Collaborate

Fusion @ The Drum

The work on display in The Drum – the catering and connection space at the Queen's Medical Research Institute – has been selected from a number of projects by the collaborative group, Fusion. Their aim is to connect people from different disciplines and you will find work from colleagues and students at the University of Edinburgh, as well as our wider community of partners and public.

Colonising Mars

Art meets science to visualise our possible future.
How will human anatomy adapt to new atmosphere?
What will we miss the most?
Should we colonise a different planet when ours is in gr]eat need of help?

[First exhibited in the Anatomical Museum in 2022].

Janet Philp & Neil Kempsell- Life on Mars with David
Anatomical changes might occur after many years of living on Mars. It is depicted on the form of Michelangelo's David that has been the idealised depiction of the human form since 1504 and has been used by other artists to map human development.

Helen Marshall– Creatures of Habit
Holidays, work, and social media. Humans are creatures of habit, so these are probably things we will take with us if we ever colonise Mars.

Tom Pratt & Madeleine Shepherd - Bird Tableau
This sculpture explores themes of memory, homesickness, lost potential, and the persistence of material objects.

www.madeleineshepherd.co.uk

The Developing Brain

The Simons Initiative for the Developing Brain (SIDB) and the Patrick Wild Centre partnered up with Fusion in 2024 to create an exhibition celebrating the brain. This project was open to all artists and neurodevelopmental scientists, to collaborate and create something inspired by this mysterious structure.

Dora Zoi – Mindscaping

[The Drum presents an excerpt from a larger installation.]

Mindscaping explores the concept of neural plasticity, highlighting our inherent ability to reshape our thoughts and emotions. This artwork encourages viewers to embrace the freedom to transform their emotional experiences, which are inscribed on the neurons within the landscapes of their minds. By fostering a sense of cooperation, Dora emphasizes the importance of shared emotional journeys and collective growth. Through her work, she inspires individuals to reflect on their emotional processes and recognize their capacity for change, fostering a deeper understanding of themselves while also highlighting the power of connection and support within their communities.

https://www.dorazoi.com/

Janet Philp, Ruth Pollitt, Malcolm MacCallum– 21 Days

This felted model shows a developing embryo. At this stage (21 days) the embryo would be around 2mm long. The nodules along the fold represent the somites which will become the vertebrae of the spine and the bulging area at the top of the embryo is the developing brain.
The white material represent the cut edge of the amniotic sac which would enclose the embryo and the yellow material represent the cut edge of the yolk sac which would provide the embryo with nutrients for development.
This model was created by forming a hollow felt ball and then taking it through the stages of embryonic folding.

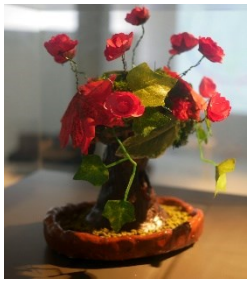
Jess Lonsdale - Building Bridges in the Autism Community Through Art

Contributing Artists include: Steph Lonsdale, Caleb Claire, Madison Eaton and Jess Lonsdale

[The Drum presents excerpts from a larger installation.]

In my time in advocacy, a lot of the difficulties I saw people face came from a lack of understanding about what autism is. Often, autistic people are perceived as being in our own world, our behaviours not making much sense to outsiders and thus being viewed as negative. In my time as a hobbyist writer, I've come to realise that art can communicate far more fantastical things than the way a felt-tip pen can lay metaphorical ice in my bone marrow or the feeling of buzzing elation that bursts out in claps, snickers and delighted rocking when reading a comic. This inspired me to organise this project, in which autistic people, people with autistic family, people who professionally work with autistic people and those who are some combination of the three have made art about what autism means to them. I hope that these pieces make you think about all the different ways people experience autism.

Shayna Seenayah, Lusi Zhao– Brain in bloom



Nature is an ever-evolving entity, growing, flourishing and blooming. Much like trees, the brain develops and blossoms with time. The development of the brain is governed by many processes, including the generation of specific neurons. We have worked with "mini-brains" in the lab, observing their growth and levels of excitatory and inhibitory neurons, which are two major neuronal classes. We specifically looked at an autism-implicated mutation and how that impacts brain development. To encapsulate our laboratory work and the beautiful symmetry the brain has with trees, we moulded air-drying clay into a cherry blossom bonsai with a brain-like structure as the leafy bulk of the tree. On one side, we displayed green and red foliage to represent the excitatory (green) and inhibitory (red) neurons in our "mini-brains", that we analysed in microscopy. Although nothing to do with our laboratory work or with the developing brain, we also added a squirrel. Can you spot her?

Cristina Martinez-Gonzalez, Jackie Bell - Inside my head

This piece is my interpretation of the disjointed brain. As a dyslexic person, I have developed strategies to overcome the traditional teaching methods at school. Though words and letters may never click with me, 3-dimensional shapes, colours, and images stick to my brain like glue. Thinking differently is a positive attribute in academia, as dyslexia is not a problem with intelligence or vision.

