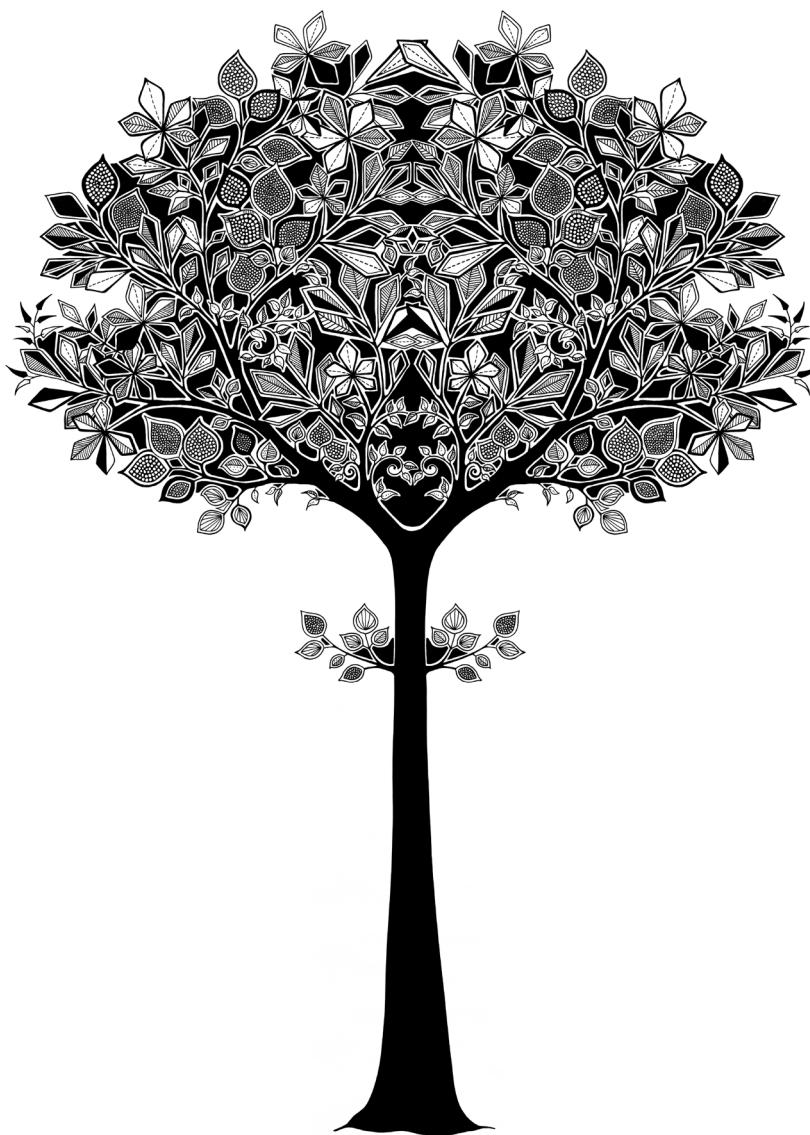


JOHANNA BASFORD WONDERLANDS

DUNDEE CONTEMPORARY ARTS
SAT 4 MAY – SUN 7 JULY 2013



Dundee Contemporary Arts

152 Nethergate
Dundee DD1 4DY
01382 909900

www.dca.org.uk

Open daily 11:00 - 18:00
Open late Thu until 20:00
Admission free

Reg Charity No. SC026631

WELCOME TO WONDERLANDS

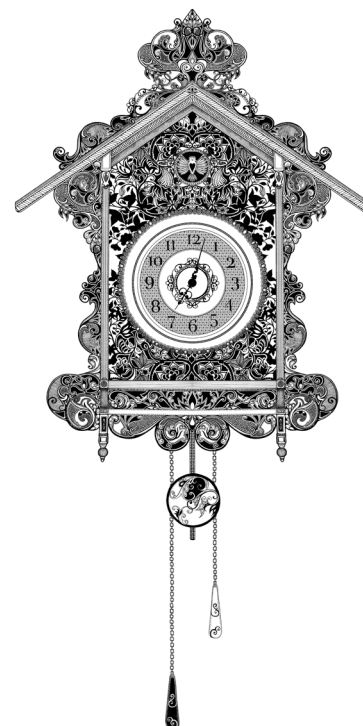
This is the first major exhibition by artist and illustrator Johanna Basford. Basford graduated from Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design (DJCAD) in 2005 and now lives and works in Aberdeenshire. Since graduating, she has been a regular user of DCA Print Studio and has been involved with projects with our Community and Education Team.

“Part of the reason I picked Duncan of Jordanstone was on one of the visit dates from school we got off the train and walked up past the DCA. There can’t be many art schools in the country that have such a wonderful place on their doorstep, so that was a big pull.” Johanna Basford, *The Courier & Advertiser*, 26 April 2013

Her distinctive illustrative style is widely recognised and can be found on a diverse range of products including wallpaper, beer bottles and even tattoos. In 2010, her work was featured on the cover of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe programme - reaching an audience of several hundred thousand. In 2011, she designed the promotional materials for the DJCAD degree show.

