

Hoy³ exhibition opens at the Pier

Students' work goes on show after third Orkney field trip

An exhibition by students from Edinburgh College of Art and the Royal Danish Academy in Copenhagen will open at the Pier Arts Centre next Tuesday, February 9.

A group of 30 art students, from the two academic institutions, travelled to Orkney in October, last year, to take part in a ten day field trip.

The students, most of whom hadn't met each other before the trip, are studying at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels in the department of sculpture and the interdisciplinary course "Art Space Nature" at ECA, as well as painting at RDA.

They were accompanied by tutors Anne Bevan and Ross McLean from ECA, and Tumi Magnusson from the RDA.

The field trip was mainly based at the Hoy Centre.

Anne Bevan commented: "It was an ideal location to explore the island from and, although no one was deterred from braving the elements, everyone was grateful for the use of the Hoy Kirk, variously for a meeting place, studio, talks, cinema and even a ceilidh."

She continued: "With the help of the local community, including the wardens and minibus driver Albert Clarke, students were able to explore Hoy from its many perspectives, including Lyness, Melsetter House and, of course, Rackwick.

"It was a great experience for all the students and we are very pleased to be showing the work produced in response to the trip, at the Pier."

The group were also based in Stromness for two days, where they had visits, and talks, with the Pier Arts Centre and EMEC, as well as a tour of the Mainland and archaeological sites.

The resulting work from the field trip takes the form of a travelling exhibition in three locations: Edinburgh College of Art, the Pier Art Centre and the Royal Danish Academy in Copenhagen.

For the Pier Arts Centre exhibition, the students have devised a simple structure in which to display their work.

In a statement, the students explained: "In order to bring cohesion to a diverse body of work in various media, each piece of work will be presented in an anonymous archive box which can be opened by the viewer to reveal the work within."

"The viewer becomes an active participant in the curation of the exhibition, which itself will undergo a process of change as different works are revealed by its audience at different times with some works breaking out of the box altogether."

Andrew Parkinson, curator at the Pier Arts Centre said: "This is the third year that we have displayed the work of students from ECA as a result of their annual field trip to Orkney."

"We are very pleased that, this year, they were joined by a group of students from Denmark. The varying and fresh perspectives that the art students have developed following their visit last year should prove to be of great interest and we are looking

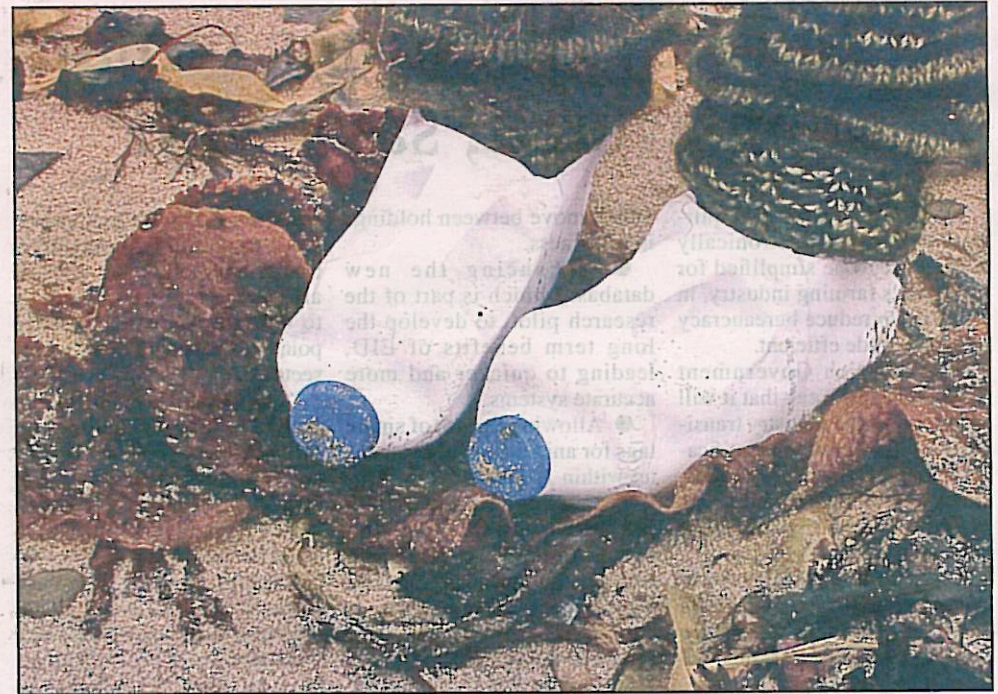
forward to bringing their work back to Orkney."

The exhibition travels on to Copenhagen in the spring of 2010, to complete the triad of three groups, and three shows, which is reflected in the title of the exhibition.

Hoy³ will be on display at the Pier Arts Centre from Tuesday, February 9, until Saturday, February 13.

A special closing event, sponsored by Highland Park, will take place on the Saturday afternoon, from 3pm. All welcome.

The Pier Arts Centre is open Monday to Saturday, from 10.30am - 5pm. Admission is free.



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