As a neuroscientist, I wanted to represent the colourful dyslexic brain, with unconventional undulating neuronal pathways across distant brain areas, allowing people like me to see the

world through different tints. In opposition, the neurotypical brain has canonical neuronal connections and unvaried hues, enabling the correct decoding of sounds and words.

My research combines optical tissue clearing with light-sheet microscopy to investigate rodent models of autism spectrum disorders. In collaboration with Jackie Bell, I created this resin piece to symbolize the “transparent brains” I use to map circuitry variations in neurodevelopmental disorders.

Joan Smith, Tom Pratt - Concatenated

Play the game, have fun, and ponder. 'Concatenated' is a generative art game drawing on principles from genetics, systems art, and changes to how our minds perceive and represent things as we grow up. Players follow a series of instructions 'genes' each with variations 'alleles' selected by chance to draw an object with each drawing resulting from a unique permutation. Drawings are assembled in celebration of our diversely developing brains.

https://www.joansmithartist.weebly.com

My Life

The Patrick Wild Centre are working with Fusion on an ongoing art exhibition, around the theme of “My Life” and is centred around art work inspired by life with a genetic condition.

Will Morris - My brother Sonny

Sonny struggles with being overwhelmed by sensory input, and therefore by default he will often resolve this issue by covering his ears and lowering these senses to a manageable level; as if controlling volume with a button. I took this photo at an animal park while he was looking at pigs, and I love how it shows that he can be peaceful despite the challenges he faces. A restful and undisturbed moment.

Tom Pratt – Life Story

The name 'Life Story' comes from a 1987 BBC2 drama about the discovery of the structure of DNA. This work was suggested by a model of the DNA double helix displayed in the National Museum of Scotland allegedly made for Francis Crick when he visited Edinburgh to give a lecture. As a molecular biologist DNA is often on my mind and as a parent I love making things with my children, this is one of those.

Further works

We have a small number of works not associated with a specific exhibition.

Penelope Kay – Aging Muse

An enquiry into the relationship between the head as an artistic motif and the genetics of cognitive aging.
The head, reminiscent of Brancusi's Sleeping Muse, is pierced by genetic pegs, arranged in the manner of a game.
The pegs can be moved in an attempt to crack the code.
The work was turned in oak by Steve Fearnley.

https://www.penelopeskay.co.uk/

Penelope Kay and Tom Pratt - Morphogenic Constructions

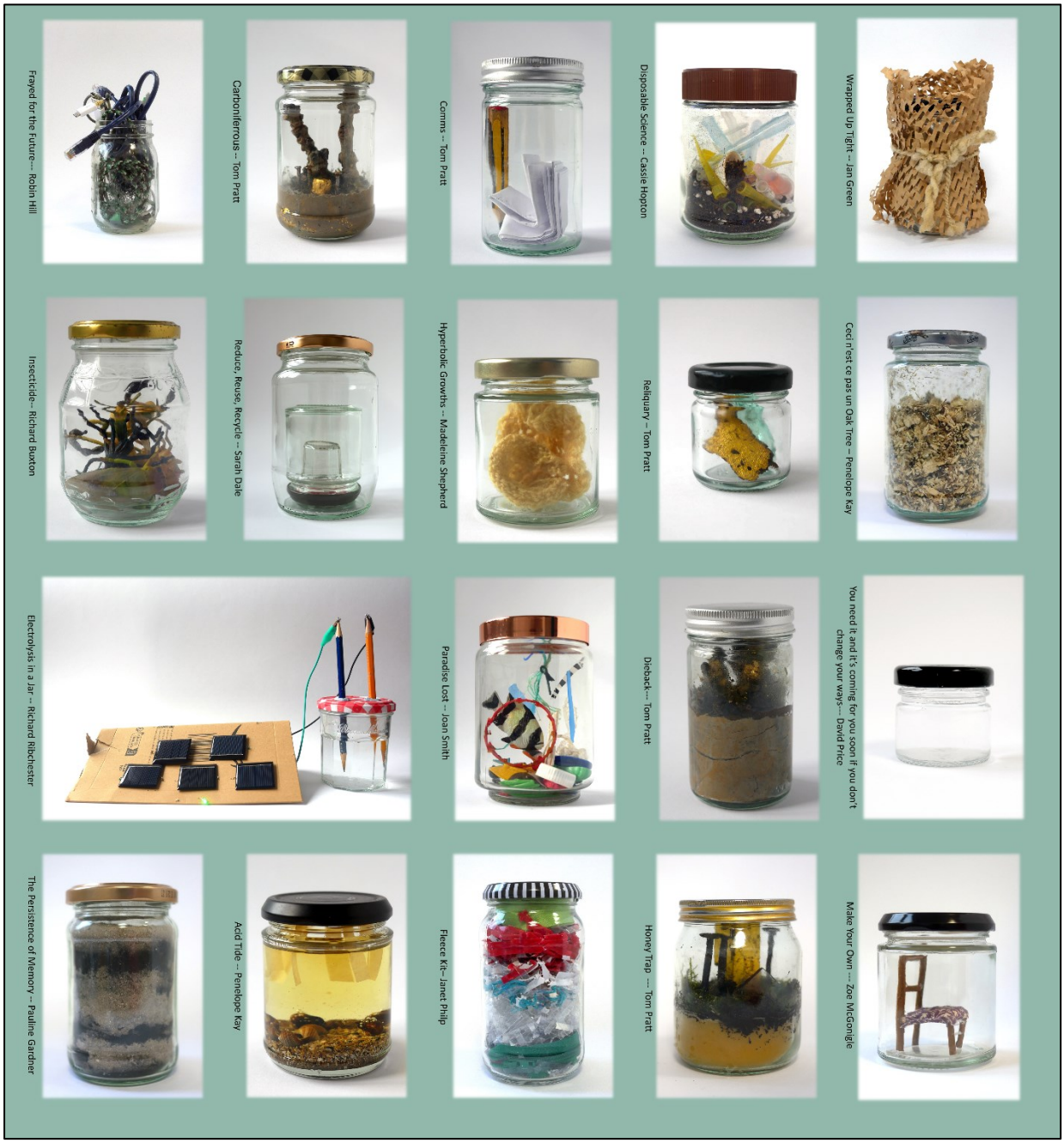
An interactive piece that investigates the relationship between two dimensional information and the multi dimensional issues of the real world.
The transparent cubes have diagrams on their faces taken from papers relevant to neuroscience.