Entitled *Wonderlands*, in a nod to Lewis Carroll’s *Alice in Wonderland*, this exhibition is a new development in Basford’s work and includes numerous ambitious large-scale pieces produced especially for the galleries. You are invited to explore an immersive forest of suspended trees, a corridor of cuckoo clocks and a monochrome menagerie of over 150 real and imagined animals suggested by Kickstarter co-creators.

We are deeply proud of the artists emerging from our city and hope that these exhibitions inspire the next generation of DJCAD graduates.



ENTRANCE

Basford has designed a vast pattern of matt black vinyl vines and leaves interlacing over the entrance to the gallery.

GALLERY 1

Forest

A forest of illustrated trees grows up from the grey concrete floor in the white cube of the gallery. The trees become taller as you walk further into the room, deeper into the woods.

CORRIDOR

Heartbreak (Black) & Heartbreak (White) Diamond Dusted Limited Edition Prints

In 2009 Basford worked with Heartbreak Publishing, London to produce a series of limited edition Silkscreen Prints with Diamond Dusting. Each print has been finished with a delicate frosting of Diamond Dust crystals to create a twinkling effect. The prints are published by Heartbreak Publishing in an edition of 20, with 5 Artist's Proofs.

GALLERY 2

Wallpaper

A vast work printed by hand in DCA Print Studio which took dozens of hours for Basford and a team of assistants to produce. The effect of elaborate patterns in black on white, then white on black, transforms the pristine interior of the gallery into something more palatial.

Wonderbeasts

A monochrome menagerie with over 150 individual illustrations assembled together to form a gigantic collaborative composition. Basford undertook the *Wonderbeasts* project as a Kickstarter campaign which attracted 152 backers. All of the backers are referred to as co-creators in the project and are credited and, depending upon their level of contribution, are rewarded with the right to determine what Basford illustrated, as well as receiving a personalised reward.

Mannequins

A family consisting of a man, a woman and their dog are situated on top of a tiled floor area. Basford has drawn patterns on their bodies like an elaborate set of tattoos. The pattern of the floor references a chess board but the grid is fractured at the edges.

Cuckoo Clocks

Basford has salvaged frames from charity shops, into which she has inserted her decorative prints of cuckoo clocks. The prints are hung at varying heights and each is installed with a clock mechanism, with each one set to a different time. Another clock set at the correct time is situated behind the main reception desk for the duration of the show. Tiny porcelain cuckoos are hidden in the nooks and crannies around the clocks and peppered throughout the gallery.

Boat

Having already illustrated a Smart Car, it was a natural progression for Basford to draw upon a small boat. The boat sits on the gallery floor as if at sea. The sail of the boat becomes a cinematic screen to be projected upon with a looped animation of a nautical scene.

Glow

In the small darkened chamber to the back right of the gallery, Basford has created a floor-to-ceiling digitally printed curtain, cylindrically shaped and illuminated from within. Visitors can walk around the work, experiencing a panoramic frieze of flowers and insects.

Studio

Basford has recreated her studio in the end gallery. One of the notable features of her practice is her use of social media. Her website, www.johannabasford.com, Twitter account @johannabasford and her blog www.mydesktoday.com offer a two way communication between artist and audience. Twitter, Facebook and Kickstarter are tangible artistic tools for Basford. In the studio, Basford includes original drawings, source materials and influences and some of the products she has illustrated in her characteristic style, including bottles, books, CDs and even a set of skis.

Publication

Johanna and DCA have joined forces to create a publication showcasing the full range of her talents as well as being a souvenir of the exhibition. Designed in collaboration with innovative Glasgow based designer and DJCAD graduate, Owned and Operated, the 100 page book showcases her creative and commercial work and all of the work featured in *Wonderlands*. The book will be launched on Sat 15 June at a special *Inside Wonderlands* event (see the following page for details).

Shop

A range of Johanna Basford products are available to browse in DCA Shop, including t-shirts, plates, mugs, limited edition prints and Basford's most recent book *Secret Garden*, published by Laurence King. This interactive activity book takes you on a ramble through a secret garden created in beautifully detailed pen-and-ink illustrations all waiting to be brought to life through colouring, but each also sheltering all kinds of tiny creatures just waiting to be found. And there are also bits of the garden that still need to be completed by you. Appealing to all ages, the intricately-realised world of the *Secret Garden* is both beautiful and inspirational. As featured in *Elle Decoration* and *British Vogue*.

The artist and DCA would like to thank:

FX Signs, Glasgow; Robertson Signs, Dundee; Owned and Operated, Studio Rydo, BrewDog, Annis Fitzhugh, Scott Hudson, Lindsay Ball, Nicki Bradwell, Suzanna Clark, Karen Flood, Joanne Hodge, Hyun Kinnear and Rebecca McGill.

