

ALEXANDER BRATTELL

photographer

curriculum vitae

“Exceptionally good photographs... Just the kind of pictures I admire.”

Wolf Suschitzky, photographer, cinemaphotographer.

“Having an astute eye must be one of the prerequisites of a photographer’s armoury but it’s surprisingly rare. Alex’s photographs however are riddled with that quality and also convey a sense of humour which is difficult to achieve at will.

His range of subjects speak of secret worlds of nooks and crannies and a wider and more public face where his subjects never fail to provide the quirks and nuances that he portrays so well.”

Robin Bell, black and white printer.

“Alexander Brattell’s photographs, like the barking of the dog in the darkness, draw our attention to what might be there, and alert us to the fact that what we see is simply what we see, not the totality of what exists.”

Vasileios Kantas, photography theorist.

“Your work expands awareness to the things not usually seen, in ways not usually perceived.”

Jackie Hayles, special needs teaching assistant.

“Alex Brattell’s photographs are like half-written stories, perfectly poised between a before and after, that ask the viewer to fill in the gaps. They were inspirational material for our poets to create poems with”

George Palmer, Apples & Snakes.

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Selected Solo Exhibitions

Saccades. Solaris, St Leonards On Sea. October 2017. PhotoHastings 2017.
The Sun Does Not Move. Conquest Hospital Hastings. September - November 2012. Eastbourne District Hospital. Dec 2012 - Feb 2013.
Tulpa. Photographs 2009-10. Marina Post Office Tearooms, St. Leonards On Sea. Part of "On The Map", Brighton Photo Fringe Hastings. October 2010.
The Edge Of England. McCarrons, St Leonards On Sea, East Sussex, November 2009.
Word On The Street. Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel, October 2004 - January 2005.
19Hz. The Spitz, Spitalfields London, October 2004.
Antinomy. The Rivington Gallery, London EC2. The Fashion Space Gallery, London College of Fashion, London W1, 2003.
Lines of Desire. The Space, London E14, 2003.
Spectacle. The Eye Company, Wardour St, London W1, 2002.
Last Minute. The Alex public house, Victoria Park London E5, 2002.
Recent Photographs. The Alex, London E5, 2002.
britart.com. Foyer exhibition, London E2, 2000.
Paul Mark Hatton Jewellery. London E2, 2000.
Portals and Spirits. The Clerks House Shoreditch, London, 1999.
Photographs. Freuds Cafe Gallery. London W1. 1992.
Brattell In Poland. Polish Social & Cultural Association Gallery, London W6. 1990.

Selected Group Exhibitions

14 Months of Solitude. Electro Studios Project Space, St Leonards on Sea. November 2021.
Objects of Life Trinity 7 Art Space, Hastings October 2021. PhotoHastings 2021.
Crossings: Community and Refuge Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, September-December 2021.
Solaris Summer Exhibition, Solaris, St Leonards On Sea, August-October 2021.
Work About Work. Dirty Old Gallery Hastings, October -November 2020.
We Baked All Our Own Bread. PhotoHastings 2020. October 2020.
Human Gatherings arts hub space Hastings. October 2020.
Premonitions. Zuzushii Art Laboratory Hastings, August 2020.
Hastings Open 2020. Hastings Museum & Art Gallery. August 2020-January 2021.
Functional/Dysfunctional. Zuzushii Art Laboratory Hastings, February-March 2020.
Self Comes To Mind. Electro Studios Project Space, St Leonards On Sea, September 2018.
Coastal Currents Arts Fair. Hastings UK, September 2018.
Sea Road. Electro Studios, September 2017. PhotoHastings 2017, Coastal Currents 2017.
Blood Lake/Still Point/Dark Matter. St Mary in the Castle Hastings, 2016. PhotoHastings 2016.
Beyond The Edge. South Downs Heritage Centre, East Sussex. 2016. Brighton Photo Fringe 2016.
Summer Show 2016. Lucy Bell Fine Art, St Leonards On Sea. August 2016.
Chaostrophy. Ludwig, Berlin. June, July 2016.
Never Dark. The Observer Building Gallery, Hastings. November 2015. PhotoHastings 2015.
Pin-Ups: A Sense Of Place. Observer Building Hastings. 2015. PhotoHastings 2015.
Point of Decay. Coastal Currents 2015. Curated by Zeroh. Bottle Alley Hastings September 2015.
Vantage Point BPF14 Collectives' Hub. Brighton Photo Fringe, 2014.
Virtuoso. St Mary In The Castle Hastings. Hastings International Piano Concerto Competition. 2014.
Underexposed. The Garage, St Leonards On Sea. 2014. Part of PhotoHastings 2014.
This One's For You. Lucy Bell Fine Art. 2013.
Fenestration. Brighton Photo Fringe 2013. One Cafe, St Leonards On Sea. 2013.