https://www.penelopeskay.co.uk/

Jar in Action

A Community Art Collection

Sustainability issues touch our lives in many ways. Fusion is running an ongoing project where we are asking a variety of people to construct artworks in the form of glass jars and their contents which encapsulate their creative response to the question '**What does sustainability mean to you?**'



Text is as provided by the participating artists.

Jar in Action – Call for Jars

Jars submitted to our 2023-24 Call for Jars

001 – Joan Smith – Paradise Lost

plastic detritus found on East Lothian beaches, plastic toy fish, fishing wire

The world's oceans are polluted with discarded plastic, remnants of our throw-away society. In 'Paradise Lost' tropical fish (symbolising an ocean paradise) swim amongst this plastic detritus. The ecology of the ocean appears to have shifted so that artificial materials dominate - even the fish have turned to plastic. In order to return our oceans to a sustainable, balanced, state where nature can thrive, we need to stop generating and being careless with so much unnecessary plastic waste.

002 - Madeleine Shepherd - Hyperbolic Growths

British breed sheep's wool dyed with locally grown plants.

The shapes are the beginnings of hyperbolic growth. If allowed to continue within a limited space such growth becomes unsustainable. In contrast, the yarn is from UK sheep and dyed in a jar with water and garden flowers, using sunshine as a heat source.

003 – Penelope Kay – Acid Tide

Sand, shells, vinegar, litmus paper

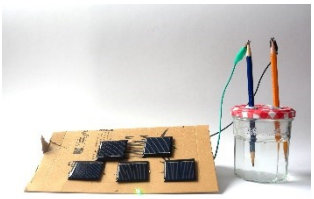
As the concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere increases, more is absorbed by the oceans. Sea water reacts with carbon dioxide to produce carbonic acid and the increase in acidity causes damage to organisms living in the sea, slowing growth, thinning shells and affecting larval development.

004 – Richard Buxton – Insecticide

Plastic

We are making insects extinct in our attempt to increase our food supplies. It's unsustainable because the world needs insects and without them there will be dire consequences for life on earth.

005 - Richard Ribchester - Electrolysis in a Jar



Miniature solar panels, sharpened pencils, salt water, wires, crocodile clips

The idea was to represent the potential to generate fuel (hydrogen) from sea water by using solar energy to power electrolysis, using recycled electrodes (pencil “leads”).. The resulting gases (hydrogen and oxygen) when burned produce water and heat without generation of greenhouse gases.

006 – Tom Pratt – Reliquary

Wood (oak), gold, glass

This work brings together two relics from the past, an ancient wood fragment (now gilded) from a demolished medieval cow barn in Tarn, and a glass shard unexpectedly found in my garden in Edinburgh. Although now united in this small glass jar they were once separated by a long plane journey raising questions about the impact of its creation on sustainable living.

007 – Robin Hill – Frayed for the Future

Old USB and ethernet wires. Plus some other electronic connectors.

