



WATERSIDE QUARTER
MAIDENHEAD

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MEMORIES



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HIGH STREET, MAIDENHEAD, SL6 1QL



'Maidenhead Memories' is a collaged artwork that presents itself as a postcard from the town, an ode to simpler times - embarking on unknown adventures and enjoying the great outdoors.

Drawing on Kirsty's experiences of growing up in Maidenhead, enjoying local parks and the surrounding countryside, she wanted to represent the aspects of Maidenhead which are universally appealing, reflecting the pockets of the town which haven't altered and still draw people in. The buildings and skyline may be changing but the appeal of the river and green spaces are a constant.

The left hand panel depicts the Thames and Boulter's Lock. Collaged snippets of postcards and photographs showing people navigating the water on foot, by bike and boat have been included. The right hand panel shows local parks and outdoor spaces. Also depicted are some of the town's distinctive trees and plants which are often the best traces of its grand Edwardian past. The main tree on the right is the Cedar of Lebanon outside the library and the banana tree is one that Kirsty herself salvaged and planted a decade ago which bore fruit last summer.



The distinctive colour palette used in the artwork is influenced by deteriorated slides and some expressive colourful paintings Kirsty did as a small child.

Kirsty comments "I happily mined my own back catalogue of images for this project, using family photos and more contemporary views and details."

"Dog walking and chance encounters helped me rediscover my home town when I moved back and gave me the chance to hear more about its past from the people I met. Through one such conversation I met Sean and in turn Monica, who has a collection of her father Geoffrey's 35mm slides of the town, taken when he was a postman in the 1960s and '70s. I included some of these images as well as a photo of the postman himself, carrying out his rounds by bike during a flood in 1977. I also included some of my friend Nick Rance's collection of slides of Maidenhead land and skylines from the 1980s. Using carefully chosen photos from the local library archives, my aim was to create a collage of unseen images to provoke memories and encourage viewers to see the town through a more rural lens."

Also included are images from the Chiltern Open Air Museum which has a large hand painted Maidenhead cart and the old wooden Jenner's café, dismantled and rebuilt at the museum. The right hand panel is punctuated by distinctive street furniture from Castle Hill.



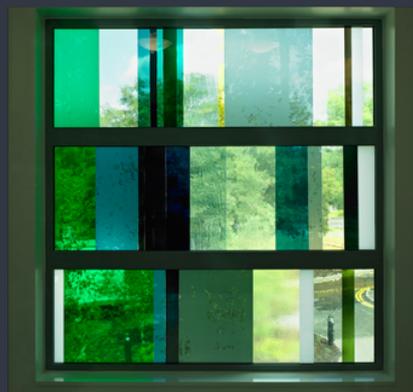
ARTIST BIO



KIRSTY BROOKS

Kirsty Brooks studied architectural glass and painting at Edinburgh College of Art, graduating in 1995. Moving to London, she worked with a range of consultants, galleries and artists' studios and began to develop her work in a responsive, site-specific way.

Kirsty creates site-specific commissioned artworks for public environments. Past commissions include a building façade for the National Film School in Ireland and a glass clock tower for Kirkstall in Leeds. She is currently creating a number of glass screens for urban landscapes in Southampton and also for the One Maidenhead development, based on flint, chalk and the geology of the area.





WATERSIDE QUARTER

A vibrant new neighbourhood lying in the heart of Maidenhead next to the rejuvenated waterways. Waterside Quarter combines waterside living with a variety of cafés, restaurants, bars and a fitness centre.



SORBON ESTATES

Commissioned by Sorbon Estates, a well-known commercial property investor in the South East of England. Sorbon Estates, have a large portfolio of properties including office, retail, storage, industrial and residential, with many located within Maidenhead.



"I HAVE CREATED THIS ARTWORK AS A LANDSCAPED BACKDROP TO THE WATERSIDE QUARTER SCULPTURES AND HOPE THAT IT SETS THE TONE FOR FUTURE WATERSIDE ENJOYMENT AND ADVENTURE." KIRSTY BROOKS, ARTIST

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www.waterside-quarter.co.uk

