

Joan Clews Artist





" I would do nothing if I didn't do my art; making art is my 'life' I do lots of work. I like drawing pictures and painting. I work very quickly. My mum used to be an artist and I got it from her.

My name is Joan Clews and I'm an artist.



As a founder member of Artists First, I have exhibited and sold my work for many years. My work can be seen on several websites: www.artistsfirst.org.uk www.outsidein.org.uk and on Instagram @beyondartistsfirst

I have taken part in many workshops and exhibition talks and have made films as part of Artists First. If you visit the Artists First website, you can see and hear me talk about my work and why art has always been important to me.

Through Artists First, my work has been chosen to be part of the National Disability Art Collection and Archive www.ndaca.org.uk ,something I'm really proud of.

If you want to find out more about my work, commission or buy my art please contact: apharris58@outlook.com for further details.

“I’ve always been fascinated by how Joan works - its pure instinct. She often begins in the most unusual place, the bottom left-hand corner for example or just right of centre. Within minutes a picture starts to appear.

What emerges may be a group of books on a bookcase, a hand, a chair back. The composition is always complex, layered, and superb.

Joan’s work is that of a mature artist, one who know exactly what she wants to commit to paper/canvas. One whose skill and confidence allows her to tackle any subject, of any complexity.

Within Artists First Joan has always led by example - always spoken in with her art”,

Andrew Harris

Arts Coordinator and Co-founder of Artists First

Selected exhibition history:

- 2001 'Strength to Strength' Spike Island Bristol.
- 'Into the Fire' Thelma Hulbert Gallery Honiton East Devon.
- 2002 'This River Winding' Garrick Bar Bristol Old Vic. Bristol
- 2003 Artists First Tate Liverpool Liverpool
- 2006 'The Space Between' Slimbridge Wetlands & Wildfowl Trust Slimbridge Gloucester.
- 2008 Boundless- Connecting Artists Bankside Gallery London.
- 2009 'Bringing People Together' Lawrence Weston Community Farm Bristol
- 2011 'Artists First' Main Corridor exhibition space Royal United Hospital Bath
- 2012 'Outside In' Pallant House Gallery Chichester
- 2013 'Artists First' Parlour Showrooms Gallery Bristol
- 2018 'Artists First 30 Years' Arnolfini Gallery Bristol
- 2022 Niche Framers Gallery North Bristol Arts Trail Bristol

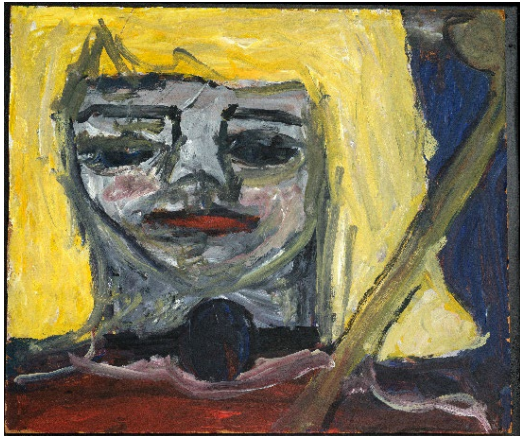


Several of Joan's paintings are held in the permanent collection of Fresh Arts at Southmead Hospital Bristol



Residencies, Talks and Workshops

- 2000 - 2001 Year of the Artists Residency at Spike Island Bristol
- 2009 Bringing People Together Residency at Lawrence Weston Community Farm Bristol
- 2016 – 2018 Past, Present, Future Talks & Workshops
Hospital Education Centre
Southmead Hospital Bristol
Noray Fry Centre for Disability Studies
University of Bristol
Glenside Hospital Museum
University of West of England Bristol
Learning Disabilities Conference
Trinity Centre Bristol
- 2018 An Evening with Artists First Arnolfini Gallery Bristol



Publications

- 2009 Pallant House Magazine
- 2018 Artists First 30 Years History
- 2019 Norah Fry Annual Report
- 2021 Norah Fry Annual Report



Films

- Origins: Artists First Redweather Productions
- Other Ways of Seeing: Artists First Redweather Productions
- Our Portraits: Artists First Redweather Productions
- Influencing the Mainstream: Artists First Redweather Productions
- Working with Other Artists: Artists First Redweather Productions







**Joan Clews
Artist**