A glass can of industrial worms. Opened and lidless. The wires have always been visible, connecting The Machine parts like power nerves. But now they are free to live and grow. Now they emerge to feed on the wind, water and light; having consumed all the ancient fossilised remains below. Unbound Prometheus. These ones are faulty: dead, useless. Yet the non-biodegradable tentacles continue to haunt us. Lurking in drawers, in boxes. Even under your bed.

008 – Sarah Dale – Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

Glass, Aluminium

A jar in a jar that's in a jar. Jars are themselves a useful means of storage for all sorts of things, from food to nuts and bolts. They can last for decades and have been used for generations. It's time the humble jar recieved the recognition it deserves and make the container the star!

009 – Tom Pratt – Carboniferrous

Clay, metal, wood, glass.

Carbon that was fossilised over hundreds of millions of years during the carboniferous is being sprung back in the latter stages of our iron age. This is one experiment investigating the interaction between earth and air.

010 – Tom Pratt – Comms

Paper, pencil, gold

Comms is a short form of communications. It is said the tower of Babel was going well until their comms were disrupted. Good comms are vital to develop and support sustainable ways, a different sort of big tower, and also how sustainable are our comms?

011 – Tom Pratt – Dieback

Wood, metal, Roslin Glen clay, moss

Sustainability touches our lives in many ways. This one started out being about ash dieback and that got me thinking on health more generally and the sustainability of our NHS and social care. Let's hope it gets better, hence the optimistic gold.

012 – David Price - You need it and its coming for you soon if you don't change your ways

Water

013 Penelope Kay - Ceci n'est pas un Oak Tree

Oak sawdust

Oak trees may live for 1,000 years, although 600 years is more typical - an oak tree is classed as ancient once it reaches 400 years old. In the UK, 326 species are completely dependent on oak trees, including 257 species of invertebrates'. (WWF, Top 5 facts about UK woodlands) Once it is reduced to sawdust, it is no longer an oak tree. With thanks to Michael Craig-Martin for his inspirational concept of 'An Oak Tree' (1973) and to Rene Magritte for showing us 'The Treachery of Images' (1929)

014 - Pauline Gardner - The Persistence of Memory

Ash, coal dust

A ban on burning house coal came in for England in May 2023 (not yet in Scotland) but the dreamlike memory of the warmth and flicker of a 'real' fire is difficult to shake off. All that remains of our dreams when we wake is ash and carbon dioxide. With thanks to Salvador Dali for the bending of time in our dreams in his 'Persistence of Memory', 1931

015 - Janet Philp – Fleece Kit

Old plastic, thread, zip and ribbon

Many fleece tops are now made from recycled plastics. This jar shows the ingredients for a fleece jackets in a similar fashion to the baking kits where the ingredients are layer within a container.

016 – Tom Pratt - Honey Trap

wood, metal, wax, glass, dirt

This one plays with ideas around being sucked in by a false sense of security and may contain iconography. Should I buy this for a promise to plant a tree? I'm really not sure.

017 – Zoe McGonigle – Make Your Own

Twigs, textile

018 - Cassie Hopton – Disposable Science

Soil, sea shell, plastic pipette tips, tube and syringe filled with pH indicator fluid.

The jar features common items used in a laboratory. These are single-use disposable plastics such as pipette tips, tubes and syringes. Scientific laboratories are one of the major contributors to plastic waste - it is estimated laboratory plastic waste exceeds 5.5 million tonnes per year worldwide. Some laboratories are attempting to recycle and reuse single-use plastics through washing and decontamination steps. However, eventually the plastics degrade and break. There is currently no industry standard solution to this problem. The sustainability issues and possible solutions need to be addressed by official bodies that govern scientific conduct.

019 – Jan Green – Wrapped Up Tight

Sheep fleece, paper

The sheep shed their fleece naturally, which can be spun into thread, knitted or woven to make garments. Also it can be dyed using plant material which can make various shades example Onion skins yellow, woad blue, tree bark greens.

020 – Jenny Bruce - Microcosm of Flax

flax seeds, harvested flax, heckled and scutched flax, linen fragments (fine and coarse) and spun linen thread on a spool.

Flax: A plant with remarkable history from Neolithic to present. Captured within this jar is the growth cycle from seed to production of linen fabric. Flax fibre being transformed and woven into linen after processes of heckling and scutching and spinning garments of damask, household linen, coarse boat sail, and artist's canvas are included, plus a spool of linen thread, thus portraying the developmental stages of this ancient Scottish yet modern sustainable fibre. Flax could play an important and significant part in the economic and environmental impact in agriculture today and provide sustainable solutions for the textile industry vs the plastic pollution crisis and microplastics in the environment.

021 - Mihaela Crisan – Trees for Life

Fake and real trees, fake grass, Lego, paper and glue

Did you ever plant a tree?

