

{ curriculum vitae }

david boulton

David is a founder member of and works extensively with BREAD art collective.

BREAD use light, sound and simple technologies with a strong social focus to create works which gently ask you to stop for a moment and take in your surroundings in the hope that you'll notice something new.

{ commissioned works }

skymirror

Haslignden, South Pennines – commissioned by Rossendale Borough Council/POPL – 18 September 2010

Since someone first cut into a hillside, discovered the white chalk underneath and carved out the shape of a horse, people have been compelled to leave their mark on their surroundings.

Skymirror was a giant light installation on a hillside in the shape of the constellation Pegasus, the winged horse. The finished work was constructed over the course of a week with the help of a team of volunteers. It was 75 metres wide, 120 metres high uses 1800 solar powered lights and twinkled into life each night between the 18th of September until the 16th of October, 2010.

The work was supported by a flyer which given to visitors with holes in the shape of the constellation punched in it so that the stars could be seen when held up to the light.

flashlight

Chorlton, Manchester – commissioned by Chorlton Arts Festival – 22 May 2010

Flashlight invited members of a local community to combine forces and illuminate their neighbourhood. It's art by flashmob!

In the run up to the event, 10,000 A3 flyers were distributed locally. Each flyer could be folded to make an origami lantern. Counterfoils on the flyer were returned to the artists in exchange for a light kit to make the lantern glow. On the day of the event participants received instructions asking them to assemble their light, put it in their lantern and place it in a specific location at specific time.

Chorlton folded over 400 lanterns and many, many more people saw, stopped, looked and chatted about it. Flashlight was acclaimed as one of the highlights of the festival.

ffosfforescence

Penarth Pier, Penarth, Cardiff - Commissioned by Ffotogallery and The Washington Gallery - 5th December 2009

BREAD were commissioned to devise a work to celebrate the 80th birthday of the pier and highlight the Save Penarth Pavilion campaign. We developed a light balloon that would glow and shimmer with the waves. 150 balloons were tethered in the sea right around the pier. As the tide rose, the balloons burst, leaving only a faint outline of what was once there.

This was an ambitious work. The pier is huge - over 200m long - and in an area with a tidal range of 14m. As well as the light balloons, the work required the positioning of 45 heavy building blocks, 1400 metres of rope, 350 batteries, and 400 LEDs.

The key to the success of the work was the strong involvement of the community. An initial workshop a week before the event began to encourage engagement. A larger workshop on the day was attended by over 30 participants who constructed the light balloons and carried them to the pier.

{ completed projects }

intentions *Big Chill Festival – with Doodlebug and Contact Theatre - August 2010*

BREAD were invited to speak at the Words in Motion tent at the Big Chill festival 2010. To support this we put tents around the camping areas with shadows in which stopped people in their tracks to have a second look.

We used cut A4 sized stencils of people dressing or undressing and lit them with an LED torch. While deliberately not risqué they explored the changing sense of privacy one feels while living in close proximity to strangers and contrasted this with the natural sense of voyeurism one feels when inadvertently stumbling across an intimate moment.

wintervention *Chorlton, Manchester - January 2010*

Wintervention explored how natural materials could be used in our work to minimise these effect of putting non-degradable materials into the environment as part of our practice.

We took advantage of a cold snap to use snow and ice to make lanterns. Initially made from snow balls and built outside friends' houses, we subsequently developed the use of a mould to place lanterns throughout Chorlton.

Although a chilly experience, it was fun to talk to passers by about the work and enjoyable to see how others slowed down for a minute to have a look and wonder what it was all about!

{ under development }

beat:tent:hook *with the Horse and Bamboo Theatre Company and Helmshore Textile Museum*

BREAD have been invited creatively direct and manage the delivery of this exciting new project working with groups of young people to develop a performance piece using a recently created sound archive and drawing on the textile history of South Pennine Lancashire. We're anticipating an exciting live event with music, dance, shadows, video, sewing, screen printing and light.

this way:up *for Chorlton Arts Festival 2011*

We want to encourage people to look up more. Above eye level lurks architecture, history, quirks - you miss out on so much by staring straight ahead or at your feet. We will identify sites above head height in public spaces and work with community groups and young people to create site-specific works of varying media to be placed in them.

{ education }

placemaking *with Ridgewood Special School, Burnley – February to June 2011*

Now at the end of their first year in their new buildings, pupils and staff at Ridgewood find that they're still unsettled in their surroundings. We will undertake a series of placemaking activities to help explore what's possible in the space and in so doing attach the memories of the space which are lacking at the moment.

diversity *with Acton CoE Primary and Wyburnury CoE Primary – January & February 2011*

A month long investigation with Y1 pupils in two schools for the Centre for Urban Education exploring how music and dance and exploration of the natural environment can enhance a child's understanding of diversity. Both projects culminated in a performance to which the local community were invited. It was inspiring to see how the children responded to the project and were enabled to produce high quality artworks.

visual scoring *with Wellfield Junior School, Sale – January 2011*

A short project run over two days with year five classes investigating the sounds and rhythms of their local park and performing the results of their work to the school

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