

The Friends Gallery

## **James Brunt 'Coastal Ecologies'**

**6<sup>th</sup> July – 1<sup>st</sup> September 2024**

### **[Floor installation]**

#### **Snippets of Scarborough**

Mixed media installation

Contains a series of Inova Cotton prints, bricks from Scalby Beck, limpet shells, driftwood, beach litter from North Bay and South Bay.

### **[Wall 1]**

**[Panel 1, wall on the left as you enter the gallery]**

In February 2024 Scarborough Museums and Galleries and Crescent Arts invited artists from Yorkshire, Humber and the North East to apply for an exhibition responding to the theme 'Coastal Ecologies'. Yorkshire-based artist,

James Brunt, was selected for his slow, creative explorations of what is present in nature.

In an increasingly fast paced society where nature and the everyday can often be overlooked, artist James Brunt invites you to **stop, play and listen.**

As part of his arts practice, walking, looking, smelling, and touching allows James to experience the environment, and share stories through the senses. **Immersing himself in a natural world** that has taken thousands of years to evolve, he has created temporary installations in Scarborough's North Bay and South Bay. For a fleeting moment these one-of-a-kind installations become part of the story of Scarborough's coastal ecologies.

Working on Scarborough beach in April 2024, James invited audiences to step off the conveyer belt of life and play with what they could find on the beach. These artworks were

photographed and are here as part of the exhibition. Sculptures and photographs **displayed on** the floor, **remind you to stop and look down**. Each sculpture created is individual to Scarborough's coastline. Using found natural materials: driftwood, brick, limpet shells, pebbles and man-made litter – James explores nature's patterns through intricate mandalas and infinite spirals using nature as a canvas.

**What has been used will be returned.** James' practice follows a code of conduct that respects nature and **with the help of the tide leaves** no trace, ensuring the coastline and the materials borrowed for the artwork continue to evolve naturally. Therefore, Natural materials used in the exhibition will be returned to the found places of the coastline and litter will be disposed of. His artwork is a reminder of the **temporary and ever-changing environment we live in.**

Scan the QR code to access the floor plan and listen to James' journey exploring Scarborough coastline.



[Wall 2]

**1 South Bay Pebbles**, two *prints on Inova Cotton Smooth*

[Wall 3]

**2 Coastal Ecologies**, *print Inova Cotton Smooth with handwritten reflective notes*

[Wall 4]

**3. North Bay**, *print Inova Cotton Smooth with reflective notes*

## [Wall 5]

4. **Scalby Beck**, *print Inova Cotton Smooth*
5. **Between Sandstone**, *print Inova Cotton Smooth*
6. **Tide**, *series of three prints on Inova Cotton Smooth*
7. **South Bay Spiral**, *print Inova Cotton Smooth*
8. **Sandstone collaboration with Tim Haywood**, *print Inova Cotton Smooth*

## [Objects Case]

These items document some of James' journey in Scarborough and his art practice of 'sharing and learning'.

1. Collection of Scarborough beach litter.
2. Three annotated prints. Notes from James' beach walks (April 24).

Transcription:

"Years and years of time. Years and years of time that pass."

"Imagine the universe is hidden in the cracks."

“Scalby beach. Climb down, walk around. New to me. Brick pipe. Line runs out to sea. Broken remnants of sea-worn brick work scatter the beach. Worn smooth.”

3. Collection of materials used by James; Limpet shells, Scalby brick, beach pebbles.”
4. Scarborough seafoam with limpet shells.
5. Book ‘Land Art explores James’ process as an artist. Image of community collaboration in Llano (Texas).

James’ practice follows a code of conduct. All natural materials will be returned to their found places and litter disposed of.

[Wall 6]

Exhibition Feedback Board