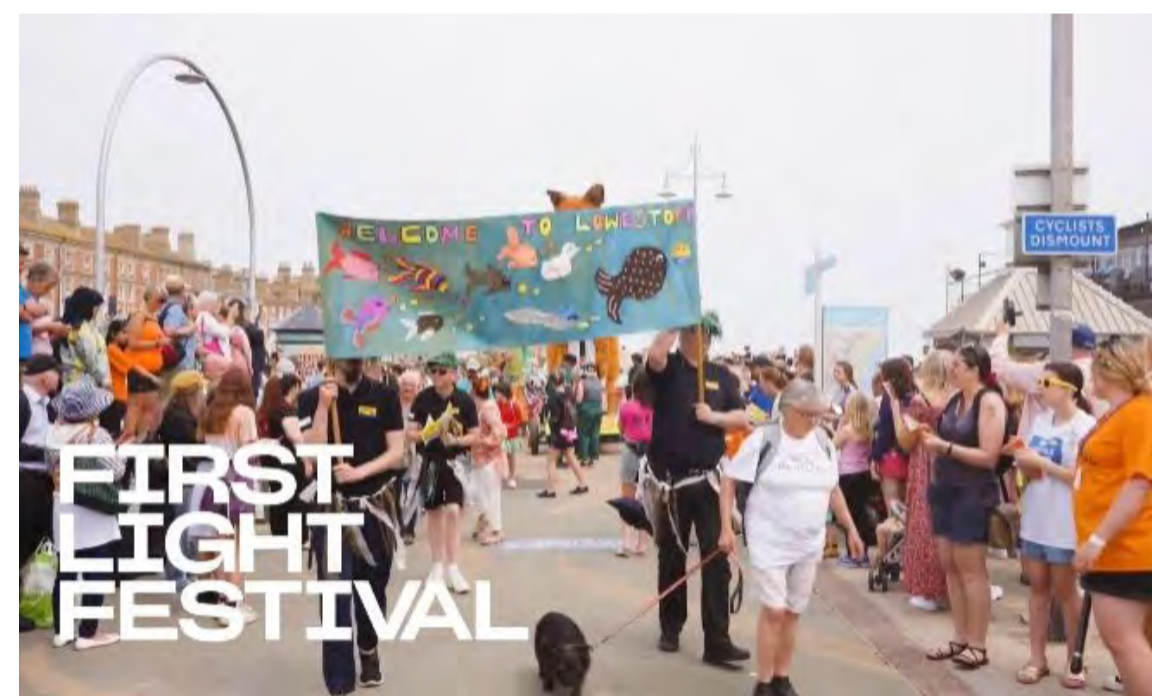


There are many local artists currently residing in Lowestoft which now boasts a contemporary ceramics studio, an arts centre and a handful of art galleries. Lowestoft also hosts its First Light Festival which is returning in June 2024.



© Lowestoft Studio Ceramics Instagram



© First Light Festival

Making Art Accessible

The act of bringing artwork into the streets and out of the gallery setting makes those cultural assets more accessible. It removes social barriers that many people experience which prevent them from engaging with artwork in formal settings.

An Opportunity to Learn

Art can serve as a mirror that can reflect the complexities of society back to us. By engaging with art, people are prompted to confront the many layers of today's society. It encourages self-reflection and critical thinking and can act as a starting point for conversations that can challenge societal norms. It also has the ability to bring people together through these conversations and offers a starting point to bond over common human experiences.

A sculpture trail within Lowestoft would provide a great opportunity for the local community to reflect on and experience Lowestoft culture. For example references to the Lowestoft's Porcelain factory could be encouraged since it had a huge impact on the development of the town. The factory also had broader cultural implications that would be good to explore more critically.



Sketch of Lowestoft Porcelain in 'Chinese style'

A History of Design

Lowestoft has a history of making. In the 1700s, Crown Street was home to the Lowestoft Porcelain factory which made world famous pieces that are still collected today.

Lowestoft Porcelain was developed as a cheaper alternative to the hard-paste porcelain created in China. It drew direct inspiration from the traditional Chinese techniques, often depicting similar scenes to those made in China. These pieces became known as 'Oriental Lowestoft' and were sold within the UK at more affordable prices than the Chinese originals. Lowestoft Porcelain was also shipped out and sold to China by The East India Trading Company, a company synonymous with colonialism and the slave trade. As the porcelain trade was so influential on the area, it will invariably be picked out as a point of inspiration by artists. This is a great opportunity for a narrative shift to occur; the artist community could reclaim their cultural heritage and use it to decolonise and reframe our collective outlook.



The Artist Brief

An Artist Brief has been drawn up, calling for artists to design sculptures that would form part of the sculpture trail. This brief lays out requirements for the sculptures to be sustainably made, weather resistant and site-specific. The artists are also encouraged to create work that is visually captivating and that can be engaged with and appeal to a diverse audience.

Contents

1.0	Overview	4
1.1	Introduction	4
1.2	Project Description	4
2.0	Sculpture Locations	4
3.0	Projects	6-7
4.0	Key Objectives	8-35
5.0	Budget	37
6.0	Eligibility	38
7.0	How to Apply	39
8.0	Timeline	40
9.0	Contact	40
10.0	References	41

Document: 9079/1001
Version: 1.0
Version date: 12/01/24
Comment: Draft Report

This document has been prepared and checked in accordance with ISO 9001:2015