

Press Release – For Immediate Release

1 July 2017

The Heartstone Fund - Art Exhibition at Lambourn Riding for the Disabled



Following the success of Heartstone Arts exhibition at WestOx Arts Gallery in Bampton in June, the team of Dawn Benson and Meriel Lewis are curating another in the exciting venue of Maddle Farm where Lambourn RDA have their stables, manège and indoor riding school.

The art exhibition will take place in the transformed riding school and the gardens around Maddle Farm, owned by Pauline and Nick Spence. The extensive exhibition will include original paintings in oil, acrylic and watercolour, sculpture in metal, glass, stone and ceramics PLUS framed and unframed prints.

Sales from the show will support the work of The Heartstone Fund set up in memory of Lendon Scantlebury, sculptor and painter, and Riding for the Disabled, Lambourn. The Heartstone Fund has been set up to encourage young people to make the transition to professional artist, through mentoring, teaching and funding materials and studio space.

Before his untimely death in January 2017, Lendon had already taken five artists, Jenny, Kira, Molly, Ollie and Tom, on a journey from their first expressions of talent to becoming confident artists with bright futures.

Lendon's partner in life and art, Dawn Benson, has now taken on the responsibility to fund future developments through continuing the exhibitions that she and Lendon started, and by the sales of handicrafts, cards ... and cake!

The Heartstone Fund was officially launched by Helen Browning, CEO of The Soil Association, at the private viewing of Heartstone's first exhibition at West Ox Art Gallery in Bampton on 2 June 2017.

The exhibition will run from Saturday 15th – Sunday 23rd July at Maddle Farm, Upper Lambourn with refreshments available at weekends.

Exhibition Opening Times:

15th – 23rd July, Maddle Farm, Upper Lambourn RG17 8RA

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

Weekdays 11.30am - 4.30pm

Closed on Wednesday

Weekends: 10.30am – 6.00pm

Notes for Editors:

Lendon Scantlebury, sculptor, painter, curator

Born in Barbados, Lendon was a dynamic and colourful character with a deep enthusiasm for art. He moved to the UK in 1971 bringing with him the memories of his early life in Barbados - the sights, sounds and smells of which recalled deep meanings for him and formed the basis for his art.

He described his sculptures as "mainly contemporary, looking at the human psychological and spiritual journey in life, using materials such as wood, leather and cloth to eventually be made into bronze, giving a representation of the subject rather than detail. Sculpture means shape form and simplicity".

Lendon worked for over 30 years in the bronze foundry and sculpture casting business, having owned and run his own art foundry for some years. This gave him the knowledge and understanding of working in bronze as well as the wide range of patinas - restoring as well as creating new work. He was a passionate professional artist who exhibited widely and curated successful exhibitions to showcase not only his own art but also that of his fellow artists carefully chosen to complement the venues - Ardington, Turn End, Bothy Vineyard and many more.

Lendon also encouraged young aspiring artists to explore new media and methods and had planned to endow a foundation to enable more young people to discover the art within them. The Heartstone Fund has been created by his friends and fellow artists so that his name will continue to inspire and motivate.

Lendon Scantlebury: 23 October 1960 - 11 January 2017

Founding members of **The Heartstone Fund** are Dawn Benson, Jeanette Howse and Meriel Lewis

Dawn Benson, sculptor, painter, curator produces stylised, figurative sculptures in bronze and bronze resin. Most of her sculptures are based on families and relationships. Being a mother, much of her inspiration is drawn from experience. In the intimacy groups the figurative sculptures are sensitive and loving. Dawn brings tension, humour and sensitivity to her work.

She also captures the deep bond between children and horses, incorporating a myriad of feelings and emotions both dependant and interdependent. These sculptures are much sought after.

Dawn also produces work to commission, both private and corporate, either on a small scale or for outdoor or monumental sculptures.

