

Mulryan Gallery.

Anna Gillespie (b. 1964 , Surrey, United Kingdom)

The human body is central to Anna Gillespie's work. It is the lens through which she responds to her own personal history, her current circumstances and the world around her. Her sculptures attempt to capture inner reality as opposed to outer appearance, whilst still holding fast to a deeply felt awe of the real physicality of the human body in all the various forms of beauty it takes.

Anna's work touches both personal and archetypal themes, a central fascination being the contradiction between strength and vulnerability that is part of what it is to be human. In the case of the works based on life casts, this is expressed through on the inherent contradictions within the life casting process itself, where the detailed accuracy of the casts contrasts with the 'faults' that are left or even enhanced to speak more clearly of human vulnerability.

Anna also works in bronze and has been fascinated by the casting process, and the endurance of bronze, for over two decades.

Anna Gillespie's work has featured in various group and solo shows over the last 30 years. More recently Anna has completed a series of sculptural installations including in Cathedrals and public spaces, and she has collaborated in dance and 'protest' performances. Anna's work is in the collections of The Prudential, Burghley House Sculpture Park, Chippenham Museum, The Somerset Museum, Museo Arte Contemporanea Sicilia, Bodrum Sculpture Park in Turkey, also in private collections in America, the Middle East and Europe.

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Education & Training

1983-86 BA Hons, Wadham College Oxford

1986-87 Diploma International Relations, LSE

1994-96 Full time stone masonry course City of Bath College

1996 Studio assistant/pupil of Nigel Konstam at the Centro d'Arte Verrocchio. Italy

1996-98 MA Fine Arts, Cheltenham

Member and Trustee of the Royal Society of Sculptors

Royal West of England Academician

Selected Solo and Group exhibitions, installations and performance

2026

County Hall Arts. Joint winner Concours Sculpture Commission. Mother & Son

Short listed for National Memorial for Journalist on the Frontline commission

RWA, Bristol - Cosmos – group exhibition

Holbourne, Bath – The Shape of Care – group exhibition

Kenny Gallery, RWA, Bristol – Yet Still We Dance – Curator of group exhibition

2025

Elected Trustee – Royal Society of Sculptors

Selector – RWA Annual Exhibition

Portland Sculpture Quarry Trust – Group exhibition with RSS

Royal West of England Academy – Annual Exhibition

2024

Beaux Arts Bath, Solo

Wells Cathedral installation for Wells Art Contemporary in the Chapter House

ACE Arts, Somerton. Group show. Casting Shadows with Royal Society of Sculptors

Garrison Gallery, Chelsea. Group show. The Future is Female.

Funeral for Nature ‘Mother Earth’ procession figure

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2023

Royal West of England Academy. Open Photography. 'Three' Collaboration.
Chelsea Barracks. Sculpture Trail – Contemporary Women Sculptors.
Royal Society of Sculptors. Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens. Group exhibition.
Wells Art Contemporary. Open exhibition.

2022

Beaux Arts Bath. Solo
Royal Society of Sculptors. Chichester Cathedral. Group exhibition.
Holburne Museum, Bath. Group show. People Make Museums
RWA. Group exhibition. This Is Me.
Abdulmecid Efendi Mansion, Turkey. Group exhibition.
Sinking House collaboration, RA Summer Show - Architecture

2021

Sinking House installation with Stride Treglown architects at Pulteney Bridge, Bath
Beaulieu Sculpture Show
Exhibition. The RWA Collection – Our Heritage, Our Future

2020

Beaux Arts Bath, Solo
Watermans Art Centre, London. Solo exhibition plus dance performance collaboration
Harvard University panel discussion Festival of the Muses, Centre for Hellenic Studies

2019

Commission for Morecambe Bay Partnership at Half Moon Bay
Elected Academician at the Royal West of England Academy
Collaboration with Richard Chappell Dance, funded by Linbury Trust and Arts Council,
performances at Royal Opera House, Oxford and Phoenix Exeter
Solo, Alderney Performing Arts Festival, Fort L'Etoc

2018

Beaux Arts Bath. Solo exhibition
Commission for Crest Nicholson at Bath Riverside

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The Steel Rooms. Solo exhibition. Brigg, Grimsby

Two person show Christies Contemporary, Jersey

Collaborating with choreographer Richard Chappell. Preview at Royal Opera House

Grizedale Sculpture Park. Group RBS exhibition. Inspired by Nature

2017

Installation 'The Waiting'. Baltic Triangle, Liverpool

Society of Women Artists. Group show. London

CCA Galleries International, Jersey. Four person show

2016

Acclimatize E-exhibition Moderna museet, Stockholm

The Pound Arts Centre, Corsham. Solo exhibition

Beaux Arts Bath. Solo exhibition

Lacock Abbey, group show

2015

Glastonbury Festival, Greenfields gateway commission

RHS Chelsea Flower Show with Chris Beardshaw

Frensham Heights School Commission

Solo exhibition, Beaux Arts London

2014

National Trust Headquarters, Heelis, Swindon

Glastonbury Festival, Greenfields gateway commission

Alderney Performing Arts Festival, site specific installation

Beaux Art Bath, Solo

London Art Fair, Solo Stand , Beaux Arts Bath

2013

5 Person Show, September Beaux Arts London

Gloucester Cathedral, Open West group Show

Solo Show, Beaux Arts Bath

RHS Chelsea Flower Show, Chris Beardshaw Gold Winning Garden

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Glastonbury Festival, Greenfields gateway commission

2012

Beaux Arts Bath. Solo

2011

Beaux Arts Bath. Solo

Burghley House, Sculpture Garden

2010

Three person show. Peter Randall-Page, Sarah Gillespie. Waterhouse & Dodd, London

Cambridge -Solo Show. Byard Art, Cambridge

London. Victor Felix Gallery, Three person show

2009

Manchester. Artzu Gallery. Solo

2008

London. "The Figure" at Sarah Myerscough Fine Art

Plymouth University. "Art spaces". Group Show

2007

Bath. Chapel Row Gallery, Solo Show

Corsham. Pound Arts Centre, Solo Show

2006

Art Miami and Palm Beach Art Fairs with Osborne Samuel Gallery

2005

Bristol. New Gallery at the RWA. Solo

Plymouth. Peninsula Art Centre. Four person show

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