

Sculpture in the Vineyard

- 7 acres
- 30 artists
- 200 artworks

23 May – 7 June

closed Mondays and Tuesdays

Bothy Vineyard

Frilford Heath

www.scantlebury.co

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 BOTHY VINEYARD


Spring 2015

Sculpture in the Vineyard 2015



Enjoy for free Oxfordshire's largest outdoor sculpture exhibition this year in a beautiful and unique setting. Featuring over 200 sculptures by 35 artists, placed in 7 acres of the oldest vineyard/winery in the country. Refreshments and parking available. In aid of the Nasio Trust. Also part of English Wine Week.

Where can you see a rotating 15 foot stainless steel yacht, a blue Neolithic Egyptian goddess and a life sized horse gamboling among wildflowers in the Oxfordshire countryside? These unlikely companions will be unleashed in the grounds of Bothy Vineyard, Frilford Heath, as part of an ambitious sculpture show from **23 May to 7 June 2015**.

Sculpture in the Vineyard will be Oxfordshire's largest exhibition of its kind this year: 200 outdoor sculptures, produced by over 30 local and UK-wide artists, will be sited around the grounds of Bothy Vineyard, drawing visitors through the vines, orchard and wildlife areas. These large sculptures depicting a wide a variety of subjects and styles will be on public view, variously made from glass, bronze, marble and stone, wire-mesh and composites. A further 50 indoor sculptures will be on show in the working winery so that visitors will be able to admire the artwork in between the fermentation tanks, barrels and press. It will form part of English Wine Week.

It is not as if Richard Liwicki Deputy Director of Research Services at Oxford University, is short of challenges. Nevertheless, in between negotiating major contracts Richard also runs Bothy Vineyard with his wife, Sian. Everything is done by hand – from pruning to winemaking (Richard has a PhD in Microbiology) and they even run their own farm shop where stocks are continually running out! However, this sculpture exhibition adds a social dimension to Richard's pursuits – all commission earned by Bothy Vineyard from sculpture sales will go to charity.



Planning has been in progress for months. It is spearheaded and coordinated by Lendon Scantlebury, a Wantage-based sculptor, art restorer and *bon vivant*. Lendon is an experienced event organizer, art curator and the driving force behind the very successful sculpture exhibitions at Bothy in 2013 and at Ardington last year. Having been part of Oxfordshire Artweeks, *Sculpture in the Vineyard* is now going independent this year, forging ahead on its own brand and style.

The exhibition is being organized in aid of The Nasio Trust, which was co-founded and run by Nancy Hunt (winner of the 2014 Inspirational Women of the Year Award). This unusual Abingdon-based charity links



young and disadvantaged people in the UK and Kenya, improving their lives by funding and arranging positive activities in both countries.

Nancy Hunt says, "We are delighted to be part of this artistic venture, right on our doorstep here in Abingdon.

From humble beginnings in a roadside shack, Nasio now runs two purpose built day care and is building a medical centre for children in Kenya. When young people from the UK volunteer at our projects in Kenya, the experience for them is both profound and life-changing. Funds from *Sculpture in the Vineyard* will allow us to carry on with this work".



Bothy Vineyard, is near Abingdon and only 6 miles from Oxford. Sian Liwicki said, "Our first exhibition was a dream come true and we are thrilled to host *Sculpture in the Vineyard* again. We are fortunate to have a lovely site which is just perfect for growing vines, but for three weeks it will be transformed by beautiful and innovative works of art. We are absolutely delighted to share it with the public, who can taste our fabulous wines and also leave with a greater appreciation of wine growing in England."

The education of young people is linked into the exhibition on another level: schools are being encouraged to visit with their art students, and there is an opportunity for one lucky, teenage artist to produce a sculpture from scratch under Lendon's careful tutelage. As if setting up a major exhibition is not enough, the student will commit to working in Lendon's own studio over the coming months to produce a sculpture which will be auctioned at the high profile launch of the exhibition on 22 May, again for charity.



Lendon Scantlebury said, "It will be an invaluable experience for the student to create a commercial piece of art, using materials of his choice. The student will work on it from concept through to completion and he will then follow it through to the setting up of a public event and launch. I will make sure that it is fun and challenging, peppered with plenty of opportunities to meet other artists and pick up a wide variety of skills".

*We look forward to seeing you soon,
Richard and Sian Liwicki*

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