

Thornhill Art Group (TAG) and RMS Project Update – November 2013

Summary of Project Aims:

To offer space and resources to make a series of creative responses to the microworld. Space to think about our concept of self: the intricacies of life; our spirituality; our uniqueness; and our value.

- Sharing with James something of his work at the Microscopy Suite at the University both in Portsmouth and in Southampton
- Visits to Portsmouth for those interested to have our own hair placed under the microscope to produce images in the form of micrographs
- Some work early in the year at Thornhill Art Group based around the creation of 'self-portraits' inspired hopefully by a visiting artist who specialises in portraiture (Judith)
- An invitation to other professional artists who are concerned with ideas of 'self' to come into the group at Thornhill and offer their unique perspectives - if possible from a priest/painter/ and/or a sculptor for both of whom the exploration of 'self and spirituality' are central themes (Lynda)
- Space to explore a variety of image-making as we decide what to use to make our own unique responses to the experience of the Project
- Discovering more about the differences between hair types and DNA and pondering our own uniqueness and value
- Developing a website to share our art work and discoveries more widely (Ongoing)

- To record the process through the form of visual diaries, photography and journals and perhaps a blog
- Sharing in the production of the work of the three artists creating the larger pieces for the exhibition
- Exhibiting and sharing our work in a number of ways including exhibitions at relevant venues over the later stages of the Project

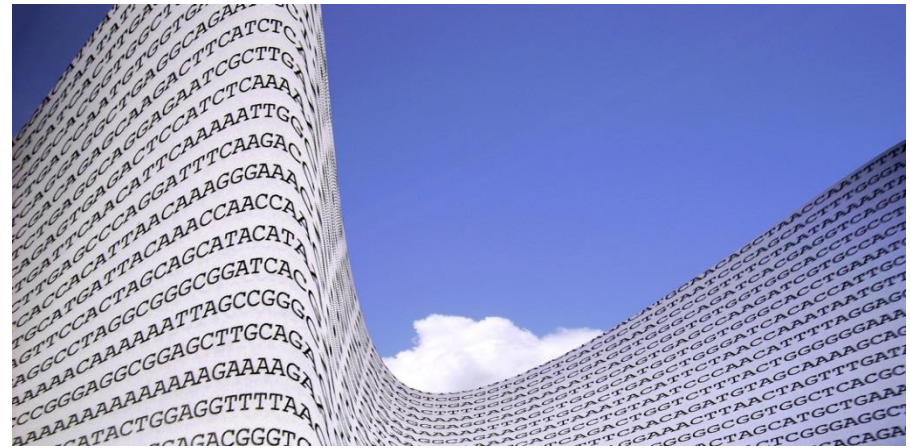


Image from the RMS Blog created by James Smith – DNA strands and war memorial stones as influences- see: <http://www.microworldreflections.com/>

Where are we now?

- Making final arrangements for an opening exhibition to be held in early 2014 – February 28th/March 1st/March 2nd
- Jac and Judith beginning to help TAG members to assemble the work they would like to show in Feb/March 2014
- Plans for tutors and led work to be undertaken from December 2013 to March 2014 – to follow soon ...

Thornhill Art Group – November and December 2013

4th Nov – Jac

RMS Update and Autumn Theme (shop available)

- Autumn trees – a stripping back to reveal form
- Leaves and Trees in the landscape
- Autumn skies
- Southampton University commission
- Sketch Book Identity Project



Aspen/Birch trees in Autumn from the National Geographic website

As we continue into Autumn 2013, I find myself thinking about the Autumn also of my life and therefore links with the RMS Project. I am currently undertaking a commission for Southampton University around the theme – ‘How then shall we live?’. This a challenging process as I reflect upon my own life and the lives of the young students and staff who will see the finished work. What can I learn from the natural seasonal changes that I witness around me?

11th Nov – Jac - Autumn themed study

18th Nov - Jac - Autumn themed study

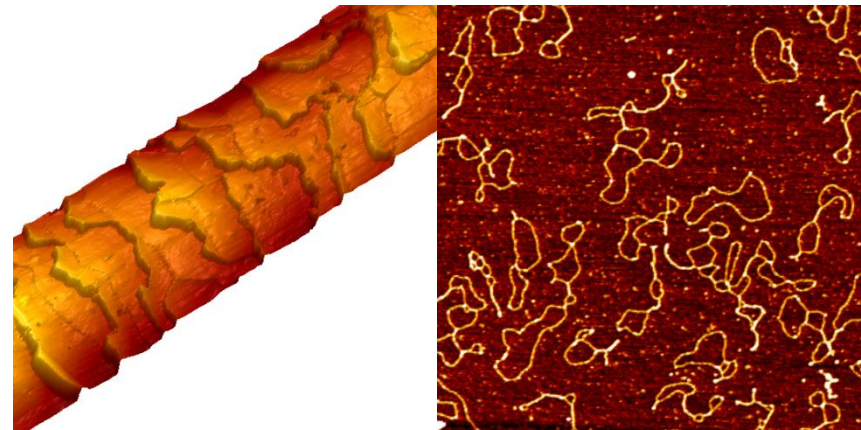
*Your ideas for these upcoming sessions as ever most appreciated!
Just let Jacqui know*

25th Nov – Judith – Subject to be arranged

2nd Dec – Judith – Subject to be arranged

9th Dec - Jac or Sandie – Subject to be arranged

16th Dec? - Jac or Sandie – Subject to be arranged



Examples of Atomic Force Microscopy (AFM) images of (a) human hair cuticle and (c) DNA.

For more information:

Please contact Jacqui Lea at Hopeweavers

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- How does this image make you feel?
- What emotions or memories does it evoke – of place – season – temperature ?
- What would you change in this image of water, rock, trees and an Autumn sky?
- Use it as a starting point as you explore as you make your own artistic response – what would your Autumn sky look like?



- Where may this road be leading?
- The leaves look poised to fall – what may the scene look like a few weeks later?
- The strong trunks support the canopy and form this intriguing ‘tunnel’ – where are the strong trunks in your life and how could you explore them visually?
- Use the image of a road between trees as a starting point to explore in any media – collage, paint, pencil, pastel – maybe look at trees you see as part of your everyday life as further inspiration.