

Centre for Contemporary Art and the Natural World

www.ccanw.co.uk

Launch of the *Wood Culture* programme 2007-8

SPRING PROGRAMME

MAY-JUNE 2007

PROJECT SPACE

HALDON FOREST PARK

EXETER



CCANW



01
Downland Gridshell, built in 2002
for the Weald and Downland Open
Air Museum. Edward Cullinan
Architects

The programme has been
researched by White Design
Associates, NEAT, Oliver
Lowenstein of Fourth Door
Research

Wood Culture programme 07-08

This May, CCANW launches *Wood Culture* – an ambitious year-long festival celebrating the beauty, usefulness and sustainability of wood and exploring its many uses in contemporary architecture and design.

Over the year, four different exhibitions will be accompanied by a series of events and activities designed to be engaging to everyone, from those with a professional interest to our youngest visitors.

The summer exhibition from 7 July-16 September will present our choice of the most inspiring examples of European timber architecture for the 21st century. The following two exhibitions will focus on contemporary design and domestic architecture. Versions of all four exhibitions are available to tour.

Event: University of Exeter Tuesday 18 September

Woodfair South West and CCANW are organising a major one-day event on building with wood later in the year which will combine a series of seminars, a showing of our summer exhibition and trade stands linked to specific themes. Further details from:
T: 01409 221896
E: info@woodfairsouthwest.co.uk
www.woodfairsouthwest.co.uk

Please note: exhibition closed to the public whilst forums in progress on 9 and 23 June



02
The Barley Barn, Essex c.1150-1200.
Photograph: Will Pryce © Thames
& Hudson, London, Ltd. from
*Architecture in Wood: A World
History* by Will Pryce, Thames &
Hudson



03
Sean Hellman

Exhibition: Wood Wisdom: Tradition, Innovation and Sustainability Saturday 5 May-Sunday 1 July Admission free

The first exhibition in the *Wood Culture* series seeks to connect us with the rich history of timber construction, from Neolithic trackways, medieval building to ship and aeroplane building.

It will also identify how timber growing, new technologies – such as glulam and computer-aided design – and the use of wood in construction and as fuel, can provide considerable environmental benefits, particularly in helping to reduce global warming.

Artist residencies: Matthew Pontin and Sean Hellman

Haldon is increasingly appreciated as a place for recreation but it is also the largest Forestry Commission forest in the Peninsula District and a place of work for many. Photographer *Matthew Pontin* (see front cover) has been making a series of time-lapse photographs of the felling at Haldon, the transport and milling of timber and Polaroid portraits of the workers.

Craftsman *Sean Hellman* has been working with sections of the different tree species grown at Haldon to reveal the qualities of the wood within. He is also starting to work on developing a “timber trail”.



04
Coomeshead Community
College students taking part in
Enquire programme

Event: Twilight Teachers' Meeting
Wednesday 9 May 4.30-6pm
Admission free. Booking essential

From June, CCANW will be offering workshops for school and community groups based on the *Wood Culture* programme. Find out more information on how these workshops will link with various National Curriculum topics for science, design and citizenship.

Forum: Timber Trading, Future Forests
Tuesday 22 May, 6.30-9pm
Admission and buffet supper
(excl. drinks): £12 (£10 conc.)
Booking essential

This is the first of a number of forums being organised throughout the *Wood Culture* year. Each forum has two or more main speakers, allowing time for discussion and debate.

The aim of this forum is to provide a perspective on the global trade in timber and to explore the potential of forests in the UK, especially in the South West.

Main speakers Nick Hoare, Stourhead Estate and Chris Marrow, Forest Management Director, Forestry Commission, Peninsula.



05
Douglas Fir timber at Haldon



06
Den building at Haldon



07
Geodesum, Bude erecting a
geodesic dome



08
Building with wooden *Lincoln Logs*
invented in 1916 by John Lloyd
Wright, son of famous American
architect Frank Lloyd Wright

Background image: Line drawing,
Carpenter Oak Ltd., Devon

Demonstrations: Timber in Construction
Saturday 26 May-Friday 1 June,
daily 12noon-4pm
Admission free

Building forest dens is an age-old impulse and a popular past-time for all ages at Haldon.

Over the Bank Holiday weekend and continuing over half-term, we are organising a series of outdoor demonstrations which illustrate the uses of various woods and structural principles involved in building with timber, ranging from the log cabin to the gridshell.

