

PRESS RELEASE

Art Goes Global in Farnborough

Photo Opportunity Wednesday 8 June 2011

The children at Cherrywood Community Primary School, Farnborough, are turning themselves into a giant world sphere as part of "**Festival Makers**", an Olympics-inspired art project, initiated by The Making, a leading craft and design education charity based in Basingstoke.

Festival Makers is a unique awards scheme for talented artists to work with young people in North Hampshire to create inspiring artworks for world arts festivals to celebrate the Olympics. Nick Sayers, maker and graphic designer based in Brighton & Hove, was selected through national competition to work with students in Farnborough.

Nick makes spherical sculptures, shelters and lighting from recycled, reused and re-purposed materials. These have ranged in scale from cable ties and measuring tape to a large sphere made from estate agent boards to highlight the issue of homelessness.

The pupils at Cherrywood School are working with Nick to create a visually striking "world of cultures". Nick asked the children to bring their own national costumes from countries as far and wide as Nepal, India, Hungary, Albania, Portugal and Ghana. These were supplemented by ethnic garments supplied by Gladrags Community Costume Resource in Brighton. The children then posed against a geometric grid on a cinematic green screen and had their photos taken.

Nick will process these photos on computer to create a set of files which will be sent to a local factory which will machine cut the silhouettes. Nick will then work with the children to join the silhouettes together. The result will be a 1.5 metre interlocking spherical lattice sculpture made from silhouettes of the children wearing international costumes and holding hands.

Nick has a strong ethos of sustainability, using recycled, reused or repurposed materials for most of his work. To create the 'World of Cultures' Nick has chosen Stokbord – a recycled plastic produced by Centriforce to line animal pens. "It's marketed as chew-resistant, so I reckon it should withstand handling by primary school children!" says Nick

The sculpture will be first exhibited at the World Party in the Park in Eastrop Park, Basingstoke, on 2 July, where festival goers will be encouraged to make their own silhouettes using a giant pantograph drawing aid. The sculpture will have lifespan beyond the festival and the Olympics as a static sculpture in the school grounds as well as an educational tool for children to climb inside.

This project has been funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England.

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THE MAKING®



LOTTERY FUNDED

Photo Opportunity: Wednesday 9 June 2011. Green screen photo-shoot with Nick Sayers and the children of Cherrywood Community Primary School. **To arrange a visit to the school, please contact Barbara Goodchild, Head teacher Telephone: 01252 547896** or email Barbara.goodchildr@cherrywood.hants.sch.uk

Location: Cherrywood Community Primary School, Mayfield Road, Farnborough, Hampshire GU14 8LH.

For further information contact The Making on **01256 245 679** or contact **Nick Sayers** directly on **07812036415**, email mail@nicksayers.com or go to www.nicksayers.com

Note for editors:

The Making is the leading craft and design education charity in Hampshire. It exists to inspire people of all ages to take part in the making of art. It runs a wide range of workshops, master-classes and events. Based in Basingstoke, it initiated the Festival Makers awards scheme to give talented artists the opportunity to create work with young people and to raise the standard of festival art. It has created *World Party in the Park* in order to create a sustainable and high quality annual World Arts festival for North Hampshire families.

(www.themaking.org.uk)

Festival Makers

The Festival Makers project is a unique audience and professional development programme for contemporary craft that is enabling emerging and mid-career designer-makers to work with culturally diverse performers, young people and families in North Hampshire to create inspiring artworks for world arts festivals in 2011 and 2012 to celebrate the Cultural Olympiad. It is funded by the National Lottery through Arts Council England. The Festival Makers award scheme provides 6 selected designer-makers (4 in 2011 and 2 in 2012) with an artist's residency in a Hampshire school or college and the opportunity to create an artwork or temporary intervention inspired by one or more world cultures. In 2011 the four artworks that result from the residencies will form an integral part of *World Party in the Park* on 2 July.

World Party in the Park is a spectacular world arts event for families that will take place in Eastrop Park on 2 July. This FREE event, which is being developed in partnership with the Basingstoke Multicultural Forum, will celebrate the talents and cultural traditions of the many diverse communities who live and work in North Hampshire. World Party in the Park is bringing together top local, national and international artists to produce vibrant craft, music, dance and other activities whilst showcasing world culture in the popular setting of Eastrop Park. It will be the town's first professionally run large scale world arts event. www.worldpartyinthepark.org.uk

Centriforce (for Stokbord recycled plastic board) <http://www.centriforce.com/>

Gladrags Community Costume Resource www.gladragscostumes.org.uk

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