

Coventry School of

Art & Design

2011
BEST IN SHOW

The Coventry University School of Art and Design Degree Show was widely viewed as outstanding this year, highlighting a bumper crop of final year student work drawn from a range of courses across the visual arts, design, fashion, media and communication. It is therefore particularly appropriate that this is the first occasion we have chosen to mount a 'Best in Show' exhibition, with an associated catalogue, website and student prizes.

At a time of global economic challenges, this year's show proved to be a timely reminder of the potential economic, social and cultural contribution that graduates can make to the creative industries, the arts and wider society. The Best in Show exhibition is therefore indicative of the future impact of the fourteen selected graduates, which could take many forms - from helping to sustain the rich and diverse artistic reputation of the UK, developing the products and services that can enhance lives whilst contributing to the manufacturing economy, and designing for urgent practical needs.

The Best in Show exhibits were chosen jointly by three external judges and the heads of each department. We are grateful to the following external judges for giving up their valuable time:

- **Laura Elliott, Arts Development for Coventry City Council & Director of Artspace**
- **Chloe Johnson, Senior Curator, The Royal Pump Rooms Art Gallery & Museum**
- **Blake Cotterill, Brand Design Consultant, Blake Cotterill Design**

We hope you will find this snapshot of final year student work both interesting and intriguing and perhaps find time to visit the full degree show in June 2012.

Professor Martin Woolley
Associate Dean, Coventry School of Art and Design

Best in Show courses

Automotive Design

Boat Design

Fashion

Fashion Accessories

Fine Art

Fine Art and Illustration

Graphic Design

Illustration and Animation

Illustration and Graphics

Media Production

Photography

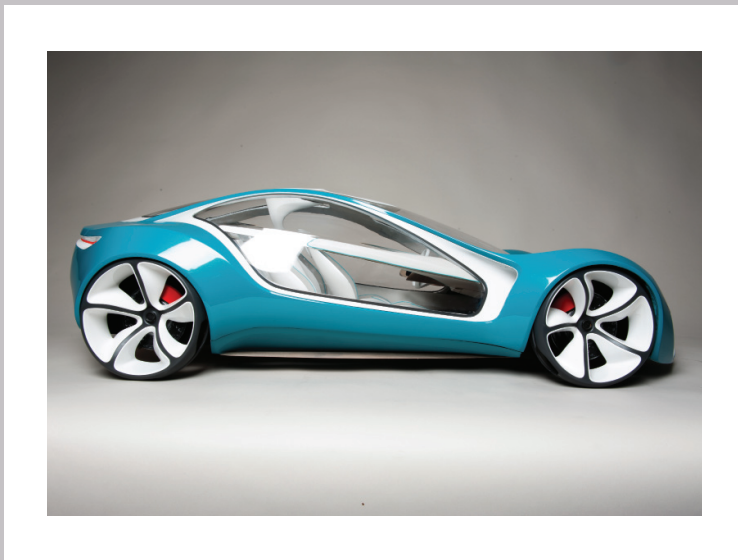
Product Design

Transport Design

Vehicle Design

Richard Seale

The British car company, Jowett, ceased production in the late 50's. This study explores the re-launch of an almost forgotten brand. The design resonates with the driver's desire for exploration and romance by creating the emotional connection with users through performance and aesthetics – a car designed to bring the joy of owning and driving to a world of function and efficiency.



Jowett 2020

Richard Drummond

Aeolus is a true sailing yacht combining sustainability and lifestyle. Her performance rig means she can be sailed in almost any condition, whilst she can slip silently in and out of port on her 10 tones of Lithium Ion batteries. Her interior is clean and crisp, featuring modern interpretations of classic furniture manufactured out of sustainably luxurious materials.

Boat Design



Aeolus Sailing Yacht

Berta Dunn

I am a married mum of two, was originally taught to sew at the age of eleven by my seamstress mother and am looking to start own business. I have received great support from family and friends and the design learning curve at Coventry has been extremely beneficial. Inspiration came from a computer generated image by a Korean architect Sung Goo Yang, of a building called 'Vogue House' together with Frank Gehry's 'Experience Music Project' in Seattle and Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao. I am particularly interested in curved architecture, the marriage between hard materials and soft lines that produce a rippled, soft and elegant vision.



