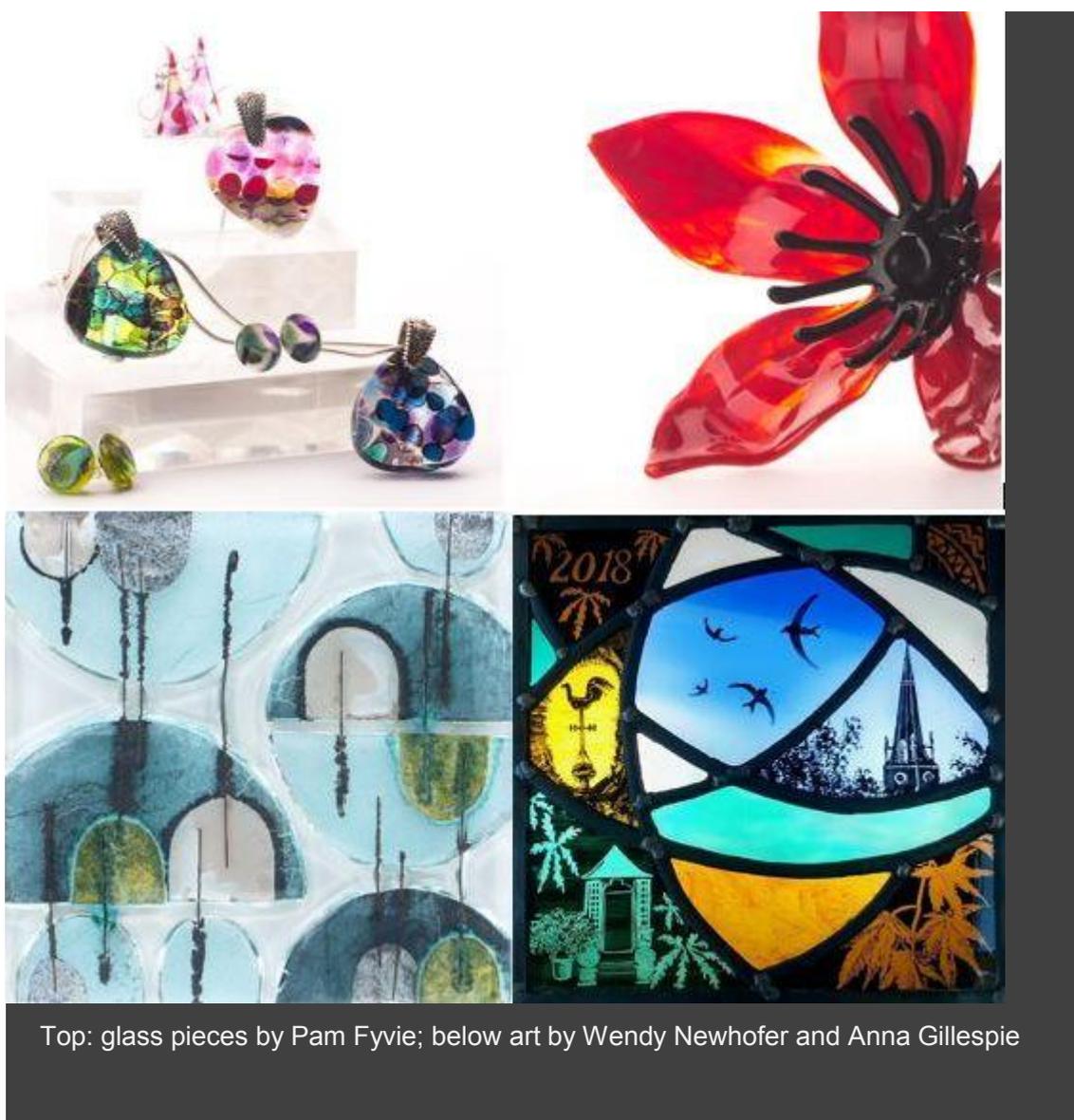
Line and Light

Also concerned with line and the response it elicits in the viewer, *Line and Light* is an exhibition of ceramics and life drawings by **Gaby Guz** with photographs by **Rob Farrands**, in [The Barn Gallery, St John's College, Oxford](#) (runs from 9th-24th). It is the result of a winter time collaboration between two artists using three media. Gaby uses line and light to capture the fleeting poses she likes to draw to convey the essence and emotion of a subject in the brief time that a dynamic pose allows. Her ceramic vessels are largely monochromatic, with bold black and grey lines spreading across egg-shell like pale surfaces. Rob's photographs honour the soft, reduced light of the winter solstice. He has shot directly into the light (often including the sun) and dealt with the resulting technical challenges to produce work with strong monochrome tones. His compositions are intended to arouse both a memory of winter's darkness and the promise of the coming spring.



Joyful landscapes

For landscapes that celebrate the natural world in rich colours and welcome the spring, in The Gallery at [The Theatre, Chipping Norton](#), painter [Maureen Gillespie](#) presents a selection of art from her Vibrant, Serenity and Coastal collections. Inspired by nature, she captured the places she comes across on walks in the countryside or by the coast with a bold colour palette. Using a variety of methods & techniques, her gloriously uplifting vistas border realism and abstraction, each passionate and windswept, or rich and harmonious.



Glowing glass

And last but not least, also in Oxfordshire's Cotswolds, the [West Ox Arts Gallery](#) in Bampton invites you to step into spring and enjoy an exhibition all about glass to add glow to a room or garden (runs until 30th). Here, seven contemporary glass artists bring to light the diverse aspects of the medium ranging from stained to painted glass, fused and 3D as several Artweeks artists show their tools, sketchbooks and processes alongside their pieces, a window into this fascinating art form. For more on [Anna Gillespie](#), [Wendy Newhofer](#) and [Tessa Hall](#) visit the Artweeks website where you'll also find information on hundreds of other local artists and the wonders they create.

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Oxfordshire Artweeks · 8 Hazel Road · Oxford, Oxfordshire OX2 9LF · United Kingdom