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Strarta Art Fair. Pure Art Space. Saatchi Gallery London, 2013.
Contrast! Conquest Hospital Hastings. 2013.
Post A Postcard. Kave Gallery, St Leonards On Sea, August-September 2013.
Transitions. Pure Art. April 2013.
Who Do You Think You Are? Lucy Bell Fine Art. 2013.
Holiday Heaven/Holiday Hell. The Tent Gallery. 2013.
Pop Up Flowers. The Kave Gallery St Leonards On Sea. December 2012-January 2013.
Brighton Photo Biennial 2012 Photobook Show. Jubilee Library Brighton. 2012.
Off The Wall. Margate Harbour Arm Gallery. 2012.
Telling Stories: Hastings. Hastings Museum & Art Gallery. Autumn/Winter 2012.
Christmas Exhibition. Lucy Bell Fine Art. December 2011.
Interim Projects Show. Photo hub group. Hastings Arts Forum. 2011.
Pushing Print Open 2011. The Pie Factory, Margate. 2011.
Telling Stories: Margate. Marine Studios Margate. Part of Pushing Print Fringe. 2011.
London Road. One Cafe Gallery, St Leonards On Sea. 2011. Part of Coastal Currents 2011.
Gallery Photographers Exhibition. Lucy Bell Fine Art. July, August 2011.
Fillet 08/10. F-ISH gallery Hastings. 2011.
They're Not Laughing Now. F-ISH gallery, Hastings. Exhibitor & curator. 2010.
Summer Exhibition 2010. Lucy Bell Fine Art Photography, St Leonards On Sea. August 2010.
Photos With Words. PhotoPlace Gallery, Vermont Photography Workplace USA. 2010
IPG's Greatest Hits. The Independent Photographers Gallery, Battle. 2009.
Indian Summer. Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, 2009.
Conversations...From The Edge. Photo Hub Group, St Mary In The Castle Hastings, 2009.
Jack In The Green. Hastings Arts Forum, St. Leonards on Sea. May 2008, 2009, 2010.
Shadowlands. South Coast Artists. Arts Forum, St. Leonards on Sea, 2008.
Spirit Of The Season. The Independent Photographers Gallery, Battle, Dec 2007 - Jan 2008.
Regeneration. SoCo Gallery, Hastings, 2007.
Seaside. Conquest Hospital, Hastings, 2006.
South Coast Artists Spring Show. SoCo Gallery Hastings, May 2006.
Landscape Through The Lens. SoCo Gallery Hastings, 2006.
War! The Rivington Gallery, London EC2, 2003.
Looking at London. The Prince's Foundation, London EC2, 2002.
London College of Fashion Faculty Show. London W1, 2001.
Cordwainers College Faculty Exhibitions. 1997, 1998, 1999.
Spitalfields. A Last Lingering Look. The Clerks House, Shoreditch, 1999.
Smalls. The Clerks House, Shoreditch, 1998.
Camerawork Open Exhibition. Camerawork, London E2, 1990.

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Employment

1986 - present. Self-employed photographer. Fine art, portrait, editorial and advertising photography. Exhibiting and selling prints, primarily from a darkroom based practice. Working to commission for national newspapers, magazines, publishers, agencies, artists & craftspeople.

2012-present. Visiting Lecturer in Photography. London Study Centre, Arcadia University Philadelphia USA. Semester courses for undergraduates & interns.

