

## GET READY FOR OXFORDSHIRE ARTWEEKS AS SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE AND VALE OF THE WHITE HORSE COMES INTO ITS OWN. HERE'S WHERE TO GO FOR SOMETHING A BIT DIFFERENT

By **Ox In A Box** - 20th April 2026

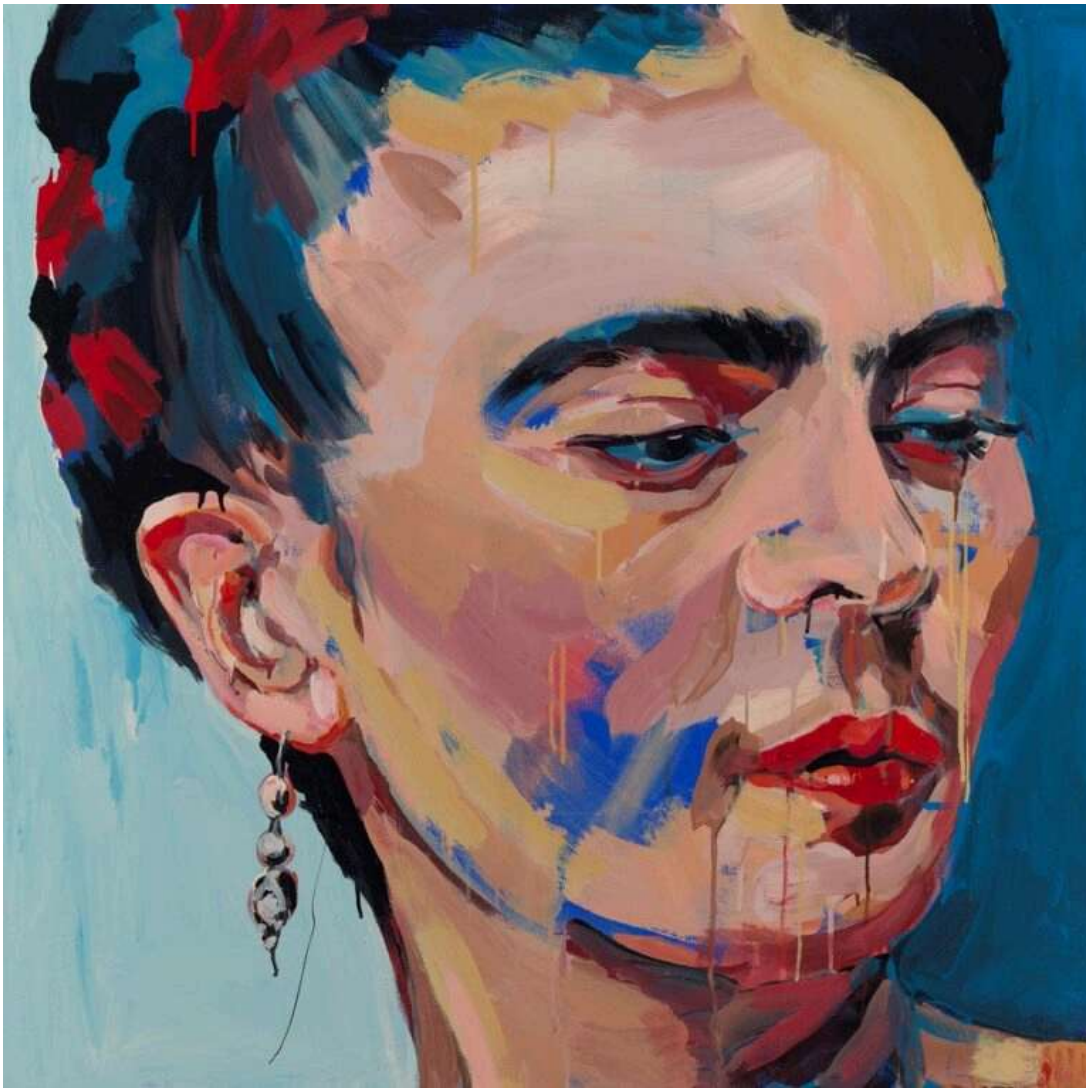


*Cillian by Motoko Aritake Wild venue 287*

**Oxfordshire Artweeks** opens on **May 2**, and there'll be hundreds of open studios and pop-up exhibitions in every corner of the county – wherever you see the bright yellow and blue flags waving.