I did! Together with the Friends of Meadows Bruntsfield Links (FoMBL) volunteer group, we planted and cared for more than 100 trees in 2023 with 50 being donated by the University of Edinburgh, Sport and Exercise, Active Live Program (Amanda Marshall)
https://www.facebook.com/groups/537008269744869/permalink/6526827907429512/ and
https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10229266963672320&set=pcb.6653617064750595

So, If you did not plant a tree yet, do it now! Is never late! Come and plant! Everyone can do it! Trees are for life, for you and for many generations to come, but also for plants, birds, and animals. And they can boost our physical and mental health in so many ways!

051 – Zoe McGonigle – Remembering

photograph, seashells

Keeping nature maintained for the future

052 - Janette Dinse-Harrower - Soylent Green

Seaweed (pressed and toasted)

More and more people are opting for composing burials, thus making them food for the planet.

053 – Penelope Kay – Climate Poker

Wooden dice, paper emoji stickers

In a world of unsustainable consumption the future is chancy. Will we, and our children, be lucky in this game?

065 - Shayna Seenayah & Lusi Zhao - Tale as Old as Time

Rose, wasp, superglue, staples, pin, white & brown sugar, blue tac, tissue

Our jar represents sustainability as everything involved in this artwork, including the jar, were found within the office. The rose, given to us on Valentine's day, was dried to last forever, and the wasp, although dead, kept the ecosystem balanced and sustainable while it was alive. <3

066 - Ruth Pollitt - Cut Your Coat According To Your Cloth

cotton, silk, linen, wool (metal & glass jar)

This 16th Century statement advises us to live within our means and use our resources sensibly. When did you last put a pair of socks in your landfill bin? "Oh it doesn't matter its just an old pair of socks." It matters when millions do that every day. For centuries clothing was gifted in wills, traded, re-sold, re-used and re-made. Today we can buy responsibly, recycle (even those socks!) or re-use, re-make. It's not new but it sounds revolutionary!

068 – Zoe & Alice McGonigle – The Goodbye Garden

3d printed teeth, dried flowers.

069 – Alice McGonigle – Growing Garden

Tissue pape, tape, markers

070 – Owen McGonigle – Outerspace Nothing

Paper, markers

071 – Jenny Bruce – WILDLIFE MUTATION

Plastic netting, microchips, wire, cabling, coal, stones and small wooden bird

Sustainable and better conservation management is crucial with the fragility of wildlife ecosystems in our environment. Continual disposal of non-recyclable metal components, computer chips, cabling and carcinogenic plastics on land and marine habitats places wildlife in a precarious position. The absorption of toxic elements into animal and bird bloodstreams is hazardous. Will mutation of species occur? Will birds build nests of plastic and metal in order to survive this desecrated metal and plastic polluted world we have created? Or shall we see the demise of wildlife as we know it?

072 – Jen Wu – Harmony

Cord, bark, stone, button, shell, dead leaves

I want to create a sustainable ecosystem in the jar to mimic the real nature through trash and natura fading things.

073 – Penelope Kay - Excessive Redundancy

Battery, wire, plastic, paper, glue, ink

Each of the hundreds of miniature Christmas trees are equipped with a switch to light up the tiny decorations. To my astonishment the whole switch mechanism was redundant, made for a sales demo, used for a few seconds and meant to be disconnected and discarded once the tree was bought. At home the lights worked from a separate battery & switch.

074 – Tom Pratt – Mixed Meanings

coal, gold-paper, resin

to, encourage (exx. as in SUPPORT; sustaining food, that keeps up the strength); endure without giving way, stand, bear up against, (sustained the shock of the enemy's cavalry; with no 8. comparison with); undergo, experience, suffer, (s. a defeat, severe contusion, loss, &c); (of court or other authority) allow validity of, give decision in favour of, uphold, (s. the objection, the applicant in his claim, &c.) bear out, tend to sub-stantiate or corroborate, confirm (state-ment, charge, theory, &c.); keep up or represent (part, character) adequately: keep (sound, effort, &c.) going continu ously (a sustained note, effort). Hence sustainable

075 - Paul Skehel – The colour of guacamole

glass, water and avocado seed

The seed is germinating, trying to grow and reproduce. Avocados are the highest calory fruit. But they have high water and soil demands, and their international distribution imposes a large carbon footprint. But they taste lovely! And the farmers that grow them can be well rewarded. We can be as greedy as the jar will allow.

094 – Norah Spears – Living in a Scoby Hotel

Scoby (Symbiotic complex of bacteria & yeast) and its liquid

Scobys are used to make kombucha (fermented tea). Scobys do live in jars, so this is its batural habitat. With feeds from time to time (usually sugared tea), they will live on happily definitely sustainable. They look odd, and this one will grow and change over the course of the exhibition. I enjoy watching that process - I hope that others do too.

