

RACHAEL LOUISE BAILEY

Rachael Louise Bailey (b. 1975) lives and works in Kent, UK. Bailey studied at Statuaria Arte School of Sculpture, Carrara, Italy (2004); Conception de jardin dans le paysage, Formation Professionnel - Ecole Nationale Supérieure du Paysage, Versailles, France (2006-08); and Direct Carving Stone and Wood, Formation Professionnel-Beaux Arts de la Ville de Paris, France (2010-14). Bailey has exhibited extensively across the UK, France, Japan, and Portugal. In 2019 Bailey won the Fondation François Schneider, Contemporary Talents International Art Award as well as the An Lanntair Island Going Residency in the Outer Hebrides. In 2022 Bailey participated in XXII Bienal Internacional de Arte de Cerveira in Portugal. Bailey's work is included in the permanent collection of the Fondation François Schneider, France.

Pushing the boundary of art's engagement with ecology, Bailey's sculptural practice is a form of sustained artistic whistleblowing. Embedded in reuse and reclamation, Bailey creates environmentally charged works which shine an unsparing spotlight on the anthropocentric realities of our time. The genesis for Bailey's work is the harvest, investigation, and transformation of man-made and organic materials which have been discarded and deemed of little value or significance yet have far reaching environmental impact. Bailey will often study and work with a material for several years, meticulously researching its impact and experimenting with its physical properties, a practice which stands in counterpoint to contemporary habits of mass production and consumerism.

Bailey's form of creative climate action is embedded in the social, political, economic and environmental spheres she seeks to address and expose. Bailey's recent work intermingles 'the black stuff', a plastic marine pollutant used in industrial oyster farming, and salvaged sheep's wool, which farmers are being forced to burn due to a drop in value in the face of a diminishing wool trade. In the summer of 2021 'the black stuff' series became the single largest body of physical evidence used in a public enquiry to demonstrate the environmental hazards caused by the controversial expansion of oyster trestles. Bailey's material-as-specimen transfigurations are informed by her extensive research into their historical, physical, and contextual properties in tandem with her emotional unknitting of the anthropocentric implications their continuous spawning. Through her singular and assiduous alignment of material and message, Bailey stands in opposition to contemporary greenwashing.

RECENT EXHIBITIONS

2025 'An Uncommon Thread', Hauser & Wirth, *Somerset, UK*

2023-24 'At Sea', An Lanntair, *Stornoway, Outer Hebrides, UK*

2023 'Double Knowledge', Alice Black Gallery, *London, UK*

2022 'Bienal Internacional de Cerveira', *Villa Nova de Cerveira, Portugal*

2022 'Thirst of the Tide', solo exhibition, Alice Black Gallery, *London, UK*

- 2022 'Seven', Alice Black Gallery, London, UK
- 2021 'Future Fossils', Alice Black Gallery, London, UK
- 2020 'Fragments éphémères', Fondation Francois Schneider, Alsace, France
- 2019 'Resurrect - Quercus Robur 1810-2019', Alice Black Gallery, London, UK
- 2019 'Listen to the Hum', Alice Black Gallery, London, UK
- 2018 'London Ultra', The Bargehouse, Oxo Tower, London, UK
- 2018 'Satellite, Whitstable Biennale', West Quay, Whitstable Harbour, Whitstable, UK
- 2018 'Les Points et un point vol.3', A la K's Gallery, Tokyo, Japan
- 2017 'Free', Clerkenwell Gallery, London, UK
- 2017 'A Free Moment', Gallery@oxo, London, UK
- 2017 'Crossing Borders', The Horniman Museum, London, UK
- 2017 'The Jungle Factory', Attenborough Arts Centre, Attenborough, UK
- 2016 'When Words Fail Symposium', installation, Goldsmiths University, London, UK
- 2016 'FPS Members', Menier Gallery, London, UK
- 2015 'FPS Open', Menier Gallery, London, UK
- 2015 'Unfixed', Espacio Gallery, London, UK
- 2015 'Network Ecologies Symposium: Environmental Art, Science & Activism',
speaker, "In conversation with *The Black Stuff*", Hull University, UK

AWARDS/RESIDENCIES/EDUCATION

- 2019 . Winner of the 'Fondation Francois Schneider Talents Contemporains Award, 8eme Edition' 2019
- 2019 'Island Going An Lanntair Residency Programme' - June 16-26th, selected by An Lanntair to explore the islands of the Sound of Harris and sailing to the remote islands St Kilda.
- 2018 'Jerwood Makers Open', shortlisted.
- 2018 'Masterpieces in Schools', selected by Arts Uk in association with RSS, London

2018 **'Talents Contemporains 7eme Edition'**, selected Finalist, Fondation
Francois Schneider, Centre d'Art Contemporain, *France*

2018 **'Royal Society of Sculptors'**, selected Member, *London*

2016 **'Brison Veors Residency'**, *Cornwall, UK*

2015 **'Free Painters and Sculptors'**, selected Member, *London*

2010 - **'Formation professionnel - Direct Carving Stone and Wood'**, Beaux-Arts de
la Ville de Paris, *France*

2014

2006 - **'Conception de jardin dans le paysage'**, Ecole Nationale Supérieure du
Paysage', *Versailles, France*

2008

2004 **'Statuaria Arte School of Sculpture'**, residency, *Cararra, Italy*

2001 - **'Pure Form Sculpture group'**, *Canterbury, UK*

2003

1994 - **'BA Hons, Graphic Arts and Design'**, Leeds Metropolitan University, *UK*