Yes, there are fabulous paintings of local views, stylish sculpture, pottery, photography, and lots more besides, as well as an on-line **Spring Show** which offers a tantalizing glimpse of the talent, extent and variety of art by the county's artists and makers. Check it out here: [www.artweeks.org/latestshow](http://www.artweeks.org/latestshow)





*Frida Kahlo by Julie Bennett*

But there's also a quirky side to the festival this year, and as the first week focuses on **South Oxfordshire and the Vale of the White Horse** we will start there, as well as offer some ideas for later in the festival.





*Pip Shuckburgh*

**Ayres House Studios in Wallingford**, an old rectory building in which there are 14 artist studios ranged over three floors, where visitors will find a remarkable diversity of techniques, materials and creative voices. Look out for intricately-folded paper works by **Amy Hughes** created from repurposed Waitrose magazines



*Amy-Hughes Ripple of renewals*

Plus layered cardboard pets and portraiture by **Aneta Pochatko**, sustainable black rubber jewellery with a twist by art conservator **Aniko Dioszegi**. Artweeks Venue 68. <https://www.artweeks.org/v/ayres-house-studios/>



Aniko Dioszegi

On Watlington High Street, a hive of Artweeks activity, portrait artist **Harriet Riddell** works with free-motion embroidery, stitching you as you stand in a single line of thread with surprising accuracy.

<https://www.artweeks.org/v/harriet-riddell/> Artweeks venue 141





Harriet Riddle Self Portrait

Jewellery inspired by archaeology in the National Trust Heritage & Rural Skills Centre in the NT village of Coleshill alongside a new 'Coleshill Collection', inspired by the story of the Estate's lost grand house. And here too you'll find other art and design including sheet metal sculpture by Artweeks first-timer **Andy Bunyan W** and leather and wood bellows handcrafted by **Anne Mills**.

<https://www.artweeks.org/v/heritage-crafts-coleshill/>





*chloe romanos Coleshill nr Faringdon*

For something whimsical for your wall, head to the **Tap Room of Oxford Brewery, Horspath** for The History of Art told by Toothbrushes – from Van Gogh’s sunflowers influenced by the tooth mug in your bathroom to The Girl with a Pearly White Earring, by **Claire Parker**. [www.artweeks.org/v/claire-parker](http://www.artweeks.org/v/claire-parker) venue 169

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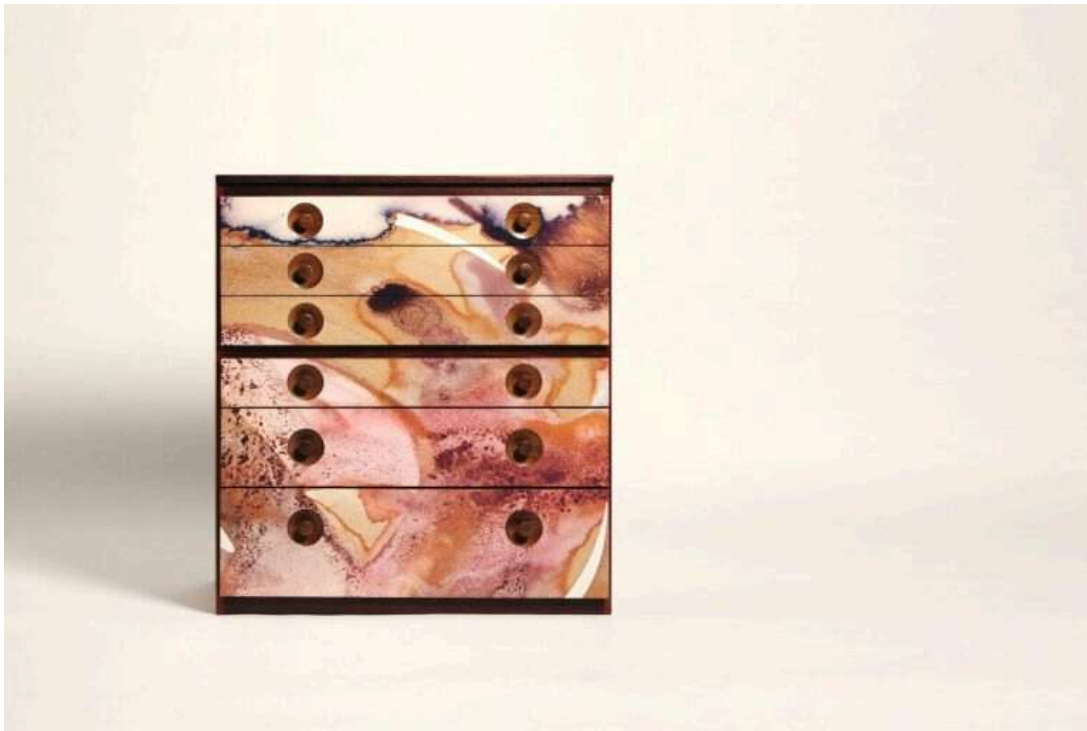