The series will be launched on Saturday 26 May with the periodic assembly and disassembly of an 8m diameter geodesic dome. Other structures will include a traditional timber frame building, a teepee and yurt.

We are grateful to a number of companies and individuals in the South West for their help with this event. If you are an architect or builder and would also like to participate, do contact us now. A timetable will be available from 15 May.

For budding architects and builders there is a special construction play area with several unusual timber building sets and building shapes designed by Sean Hellman from various types of locally sourced wood.



09 Shelley Sacks with artist Lillian Sum



10 Felt sling prototype, Haldon Forest 2006

Project: University of the Trees
Tuesday 5 June, 11am-1pm, 2-4pm
 Admission £6 (£4.50 conc.)
 Booking essential

To mark *World Environment Day*, CCANW presents the *University of the Trees*, a long-term, participatory project being developed with Shelley Sacks, Director of the Social Sculpture Research Unit at Oxford Brookes University.

Shelley will describe how the project is both a creative framework for exploring our relationship with trees and the natural world, and for connecting intuitive forms of experience with our reasoned understandings. This is also the beginning of a process of building groups that can take forward these new perceptions and ideas.

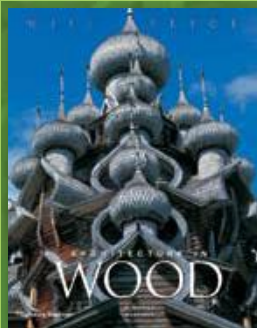
Here, the emphasis is on creating 'instruments of consciousness', not 'objects of attention', i.e. not sculpture in the traditional sense. After the morning discussion, participants will be able to experiment in the forest with the prototype 'instruments' under development.

Please bring a picnic lunch.

Forum: Timber Technologies
Saturday 9 June, 11am-1pm, 2-3pm
 Admission £8 (£6 conc.)
 Booking essential

The second forum aims to provide a global, historical perspective on the use of wood in architecture and review the new technologies that are helping to create a new generation of timber buildings in Europe.

Main speakers, Will Pryce, architect and photographer, author of *Architecture in Wood*, Thames & Hudson, 2005 and Richard Harris (tbc), Associate Director, Buro Happold Ltd., structural engineers for the Downland Gridshell.



11 Will Pryce's book *Architecture in Wood: A World History*, Thames & Hudson, 2005

Saturday 2 June, noon-4pm:
 CCANW participates in Green
 Playday, Belle Isle Park, Exeter

8-10 June: CCANW exhibiting at
 The Contemporary Craft Fair,
 Bovey Tracey

16 June: CCANW exhibiting at Exeter
 University Summer Arts Week
 (16th-23rd June)

30 June-1 July: CCANW exhibiting at
 the Taunton Woodfair

Forum: Timber and the Environment
Saturday 23 June, 11am-1pm, 2-3pm
 Admission £8 (£6 conc.)
 Booking essential

To coincide with Architecture Week 15-24 June – whose theme is *How Green is Your Space?* – the third forum looks at the environmental benefits of timber growing and the important role that the use of wood in buildings can play in combating climate change.

Main speakers include Jonathan Spencer, senior ecologist for the Forestry Commission in England and architect Craig White, a board member of TRADA and Carbon Trust design advice consultant.

Background image:
 Timber frame tower, Jersey,
 Carpenter Oak Ltd., Devon



12
Jeremiah Krage performance during
The Big Picnic, Haldon Forest Park,
13 August 06

CCANW's first year at Haldon 06-07

On April 15, we celebrated the first anniversary of our partnership with the Forestry Commission at Haldon, having attracted around 30,000 visitors to our Project Space (over twice those we expected), with many more participating in outdoor events.

Over 50 artists were included in our 8 part exhibition *Forest Dreaming*. Residencies with Ugandan artist Sam Mukumba and Heike Rindt from Germany proved outstandingly successful, with a talk by novelist Michelle Paver and performance by Canadian singer-songwriter Veda Hille attracting capacity audiences. Numerous other talks, workshops, live events and school visits all made it a memorable year!