Hard Materials, Soft Lines, Architectural Fashion

Thao Ta

I have had a lifelong fascination for the Inuit and the extreme environment of the Arctic. In my research I have explored the harmony that lies between traditional Inuit culture and nature and the more general relationship of tradition to contemporary design. My collection, a range of playful and feminine 'Trousers-Shoes' made from leather and skin is inspired by the Inuit tradition and its reliance on nature. As a contemporary practitioner in Fashion I am truly against the use of animal products. I have elected to use leather and skin in my collection to demonstrate the conflict we designers face in not being in harmony with the Earth and to remind myself that in our culture we do not have to kill to live.

Fashion Accessories



Inuit Inspired Trouser Shoes

Rachel Henshaw

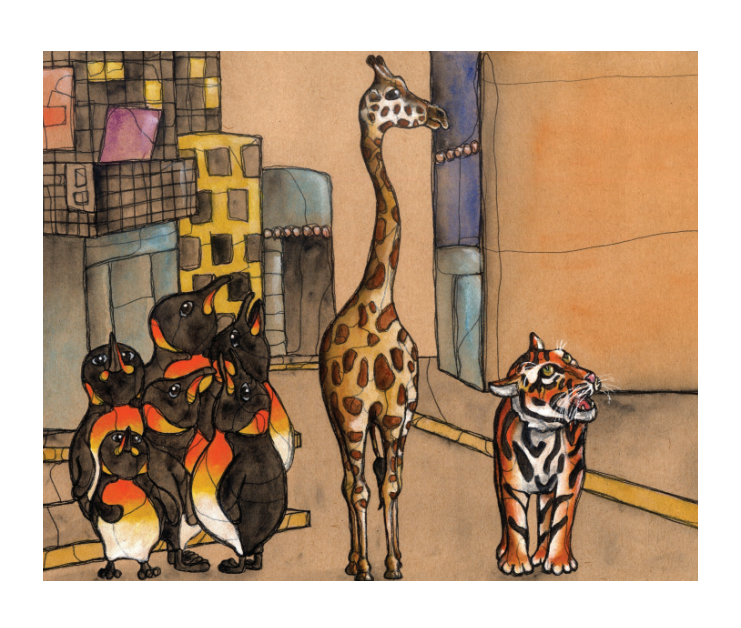
The photographs I use in my work are a personal narrative of places I remember fondly from my childhood. I wanted to revisit some of the locations that I recalled from family holidays; I have tried to capture the essence of my memories using photography and transferring these images onto glass. Glass can be strong, sharp and permanent like our memories and yet it can also be a cold, frightening and fragile medium, which is easily broken. By using a darkroom technical process and a photographic paint, I have been able to reproduce my photographs on glass. The brush strokes left behind after applying the photographic emulsion give the work a human touch and distort the images, just as our recollections of past events can alter over time. I had complete control over the photographic process from start to finish using traditional 'hands on' darkroom techniques which ensure that the finished pieces remain personal to me.



Childhood Memories - photographic process on glass

Danielle Carter

My passion for art is influenced by illustrations, drawings and paintings; I like both illustration and fine art techniques and the different processes and mediums they encourage. I try to situate my art within both these processes; which is tricky at times, as I do not see why there has to be such a division between the two. I illustrate many different things, from children's books to my day-to-day life and greeting cards. At present I like to produce my illustrations on brown paper as I find it greatly complements my style. My current collection of paintings highlight snippets of a story that I have written myself, a trip to New York recently inspired the storyline. The illustrations of a giraffe, tiger and a family of penguins have been made into a 32-page book that is aimed at children of 3-6 years. The storyline is fun and will hopefully invoke a child's imagination (perhaps even your own) by inducing a dream-like state; it also has a subtle moral that touches on running away.

