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Oxfordshire Artweeks present on-line Spring show
from 2nd April as a taster for their May festival



Art by, clockwise from top left, Emma Davis, Fi Cooper, Barbara Calderwood, Jane Tomlinson, Jane Hope, Anya Simmons, Clova Stuart-Hamilton

From 2nd April (Good Friday), Oxfordshire Artweeks presents an on-line Spring Show which includes art by more than 200 local artists. The show is a taster of the variety of art, craft and design in many media that will be available to buy during their forthcoming May festival when the public will be able to visit 250 COVID-secure pop-up galleries and studio exhibitions across Oxfordshire and explore another 500 on-line – and all for free.

This Spring Show is a rich seasonal collection celebrating the natural world as it awakens and everything that is good about spring. In a series of pieces awash with vivid greens, blues and golden yellow, hares and songbirds abound in a garden of blooms and blossom. Other pieces transport the viewer to beautiful places near and far as visitors look ahead with hope to a summer holiday or plan future travels. In yet others, as the sun sets, there are pink skies and moonlit dreamscapes.

Along with traditional spring views with feel-good factor, there's jewellery made from silver or sea glass, ceramic pieces, glass art, textiles, and even furniture for the spring-cleaned home.

A banner for the Oxfordshire Artweeks On-line Spring Show 2021. It features the Oxfordshire Art Weeks logo at the top right. The main text reads 'Oxfordshire Artweeks On-line Spring Show 2021'. Below the text is a painting of a grey rabbit in a field of yellow and green flowers. At the bottom, it says '2nd April – 31st May 2021' and 'www.artweeks.org/latestshow'.

Notes to editors

Oxfordshire Artweeks www.artweeks.org is the UK's oldest and biggest open studios and pop-up exhibition event, and the 39th edition this spring builds on the legacy of last year's lockdown, offering both a virtual festival and a selection of more than 200 Covid-secure venues to visit from 1st-23rd May. Over 650 artists – including 100 new faces – are taking part in pop-up exhibitions and on-line to showcase their creative talent. Their creations range from paintings and photography to pottery and jewellery, stained glass, mosaics, textile art, furniture, sculpture and installations. Visitors to both venues and virtual studios will be able to hear artists talking about their inspiration, explaining their materials and, often, demonstrating their methods.

And for those staying at home, Artweeks is also presenting more than 20 themed art trails – from The Garden to The Coast - and hundreds of on-line exhibitions on the website www.artweeks.org.

Normally, around 1500 artists open the doors to their homes and studios or take part in pop-up exhibitions and welcome the public to see their creations and watch them work –over 100,000 people visit Artweeks exhibitions each year and a million pounds of art changes hands! In 2020, in response to the pandemic and government regulations, the festival was 100% on-line.

“It's been a challenging year for many artists and for the Artweeks organisation itself,” says Esther Lafferty, Festival Director, “and so we are hoping to offer everyone the chance to enjoy inspirational and safe days out in garden studios and airy spaces, firing the imagination and replenishing people's creative spirit.”

Further press information, artist contact details, area-specific details within Oxfordshire, copy written to a word count, and/or high res images, contact **Esther Lafferty** 01367 242498 or 07715 640228 esther@artweeks.org