2006 - 2020. Part time lecturer in photography. University Centre Hastings. BA (Hons) Visual Communication: Photography, 2017-present. Sussex Coast College. Teaching analogue and digital practice & theory. HND Photography 2012-18. Adult courses, A level photography & graphics 2010-12. Hastings College of Arts & Technology. ND, NCFE, Btec art & design, Community education 2007-12, Course Leader, National Diploma Photography 2006-7.

2006 - 2007. Part time tutor, Bexhill College, East Sussex. AS, A2 photography and graphics, 1st Diploma media (photography and web design).

2000 - 2005. Associate lecturer in photography at The London College of Fashion, working with Foundation and foreign exchange students. Teaching analogue and digital photography, monochrome printing, Photoshop. Group tutor.

1996 - 2000. Visiting tutor in photography at Cordwainers College Hackney. Art Foundation, Btec, GAD.

1995 - 1996. Photographer, writer and co-editor, ON Magazine, London. Student, Btec Creative Computing (digital arts - 2d, 3d, time based), Tower Hamlets College.

1984 - 1985. Junior Photographer, Dawson Strange Photography, Cobham, Surrey - supporting a team of three specialist photographers (social & commercial, location & studio).

1983 - 1984. Travelling, photographing and working in Australia and South East Asia. Work in this period included market research, photographic printing and nannying.

1982 - 1983. Social photographer and colour printer, Photoworld Monaco. Photographing and printing portraits and conference pictures for conventions, business and social events.

1981 - 1982. Photographer and writer for Breakout, an independent monthly art and culture magazine, Liverpool.

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Community & Education: Selected Projects & Events.

Photology. Talks & discussion on photography in Hastings. Founder & organiser 2012-present. photology.info.

Looking At Things. Explore The Arch Theatre Company, Active Arts Hastings, Bexhill Mencap. Hastings Museum & Art Gallery January - May 2021.

A Town Explores A Book: The Time Machine. Southwater Centre, St Leonards on Sea. March/June 2020.

Young Curators Programme. Hastings Museum & Art Gallery 2018- 2019. Working with the Museum's glass negative collection.

A Mirror Bending Time. Animation workshop for artists. Blue Monkey Network, Towner Gallery Eastbourne. May 2017.

Re Birth. Exhibition of work by Rye Studio School photography students for Rye Arts Festival 2016.

Page Break Festival Hastings. Photogram & pinhole portrait workshop. September 2016.

PhotoHastings.org. "For photography in Hastings & East Sussex". News & resources. Founder & editor 2009-2014. PhotoHastings has now become an annual photography festival produced by Photo hub group (which was formed in 2010 to make Hastings a part of the Brighton Photo Fringe). Committee member 2010-present.

Silverhill Darkroom, St Leonards On Sea. Community & education space. Co-founder & co-director, Silverhill Darkroom CIC. 2012-2016.

ParkLife. Photography workshop for Egerton Park funded by Rother District Council, De La Warr Studio Bexhill. October 2013.

Towner. Eastbourne. Artist and Practitioner Pool 2011 - present. Working with the Gallery's education and outreach programmes including The Big Draw October 2011, BBC: Your Paintings February 2013, Pathways photography Autumn 2013.

Jerwood Gallery. Jerwood Schools Project 2012-13. Working with local schools as part of the Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts START programme.

De La Warr Pavilion. Young Photographers. A summer school for 8-12 year olds. August 2011.

On Arrival. Helenswood School Hastings/Creative Partnerships. A "Change School" project with Yr7 pupils. 2011.

Pier Support. Fundraising exhibition, NCFE photography Sussex Coast College. 2011.

De La Warr Pavilion. Exhibitions Interpretation Team 2010-11. Creating events to accompany The Pavilion's exhibitions.

Artist Rooms: Robert Mapplethorpe. Towner Eastbourne. Workshops with Willingdon Community School creating content for the Towner youth community website. 2010.

Voices and Visions. University of Brighton School of Education. Centenary Conference. Workshop leader. 2010.

The Helenswood Newsroom. Helenswood School Hastings/Creative Partnerships. Working with Yr 9 students to create The Helenswood Reporter, a printed & online newspaper. With journalist Jane Hughes & designers Playne Design. Creative Partnerships 2010.

From This Point On. Hastings Arts Forum Gallery. Sussex Coast College NCFE final exhibition. 2010.