095 - Lynn Cowan - Bee Diverse

dried plants/seeds

There are so many possible avenues towards sustainability, many requiring human action or reduction. But, without our pollinators, and plants that produce seeds, sustainability seems an unreachable goal. So, this work focuses on bees, and a multitude of seeds, and the abundance of the natural world.

096 – Marion Kennedy – Mycelium

clay, leaves, paper, Wundaweb

Working with nature is key to sustaining the earth's ecological balance.

My jar tries to capture elements of the natural world and the promise they offer us of creating ways to live alongside nature rather than destroy it. The blue paper cut outs represent the sea and its ability to create clean energy. They clay base represents earth. The clay is left unfired and susceptible to breaking to represent the earth's fragility if we are unable to create a sustainable way of living. The leaves represent the trees from which they fell and the role plants play in climate regulation. The Wundaweb represents mycelium, the network of fungal threads which enrich the soil, optimise growth and can act as potent bioremediation agents to break down industrial waste and toxins. Jar re-used three times.

110 - Tom Pratt - May day

Rainwater, yew wood

Captured in a jar 26-27 May 2024 in Edinburgh during an unusually wet spring with a boat carved from wood found near a neolithic solar alignment by Loch Fyne. The sea was lower then and this jar makes a small contribution to mitigating sea level rise and flooding. The boat is for getaway if you are very small.

Discover! Workshops

During the mid-term and Spring Breaks of the 2023-24 academic year, Fusion partnered with the Discover! Programme to bring Jars in Action to children and their families at Gracemount Primary School and Castlebrae Community Campus.

After discussing the meaning of sustainability with the participants, everyone was invited to dive into the supplied materials to make a jar related to what sustainability means to them.

022 – Claire B - The Twist & Turn of Life

rope and nuts and bolts

Everyone has twists and turns in life and have a few loose straws no one is perfect there is beauty in imperfection.

023 – Hena – Fish Jar

Jar, paper, rocks

You can put fishes in it to make them safe from the ocean.

024 - Hanin – Charlie

Cables, screws, beads, woods

025 – Amira – Sea

Cardboard, paper, blue straw, tape, green jokey

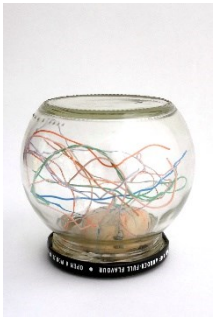
026 – Christopher – Wired

Straws, wire, salt dough, pipe cleaners

027 – Becky – A Few Screws Loose

Salt dough, pebbles, scres, wire, pens

Help to relax the brain by using art.



028 – Aliya – Amazing Jar Sea

pop-pom, tape, beads, dough, pop paper, cardboard, mechanical things

029 - Jordan Shepherd – Fisher in Coral Reef

Wires, paper, shells, stones

Man catching fish in coral reef

030 – Raheem – Untitled

Cardboard, Paper, crystals

031 – Kani – Sparkle

Straw, glue, pipe cleaners

It is a kind jar. It is happy. He smiles at me.

032 - Deserted Desert – Ghena

Salt dough, tape, string, rope, pipe cleaner

Don't know

033 – Karim – Bug Jar

Glue, glass, dough

Two happy bugs that are safe

034 – Skyla – Snake

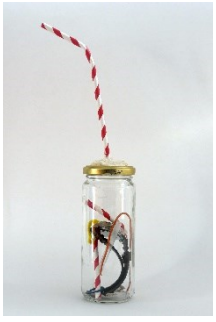
Wire, screws, salt dough

It's very beautiful.

035 - Cealan RJ - Life Half Empty Time is Always on My Side

watch, straws, band, pipe cleaner

time is precious and water is life



036 - Cealan RJ – Poo Crazy Life

Clay, nut, bolts, straws

Shaking my world up and down life is full of crazy.

037 - Aaron Shepherd – Lazer Panel House

wood, pipes. stones, straw

Lazer panel house gets sun light to work

038 – Mohammed – The Big Sea

creature, paper, computer chips, straw, cable

039 – Quinn – Snoyvieeb

Salt dough, straw, beads

A lamp post in the snow

040 – Kamiar – Ice Cream Jar

Kamiar tried to make an ice cream jar :) He tried to mix some materials together,

041 – Kenan - Sote, Spotty

Bits and bobs, wires, screws, beads, chips

042 – Louie – Bitty Bobbie Jar

Organics & wires

043 - Rachel Bowes – Industrial Christmas

Screws, straws, micro chips, pipe cleaners

I think we should reuse and not buy so many new unsustainable Christmas gifts/decorations.

044 – Unknown – Untitled

045 – Bodhi – Chaos in a Jar

Straws, microchips

Toddler Fills Jar

046 – Kaya - Crystle, balls, and some materials mixed up

So Kaya tried to make some different materials and mixed together :)

047 – Violet – Bob. It's Bitsy

Screws, micro chips, wire, dough

It is about connections. The wires to the bits and bobs. :)

048 – Alex – Jar of Electricity

Wires, bits and bobs

049 – Jenny – Calm Jar

Corkscrew, Fabric sticks x 3, wires, gem stones

I was collecting calming materials sea shell and gem stones. Also collecting favourite objects colour wires and fabric sticks also cork screw.