13
Musician David Rothenberg
performing at CCANW's Project
Space, Haldon Forest Park,
29 May 06

CCANW's Trustees and staff – Director Clive Adams, Project Co-ordinator Chris Lewis and Education/Community Co-ordinator Johanna Korndorfer – would like to take this opportunity to thank our many visitors, funders, artists and volunteers for their support over the past year.



14
Alan Sonfist at CCANW's Project
Space, July 2006



15
Visitors enjoying the *Kayagum*,
wired up with contact microphones,
Easter Bank Holiday 2007

Visit: Alan Sonfist

Pioneer American artist Alan Sonfist, creator of an urban forest in New York City in the Sixties, will be visiting us again during the summer to give a talk and discuss a pilot project. If students and others would like to meet and possibly work with Alan during the holiday, let us know.

Bookshop

During *Wood Culture* we are expanding our stock to include many new books and magazines dealing with the use of timber in architecture and design.

Kayagum

The *Kayagum* made by Korean artist Seung-hyun Ko during his 2005 residency is a multi-stringed instrument made from an 18ft beech limb. Previously located at Haldon Belvedere, it has now been moved to outside of our Project Space.

Events: Forestry Commission

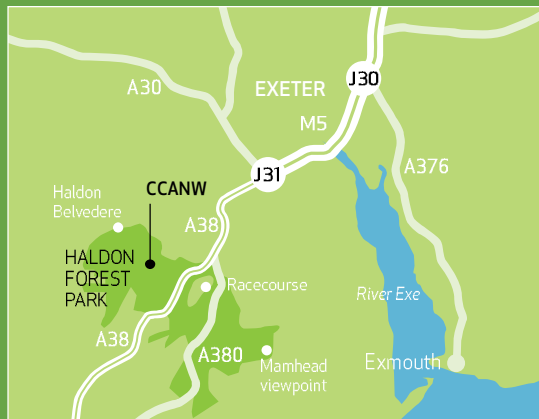
The Forestry Commission has produced a new guide to its own organised events in the South West. At Haldon, these include guided walks, cycling events, and family activities. This information is also available from 01392 834220 or www.forestry.gov.uk/haldonforestpark

Café

Haldon's mobile café is open every weekend and on Bank Holidays, selling delicious ice creams, filled crêpes and organic fruit drinks.

Haldon Forest Park

The Forestry Commission's pioneering activity trails at Haldon provide 20 miles of safe, off-road access for walkers, cyclists and horse riders, including play and sensory trails. The Forest lies on a ridge south of Exeter and dominates the skyline for miles around. It covers an area of 3500 acres (1400 hectares) mostly planted with coniferous woodland, but encompassing areas of broadleaved trees, streams and dramatic views to Dartmoor, Exeter and the Exe estuary. Part of the forest is designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest.



Opening times

10am-5pm, Tuesdays to Sundays and Bank Holidays. Restricted opening on 9 and 23 June during forums.

Location

The Project Space is adjacent to the new Gateway car park of Haldon Forest Park, between Exeter Racecourse and Haldon Belvedere, 5 miles (8km) south of Exeter.

Travel

From the A38 (Exeter to Plymouth road) take the turning to Exeter Racecourse and follow the signs to the Forest Park. From the A380 (Exeter to Torquay road) follow the brown signs for Haldon Belvedere.

The 360 bus from Exeter Bus Station to Bridford stops at Haldon Belvedere, a 20 minute walk from the Project Space.

Access

The Project Space and its approach are entirely level. Programme information in large print is available. Signing is available at all events, given one week's notice. Disabled parking and toilet facilities are provided by the Forestry Commission close to the Project Space. The Forestry Commission operates a Pay and Display car park. £1 for up to 4 hours and £2 all day. Season tickets available from the Rangers' Office £10.

Concessions

Concessions are available to those aged 60+, unemployed, students and under 16. Please supply proof of concession.

Mailing list

If you would like to be on our mailing list, please e-mail or phone us with your details.

Space hire

CCANW's Project Space is sometimes available for private events on Mondays and evenings. Seating up to 60, it has video projection and other audio-visual equipment.

Volunteers

Volunteers are involved in many activities at CCANW and make a vital contribution to the delivery of the programme.

Contact

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Front cover: Matthew Pontin, Ben Gillespie working on a timber frame, Daddiscombsleigh 2007, Polaroid and digital photograph.

Programme designed by Northbank, Bath. Printed on 100% recycled paper from post consumer waste.

