

# BRIAN RAYMOND: Artist Statement

## ABOUT MY WORK

My work is generally developed in response to a given brief. My responses are varied and I am therefore drawn to using a wide range of materials that best fit that particular set of circumstances.

A lot of my work uses textiles as a starting point. Investigating surface pattern, textures, shape and form from the world around us. I tend to manipulate, deconstruct and build layers of fabric and textiles and combine these with contrasting objects.

My work often attempts to explore the unseen interrelationship with the reality beneath the surface. Images are imbued with layers of symbolism.

## APPROACH

I have three approaches to my work:

- Participatory & education based projects:  
Participation and community involvement lies at the heart of my practice. A belief in peoples innate creativity and the power of the arts to offer people a chance to make positive changes within their lives underpins my practice in participatory arts. I deliver arts projects which continually strive for *best practice*, have inclusive & consultative practices at their core and deliver creative high quality content & finished artwork.
- Public Art commissions  
Creating art within the public realm offers me opportunities to explore natural, built and managed spaces, and human interaction. This gives me an opportunity to engage with works on a larger scale.
- Commissioned artist:  
I happy to accept commissions to create artwork that develops my own practise and responds to my own areas of research & development.

## TECHNICAL

I have experience in a wide range of art forms that form the core of my community arts & education delivery. Supported with a solid base in observational drawing, my specialist art forms include Sail banners, creative textiles, sculpture and kites.

My approach to public art projects is one that maintains public involvement at its core and aims to respond to site specific issues in a flexible and creative manner. This often involves working in new ways with materials new to me requiring additional research and specialist fabrication. I have the experience and good level of background knowledge to be able to work in this manner.