050 - Owen Johnston - Fish Tank Machine Lazer

Gems, straws, pipe cleaners, screws, cardboard, wire

Using recycled items

076 - Nana Hauwa - water stones

stones, crystal stones, coal, straw

my jar artwork represent water flowing on stones of different types.

077 - Sham Kamakli - Amasing Beach

Everyone is happy because the Beach is clean... for once.

078 – Anna – The Colours of Nature

straws, plastic, pipe cleaners, netting

Hues of the sea with the gold of the sun but all made out of recycled materials - a vision of harmony between humanity and the natural world.

079 - Eshaal Akbar – Tangled up

Plastic, wire, glass pebbles and sponge

My jar represents life under water, when we litter it effects life under water.

080 – Sham - What my Mum Wants

sponge, plastic bag, ribbon, wooly ribbon, nature, straws

She wants to clean. She wants soft and wooly cloths. She wants me sister to put out the garbage.

081 - Lucy Cormack – Seascape

glass beads (big & small), yellow, purple and blue pipe cleaners, blue paper straw, blue & white ribbon, pink & blue wire, salt dough, magazine cutting

my seascape dipicts how the ocean SHOULD look and how it should be kept free of litter and pollution for ecosystems and creatures to thrive not just survive.

082 – Baryal – Danger

Straw, salt dough, sponge, dried plants, string

try to save the birds from a snake

083 - Dom Cairns-Gibson – Fast Fashion

Acrylic Yarn

We live in an era of fast fashion. Clothes are made by machines or under paid workers, out of plastic and unnatural material. But the average person has no choice but to buy them because good quality clothes are too expensive.

084 Raggan Weatherby – dirty ocean

little glass bubbles, wool, rocks, tiny beads, dough

085 – Meran – Coralreef

berrie, salt, beads

I want the ocean to be clean.

086 - Elliot Cormack – Underwater Ocean

glass beads, wire, wool, cables, salt dough, paper plate

about the ocean and fish

087 (two jars) – Khilo Ugundare - Ocean

wires, balls, rock, stones, straw

088 – Sarah – Ocean

There is trash in the water and there shouldn't be!

089 - Callie Ogundare – Jar of Stones

090 – Ismail – Raffle

crystal stones

091 - Amina Sanusi – A rainbow flame

coloured straw, dried leaves & fruit, coal incense candle

My jar artwork is inspired by the beautiful scent of fruits and flowers emanating from burning smokey scented tree barks from different trees.

092 – Shihab – Michael

staws, tissue, little gems, berry, ribbon

093 – Maggie – Space

Salt dough, rocks, plastic

It's space – it's outside of plants. It's all of the rockets and satelliteswhich go into space – some parts are burnt up and some just stay there.

Eco Workshop

During the spring term of the 2023-24 academic year, Fusion partnered with Castlebrae Community Campus to bring Jars in Action to the pupils and teachers of the Eco Group over two workshop sessions.

After discussing what sustainability and art meant to them everyone chose from a selection of materials ranging from e-waste to unused dressings and headed out into the workshop to break and build.

054 - Lewis Benzelin - Sustainable City

wood, sawdust, circuit board, glue.

A city that's environmental friendly.

055 – Daniel West - The Confusion of the Current Climate

Wires and Water

The wires are all muddled up and no one really knows what is going on, just like the climate crisis. And the dirty water is because of all the polluted lakes and rivers.

056 – Stefan - Desert Island Survival

Sawdust, PVA, circuit board

What would you take to a desert island?

057 – George – Recycal

Mouse

What do you do if tryna recycal thing you don't need

058 - Matias Raduta – Green Pesto

It shows how almost everything can be reused.

059 – Nathan Fisher - WILL YOU CONTROL THE FUTURE?

Controller and glue

It uses every last part of a controller to show how much goes into the little things and to show that you control what comes next.

060 – Priyanshu - Man its long time you I am a man or am I

Bandage and broken stuff

061 – Ollie T- Flooded Wifi

Wifi box

062 – Alex – The Sting of Pollution

bubble wrap, wire, plastic wrap

Sea life eats plastic extremely often, it's mistaken with jellyfish and smaller creatures.

063 – Mr Irvine – High in Fibre

Wood shavings, saw dust, food colouring

"Eco"-influencers and "health" influencers often overlap on social media, and the contrast in their messaging is increasingly stark. Considering how sustainable ingredients can support health may be a forward step in bringing these worlds together.

064 - Yusuf - The Abomination

Wires, chips, plastic bits from routers.