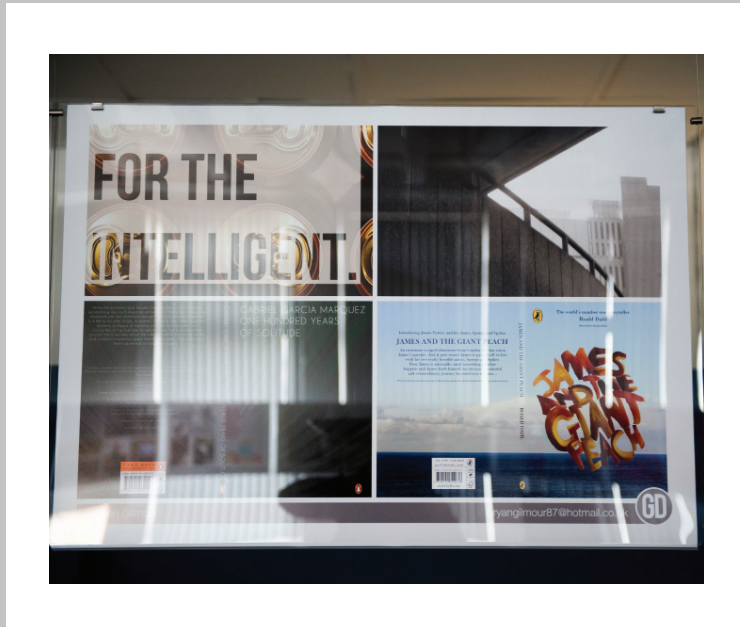


A Trip To New York

Bryan Gilmour

During my time at Coventry University I have become an organised designer who understands the traditions of design but always looks to experiment. I have keen interests in advertising, typography and photography and I'm always looking to further enhance my knowledge of these and other practises.

The University has helped me to develop my skills, speed and commitment over the past three years with an obvious difference in both my practical work and graphic design thinking. After university I hope to establish myself in a design agency where I intend to focus on print-based work and later on, to advance my skills and hopefully work for an internationally renowned advertising agency.



Penguin book cover design

John Penny

For the final major project of my third year on the BA Illustration & Animation course; I have combined my training in both illustration and animation to produce an interactive iPad application. I have engaged with the developments in new media and the inevitable developments in the dissemination of illustrated imagery, to create an interactive storybook that contains both static and moving images. Combined with sound, this invaluable addition to my portfolio demonstrates all the elements required in this growth area including: character development and design, layout, narrative and a high level of skill in both traditional and contemporary image-making techniques.

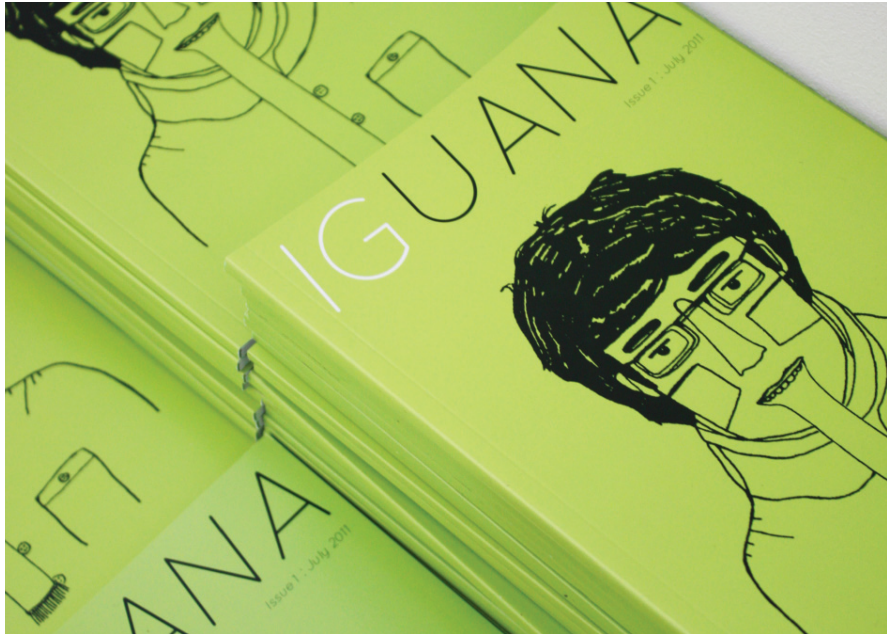
Illustration and Animation



Forest Friends - iPad application

Sarah Hills

I am an illustrator and designer currently based in the London area. My work focuses around an exploration of pattern, texture and recently, unusual, 'ugly' animals. My display at the degree show featured one of these 'ugly' animals, the Tāpir, which has similar features to a pig, as well as mugs with my popular illustrations featuring patterned platypuses, various free stickers and my work on 'Iguana' – the Illustration and Graphics degree show book; for which I collaborated with Andrew Spackman to work on the content design, whilst working alone to produce the book's cover. My mugs and prints are available to view and buy at the 2011 Free Range show in London, and on My etsy shop online (www.etsy.com/shop/shillsetsy) later on this year.



Iguana - graduate student catalogue

Carsum Din

I have studied media and filmmaking and enjoy the variety which it offers, the new opportunities afforded and the way I am allowed to create anything my imagination spawns. The Dwarf Vampire project is one of those ideas from within that became a reality and it was a magical experience to see it being lived out. Throughout this process I have found how difficult it is to engage a dwarf actor, particularly as the whole idea revolved around the dwarf, but in the end it all came to fruition. Long live the dream.