*Girl with a Pearl Earring*

In the nearby Methodist Church artist **Jules Bishops** works with natural materials at the intersection of art, science, and ecology, transforming the Oxfordshire landscape into living inks and pigments.

<https://www.artweeks.org/p/jules-bishop/> venue 126





*Jules Bishop teak-chest-reloved*

Alongside landscape photography and a series of Oxford reimagined, in Abingdon's gorgeous Thames-side St Ethelwold's House, **Merrill Jacobs** presents PetFlicks where dogs get 'Indiana Jones' or show themselves as celestial superstars.

<https://www.artweeks.org/v/merrill-jacobs/> Venue 28





Merrill Jacobs Born\_to\_be\_Wild

If you're a cat lover rather than a dog fan, but still fancy a bit of fun, then in **Ruth Harris'** home studio in Harwell, you'll find cat imposters in William Morris' 'The Strawberry Thief' and cat versions of the United Kingdom's national flowers influenced by Cicely Mary Barker's Flower Fairies. <https://www.artweeks.org/v/ruth-harris/> Venue 41 image

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*ruth harris That Aint A Strawberry Thief Cushion by Catkin Tree Studio*

And you'll find rocking Horses by wood carver Michael Wrottesley in North Moreton Church where he's exhibiting with an artist collective – and look out for the church's beautiful newly-restored stained glass window.

<https://www.artweeks.org/v/north-moreton-artists/> Artweeks venue 61

#### **North & West Oxon (9-17 May)**

In Banbury Jeremy Wilton is inviting visitors into his workshop in which he will be demonstrating the magical Victorian processes of tintype and ambrotype photography. Artweeks venue 245

<https://www.artweeks.org/v/jeremy-wilton/> image 23





*Jeremy Wilton*

In Bampton, you'll find a celebration of ten years of Downton Abbey by painter **Pip Shuckburgh** and sculpture by Barbara Hepworth's granddaughter, **Tuula Nicholson**, maker **Marjolein Trewavas** is presenting a collection of textile animals made with Victorian and vintage fabrics, presented on interesting antique items.

<https://www.artweeks.org/v/marjolein-trewavas-woa/> venue 177





*tuula-nicholson-bampton-north-west-*

### Oxford, week 3 (16-25 May)

In Jericho, look up Roger Nathan's Optical illusion tables inspired by mathematical equations. A New Zealander who has worked as a scientist, he's inspired by Escher and the patterns in nature. The beautiful smooth shapes, ovals, curves and spirals of his sleek marquetry are derived from simple mathematical functions – converting Fibonacci's sequence and chaos theory into something to treasure. <https://www.artweeks.org/v/roger-nathan-2/> Venue 393



*Roger Nathan*

**Oxfordshire Artweeks runs from May 2-25. For more info go to <https://www.artweeks.org>**

