



PRESS RELEASE

The World's Largest Wine-box – Raising a glass to the World Party in the Park

Photo Opportunity: Saturday 2 July 2011 at World Party in the Park, Eastrop Park, Basingstoke RG21 4AS

Image provided

Photo caption ***Artist Ian Kirkpatrick tastes the fermented fruit of his labours as he enjoys a glass of merlot from the world's largest wine box.***

Artist Ian Kirkpatrick works with cardboard boxes – big cardboard boxes. “Every time I create a new piece, it seems to be larger than the one before,” he confesses. This time, Kirkpatrick created what he says might possibly be the biggest wine box on Earth, for the upcoming World Party in the Park in Basingstoke’s Eastrop Park on 2July.

“The plan is to celebrate after the festival ends, with a glass of wine from the sculpture” he said. The box, which Kirkpatrick designed and built, can hold up to 27 litres of wine and is decorated in the artist’s signature “Greek vase” style. “Cardboard boxes are like modern-day amphorae,” he suggested. “We use them for transportation and storage, just like the ancient Greeks did with ceramics.” Rather than depicting ancient myths, however, Kirkpatrick covers his vases with contemporary imagery – in this case related to the upcoming Olympic Games.

“The front of the box features three of the past Olympic mascots standing on a podium, as if they’ve just won medals,” he explained. I picked the characters based on how much I liked the designs – with the Chinese mascot in Gold medal position. Unfortunately the London 2012 mascot didn’t make the cut.”

Kirkpatrick is one of four recipients of a Festival Makers Award from The Making, a leading craft and design education charity based in Basingstoke. He and the other winners have worked with local schoolchildren to create artworks to celebrate the Olympics for Basingstoke’s new world arts festival - *World Party in the Park*. The event begins at 11:30am in with a parade, and continues throughout the day with music, dance and a cornucopia of activities for all ages.

The three other “Festival Makers” are: Jo Coles who has made with Basingstoke school children a spectacular, large-scale Polish lady (a ‘Polska Pani’) full of secret diaramas and a flock of animated chickens; Nick Sayers, who has produced a 1.5 metre globe made up of silhouettes of the children in Farnborough; and ceramicist Rosanna Martin who has helped 137 young children in Basingstoke to make ceramic medals to wear on the Children’s Parade to launch the World Party.

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THE MAKING®

All four artworks can be seen at the World Party in Eastrop Park, Basingstoke on 2 July, where their makers will be running free craft workshops. A sample of the children's work can also be seen at the Festival Makers exhibition at the Willis Museum in the town between 25 June and 16 July 2011.



LOTTERY FUNDED

For further information contact: mbenton@themaking.org.uk or telephone **01256 245 569**.

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 help 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 produced by The Making in association with Central St Martins College of Art and Design, University of the Arts, London, 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. www.themaking.org.uk
In 2011 the four artworks that result from the residencies will form an integral part of Basingstoke's *World Party in the Park* on 2 July.

World Party in the Park is a spectacular FREE world arts event for families that will take place in Eastrop Park on 2 July. The Making initiated this event, and is developing it in partnership with the Basingstoke Multicultural Forum and others, to 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 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

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