For people to make a change and not litter

067 – Maurice – End of the Future

Fountainbridge Library Workshop

This was a jar-making workshop open to the public, held in May 2024.

097 - Sacha Hasan - Be a Part of the cycle of LIFE

Stones, twigs and wooden sticks, paper, salt dough

The work is represented in layers - the first is natural resources, the second is manufactured materials, and the third is natural resources again that are growing from the manufactured items. This represents responsible industry and circular economy where we have the duty to make sure that our waste is recyclable and can feed into the natural resources production cycle.

098 - Admir Shurbaji – Posiden

shells, bamboo freshly cut, glass beads, rocks and thread

The work represents how pollution is affecting the ocean. Non-recyclable materials such as elastic and fiber, overtaking and destroying marine life.

099 – Tom Pratt – Remember

bamboo, elm, plastic, salt dough, microchips, cable, bandage

To sustain requires a constant level from past, through present and in to future. This one imagines a future attempt to remember a snowy woodland scene using materials now to hand.

Craigmillar Library Workshop

This was a jar-making workshop open to the public, held in May 2024.

100 – Elio – The Wildlife

Stickers, pipe cleaners, feathers, bubble wrap, pom poms, googly eyes

We need to be kind and care about our wildlife because it's important for our planet.

101 – Daphne – The When you're bright you're kind

Pipe cleaners, stars

Because if you're not ind the world won't be nice

102 – Hanna – Life Finds a Way

packing, faux ivy, pipe cleaners, stickers

If we allow wildlife to florish even in unusual places

103 – Esther – Kindness

pipe cleaners, tissue strands, pom poms, stickers

Because being sustainable is being kind to the earth and being kind is very important.

104 – Rose – Love

Pipe cleaners, tissue strands, pom poms, stickers

Because sustainability is about loving the planet

105 - Rabeeza Fajar – Shine Brightly

Stars, beads, shiny strands, leaves (artificial), flowers

Even in the darkest of times, your inner light can shine brightly, illuminating the path forward with hope and resilience. Always remain fresh and keep your surroundings fresh.

106 – Simona – Save the Bees

Box filling, pipe cleaners, bubble wrap, sequins

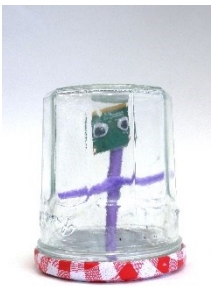
Let the flowers grow wild and help the bees doing their job so that our planet can keep functioning as it is supposed to.

107 – Aoujlou – Bright

Pipe cleaners, filling, confetti, stars

The future is birgh if we can learn to be sustainable

108 – Hannah - If You Care, Share!



Microchip, straw, pipe cleaner, googly eyes

I have enough. To combat the climate crisis we must reject the lie we are being sold that more stuff will make us happy and repeat repeat repeat "I HAVE ENOUGH." We need more libraries, and libraries of things i.e tools, resources, clothes. Share & borrow. We need clean water, fresh air, each other & a future. We don't need more stuff.

109 – Lucia - A Universe in Your Hand

jar, stickers, fake leaves, box filler, pipe cleaners, sequins

We don't need to go too far to find life. Even the smallest patch of dirt has plants or bugs living in it. This is why it is important to be kind to all spaces around us.

McDonald Road Library Workshop

This was a jar-making workshop open to the public, held in June 2024.

111 – Rudhraunaksh Sreemadasa - The sea of fishing, Trash of wonders

Bamboo plastic coathanger, stones, shell, trash

It tells us its life cycle of some trash. I want to build a shop so people can by trash looking like art. I am gonna invent a machine which can transform trash into art.

112 – Rida Yusaf - The Wonderful desert

bamboo - coat hangers, stick, shell, rocks

It tells us that it is a beatuful desert.

113 – Jenny Bruce - Tower of Babel in the Sea of Medication

Foil pill packaging, plastic bottle tops & LED light.

With the excess of medical waste can foil packaging not be recycled. Can a more sustainable and efficient way be made to disperse pills to the public.

114 – Ella Scetteland-McNally - The Silver Moon in the Trees

Seaweed, shells, silver foil, plastic netting, jar

The beautiful landscape is being threatened by the dangerous plastic netting.

115 – Robbie Denham- The Rubbish Sea

Fishing line, foil, bamboo, Christmas tree sticks, netting, nails, stones and wool

The net fishes rubbish out of the sea.

116 – Olek Denham- The Bamboo Forest

Earth, bamboo, wool, stones and nails

Bamboo from forest can be made into toothbrushes.

117 – Jenny Bruce- Plastic Garden-Chelsea

Coat hangers, plastic twine & stones

In time, will we be totally content with plastic flowers & plants & trees if bees no longer exist and can pollinate our crops. Shall we be content to adorn our surroundings and environment with plastic trees and ferns.