Just Ask

Our friendly Gallery Assistants are always happy to help with any exhibition related queries and questions.

Next Exhibition

There Will Be New Rules Next Week

Sat 20 July - Sun 22 September

Works by Sister Corita Kent (1918-1986) and five contemporary artists inspired by her printmaking and life-affirming teaching: Peter Davies, Ruth Ewan, Emily Floyd, Scott Myles and Ciara Phillips.

TALKS & EVENTS

Book your place on 01382 909 900
For more info visit www.dca.org.uk

Meet the Artist

Fri 3 May, 18:30-19:00

Galleries. Free, but please book in advance.

Join Johanna Basford and Sarah Derrick, Head of Community and Education at DCA, for a sneak preview of the exhibition before it officially opens. The tour will be followed by the exhibition private view, sponsored by Brew Dog and Beefeater Gin.

Senior Citizen Kane Club Exhibition Tours

Tue 7 May & Tue 11 June
10:30-11:30

Galleries. Free, but please book in advance.

DCA would like to welcome anyone over the age of 60 to join us at Senior Citizen Kane Club for an informal exhibition tour. This relaxed tour combines tea and chat with a focus on exploring the artworks at first hand with background information about the artist and her work.



Inside Wonderlands: Artist Talk

Sat 15 June, 12:00-13:00

Cinema. Tickets £3, redeemable against a purchase of Johanna Basford's *Wonderlands* publication.

Johanna Basford and Graham Domke, Exhibitions Curator at DCA, discuss creating the exhibition *Wonderlands* and Johanna's career since graduating from DJCAD in 2005. This event will also mark the launch of a new publication to accompany the exhibition.

Craft & Design Market

Sat 15 June, 13:00-17:00

DCA. Free, drop in.

Buy directly from some of Scotland's most talented makers at our special shopping event inspired by the *Wonderlands* exhibition.

GALLERY SCREENINGS

Labyrinth

Sun 12 May, 20:30

Cinema. £6.50/£4.50 concessions.

A true '80s gem, this Alice in Wonderland-inspired coming-of-age adventure whisks average teenager Sarah into a world of illusion, danger and musical numbers. The Goblin King, played perfectly by David Bowie, steals Sarah's baby brother, and she must find her way through the trap-filled labyrinth to save him.

Dir: Jim Henson

USA 1986 / 1h41m / Digital / U

Alice in Wonderland (2D)

Sat 18 May, 15:00

Cinema. £5.50/£4.50 concessions.

Alice tumbles into a magical rabbit hole to find herself in a strange new land, where she meets a White Rabbit, the grinning Cheshire Cat, a Dodo and two brothers Tweedledum and Tweedledee. She is soon called upon to rescue her friends from the evil Red Queen and battle the infamous Jabberwocky.

Dir: Tim Burton

USA 2010 / 1h48m / Digital / PG

The Illusionist

Sat 1 June, 15:00

Cinema. £5.50/£4.50 concessions.

Director Sylvain Chomet turns Scotland into a dreamland, bathed in a radiant, beautiful light in this homage to Jacques Tati and to the city of Edinburgh itself. Dundonians should be especially proud that much of the technical work was done locally by the animators at ink.digital. All those involved in the film's production should be applauded - it is beautiful.

Dir: Sylvain Chomet

UK/France 2010 / 1h19m / Digital / PG

FAMILIES & YOUNG PEOPLE

Book your place on 01382 909 900
For more info visit www.dca.org.uk

Activity Room:

Wonderbeasts & Garden Doodle

Open during gallery opening hours
unless being used for workshops.
Free, drop in.

Johanna Basford invites you to come
in and draw weird and wonderful
creatures to create a stampede
of *Wonderbeasts* and a garden of
doodles inspired by our real flower
bed. We provide all the materials,
comfy seating and a wee library
for browsing.

Wonderlands:

One-day special Creative Skills for 11-16 year olds

Sun 26 May, 13:00-17:00
Activity Room. £5

This very special event led by
Johanna offers insights into her
methods of creating mirror image
designs. Use drawings, a scanner
and Photoshop to design your own
unique repeat pattern.

Creative Skills for 11-16 year olds: Doodle Designing

From Mon 3 June (four week course)
18:00-20:00
Activity Room. £32

Taking inspiration from Johanna
Basford's exhibition and methods,
create your own suite of designs that
can be applied to wallpaper,
ceramics, fabric and print. Use your
imagination and get doodling!

Art Cart Adventures

Sat 4 & Sun 5; Sat 25 & Sun 26 May;
Sat 8; Sat 22 & Sun 23 June; Sat 6
July 13:00-15:00
Galleries. Free, drop in.

Explore *Wonderlands* with our Art
Cart artists. There will be a visual
treasure hunt, activity sheets for wee
ones and badge making. Perfect for
a weekend outing and suitable for
all ages.



ALBA | CHRUTHACHAIL