The Dark Monarch. Towner Gallery, Eastbourne. Workshops, film making and talks to accompany the Tate exhibition "The Dark Monarch. Magic & Modernity in British Art". 2010.

Conference for Art & Design in Primary and Special Schools. East Sussex County Council, Brighton & Hove Council. Speaker 2010.

Heroes For The Future. Workshops in East Sussex schools. Directed by Rachael Roser. Supported by the Shackleton Foundation. 2009.

Working Our Way 2. De La Warr Pavilion/Creative Partnerships. Projects in Bexhill primary schools to create an educational toolkit & an exhibition for the De La Warr Pavilion. Supported by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation. 2008.

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Community & Education: Selected Projects & Events (continued).

Zoom Group. White Rock Theatre Gallery, Hastings. National Diploma in Photography final exhibition. Hastings College 2006.
Bridie Productions. Photography of theatre projects. Tower Hamlets secondary schools. 2005/6.
Lea Rivers Trust. Community workshops and photographic competition leading to touring exhibition and postcards. 2003 & 2006.
Jerwood Charity. Jerwood Prison and Community Art Award 2004. Member of judging panel.
Community TV Trust. Photographic workshops in primary & secondary schools in Southwark, enabling students to produce their own content for the southwark.tv website. 2003, 2004.
Groundwork Southwark. Photographic workshops at Poet's Corner Estate, Camberwell Green using disposable cameras and leading to an exhibition as part of Black History Month 2003.
Big Arts Week. "Captions That Rhyme" Stepney Greencoat Primary School 2002. Large format Polaroids, scanned and projected, of children dressed as characters from their own rhymes.
Resonant Frequencies. Whitechapel Gallery foyer exhibition. Sponsored by Keyphoto. Cordwainers College, 1999.
Dreams Made Flesh. Whitechapel Gallery foyer exhibition of toy camera images. Sponsored by Ilford. Cordwainers College, 1998.
Salle des Fetes, Suresnes, France. Photography exhibition in Hackney's twin town. 1997.
Hackney Visual Artists Mentoring scheme. Mentor. 1997.

Selected Events

Marx & The City. Projections for symposium. Arcadia University London campus. November 2018.
Silverhill Press Launch Event. Talk & Exhibition. Publication of my book Two Lampposts. The Printworks Hastings. October 2018.
PechaKucha Night 20x20. De La Warr Pavilion, East Sussex UK, September 2018.
St Leonards International Film Festival 2015. Masonic Hall, St Leonards On Sea, East Sussex.
In Conversation With Allan Grainger & Gabrielle Farah. A Sense Of Place. Lucy Bell Fine Art 2014.
The Curated Ego: What Makes a Good Selfie? National Portrait Gallery London 2014.
We Are Brighton Photo Fringe. 10th Anniversary event. Phoenix Brighton 2013.
Ordinary/Everyday/Quotidian conference. University of York Centre for Modern Studies 2013.
51:zero° Voyager. Film, Video and Digital Media Arts Festival, Medway, Kent UK 2012.
Process Works. Open Studio event with four contemporary jewellers for Coastal Currents 2012.
The Big Photography Debate. University of Brighton Media Enterprise Centre. Chair 2011.
Projection Space. The Electric Palace, Hastings. "Lampshade Making In Ontario" 2011.
Jawdance Audio Poetry Competition. Rich Mix Centre London E1. Projection of photographs. 2011.
London International Documentary Festival. "The Invisible City". Speaker, panellist 2010.
Photoforum. Four Corners. London E2. Speaker 2004.

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Print Sales

Eyestorm London.

Lucy Bell Fine Art Photography East Sussex UK.

Research Grants

London College of Fashion. Research Project Fund 2004/2005.

London College of Fashion. Research Project Fund 2002/2003.

Qualifications

MA Photography: History, Theory, Practice University of Sussex. (with Distinction) 2021.

Arts Award Advisor 2014.

Diploma in Life Long Learning (PGCE equivalent). Canterbury Christchurch University 2008.

Btec Creative Computing Tower Hamlets College 1996.

LBIPP (by portfolio) British Institute of Professional Photography 1984.

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