Dwarf Vampire project

Catherine Slade

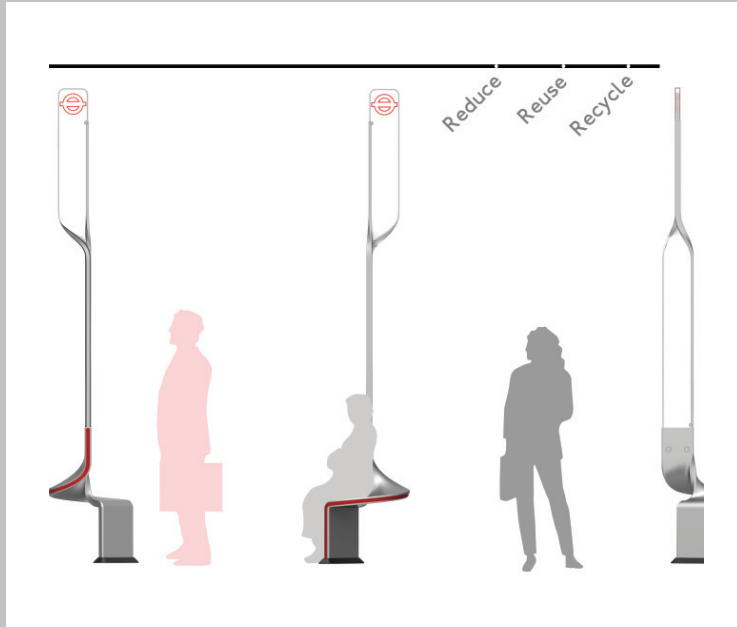
My end of degree project reflects both my photographic and personal interests. Photographically, I am fascinated by the detail produced by macro lenses and the use of shade and shape in pictures. Personally, I am researching the changing relationship between man and the horse, particularly when the animal has been retired. My show images include extreme close ups of equestrian equipment together with photographs of horses. I want to communicate my opinion that the horse is often treated as a material object for its working life, and that when the time comes, it's possible that the animal can enjoy a happy, healthy retirement.



Men and Horse Closeups

Edward Milton

Cities across the world are blighted by a mishmash of signs and street paraphernalia. This project aims to reduce this visual “street clutter” and by employing an integrated and sustainable approach to the design problem, improve the efficiency, longevity and functionality of an existing bus stop. Its seamless, self-powered design enables an increased level of interactivity enhancing the user’s experience.

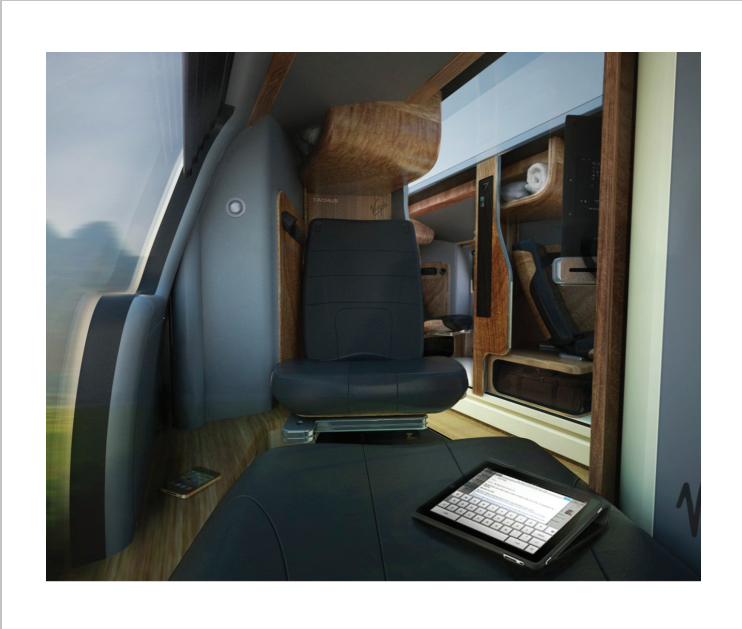


Bus Stop

Chris Scholes

In a 24/7 world of work and rising concerns of global emissions, a greener and more desirable transport option is required that takes business users between cities on a global scale. My combined interior and exterior project builds upon the high level of investment that has recently been injected into the rail industry.

Transport Design



Virgin Tachus 2020

Ben Herron

Welcome to the future of green construction. With construction sites becoming ever more crowded and regulations requiring a 60% cut in emissions, the Bobcat Duality not only increases the number of functions possible from one compact, zero emission machine, but also looks deeper into the construction industry providing a safe and enjoyable working environment for future generations of operators.

Vehicle Design



Green Construction Vehicle



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