Meriel Lewis, administrator. Meriel worked with Lendon on his successful exhibitions at Bothy Vineyard, Frilford Heath; Turn End Garden, Haddenham; Old Brick Farm, Stewkley; The Mole Inn, Toot Baldon; Farmer Gows, Faringdon and Upper Maddie Farm, Lambourn. She provided the administration support to ensure the art was delivered on time, to the right place and even to give names to some of the sculptures! She is now working with Dawn and Jeanette to curate new exhibitions for Heartstone Arts, the exhibition side of The Heartstone Fund.

Jeanette Howse BEM, Chairman of Didcot Events including the Christmas Street Fair for nearly 25 years, Business Development Executive for Berkshire, Buckinghamshire and Oxford for Tourism South East. Jeanette has led the team that organises Didcot Christmas Street Fair for the last 21 years. She worked for 25 years at Didcot Railway Centre and is now encouraging tourism to the area as part of the Tourism South East team. She is passionate about community spirit and has helped many businesses expand and refine through her encouragement and professionalism.

Riding for the Disabled Association (RDA)

RDA is a national organisation made up of Member Groups dedicated to improving the lives of people with disabilities, through riding and/or carriage driving. It's all about giving children and adults confidence and independence to benefit their health and well being and to achieve their goals, whilst having fun.

Horse riding offers an opportunity for enjoyment, challenge, friendship, laughter, achievement, independence and confidence.

Medical professionals recognise that there are also significant therapeutic benefits for the rider. The warmth and three dimensional movement of the horse is transmitted through the rider's body, gradually making it more relaxed and supple, reducing spasms and improving balance, posture and co-ordination.

Riding offers an element of risk, often denied to many people, especially those who have been affected by an accident or serious illness and offers them the chance to regain mobility and a sense of achievement. People with congenital disabilities discover a new freedom in movement.

The Local Group - Lambourn RDA

The local representative of the RDA is the Lambourn Group which is part of the Southern Region. Each group of the RDA is self supporting, so fund raising is an essential part of ensuring we can continue to provide a centre for riding locally.

For more information about

The Heartstone Fund and Heartstone Arts contact:

Meriel Lewis

078900 32725

info@heartstone-fund.uk

www.heartstone-fund.uk

Lambourn RDA

Frances Lochrane

01488 72953 or 07798 941229

info@lambournrda.co.uk

www.lambournrda.co.uk

The Heartstone Fund - a selection of art which will be exhibited at Lambourn

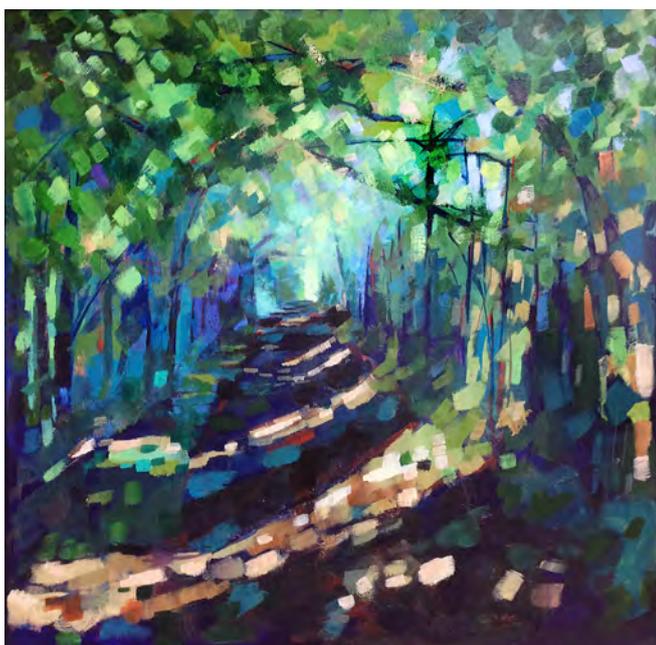
**For high resolution images for print, please contact
Meriel Lewis 078900 32725 info@heartstone-fund.uk**



Lady - Denise Dutton



Cypress Tree - Simon Probyn



Early October - Stuart Roper



Archipelago I - Augusta Maclean

We hope these pieces will be on display but arrangements may change at short notice