



Castle Corner is created by Amy Stein, our wax mould specialist.

Forging New Partnerships

When Midas Art walked through the doors of Castle Fine Arts in the middle of 2005 it founded the start of a relationship which has now evolved into something new, exciting and refreshing.

Midas Art is a concepts company working with a select group of creative businesses to provide integrated art and design for public spaces. The company will be promoting all the businesses it works with and have particular emphasis on initiating new projects. The common philosophy between Midas Art and Castle Fine Arts in terms of service and style of doing business proved a great starting point.

Chris Jones, one of the directors at Midas Art, explains the reasons why the partnership should work so well for everyone concerned:

"Castle Fine Arts Foundry has developed an enviable reputation for the casting and installation of bronze sculpture on public art projects. Most importantly however, it has built up a high level of trust and respect from the artists it serves, the people who create these amazing sculptures. The foundry will now be able to augment the services it offers to its artists by promoting their work through Midas Art. It's a win-win for the clients, artists and both businesses alike."

To find out more about Midas Art please visit their website at www.midasart.com

Find out more...

Crucible is published four times a year. If you're not already on our mailing list contact us right away:

t: 01691 780 261; f: 01691 780 011; e: castlefinearts@btconnect.com.

or complete and return the slip below.

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Midas Art

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April 06

Patination - The Finishing Touch

Our approach to patination may differ to other foundries. We have always encouraged artists to learn about the processes we use. Customers benefit from getting involved and appreciate our openness to how we approach this part of our work. And it really helps us to find out what you want!

Within both branches of Castle Fine Arts we have experts in their fields, who are always on hand to give advice and help when needed.

Nick Watts, Patination Manager based at Llanrhaeadr comments on working with our clients.

"Having the artist working with you during the patination allows you to have constant discussion about the process and the desired effects. It's also an investment of time whilst working with them, as future jobs are completed with more confidence and we achieve the correct result first time".

Sculptor Mark Richards regularly uses the patination area at Llanrhaeadr to finish his pieces.

"I have always preferred to do my own patination and was pleasantly surprised at how willing the team at Castle were to accommodate this on the premises. They provide encouragement and support backed with a wealth of technical know-how."



Above: Mark Richards portrait head of 'Georgina' and Nick Watts patinating 'Otters' by Michelle Coxon

100%
guarantee

the work At Castle Fine Arts we always go that bit further. We endeavour to satisfy our customers even when the work has left the building. In fact, we give a 100% guarantee to our build and finish quality!

the budget Making your budget go further whilst adding value throughout the project is our aim and commitment.

the deadline Our project management teams take care of the detail and the unforeseen, providing our customers with confidence and assurance.

www.sculpture.gb.com

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Issue 5

Helping Sculptors to Create Landmarks

The Art of Managing Complexity

> Castle Fine Arts and Yorkshire sculptor Ian Randall have recently completed one of the most complex projects ever produced at the foundry.

Complex not only in casting and engineering but also in installation. It has taken its place at the heart of one of Leeds' most prestigious developments. The work entitled 'Steeped Vessels', took its inspiration from the former history of the site, and now sits proudly in the main public square at the award winning the £100 million Brewery Wharf scheme. The scheme was the brainchild of property company Rushbond plc.

Jonathan Maud, Managing Director commented:
"It has been wonderfully rewarding to work with Ian on something so special for this city."

The thematic sculpture, which is 4 metres wide and 6 metres in height, is crafted in bronze and stainless steel and comprises of three vertically placed boat/barge forms resting against one another to create a tripod like structure. The bow of the boats face skywards whilst the sterns evolve into a series of tapering legs. These legs represent feathers of barleycorn and tensioned rope - which draws reference to the site's previous uses. This theme is continued beneath the sculpture and beyond, with barleycorns placed in a scattered fashion moving away from the structure.

Located within a public square bordered by bustling restaurants, bars, office accommodation and residential apartments the artwork provides a dramatic focal point and comes to life as people pass around, through and beneath the sculpture.

Mark Bust, Director of DLA Landscape & Urban Design, headed the team responsible for the design of the public realm together with the integration of the artwork into the overall development, he commented:
"It creates a real focal point for this area of the development and enhances the scheme and enriches the lives of people living working and even passing through the space."

David Hill, Project Manager for Rushbond plc said his first involvement on a public art project had been a fascinating and enjoyable experience. Castle Fine Arts gave David the confidence that Ian Randall's concept could become reality.

"From my personal point of view I have been able to witness the entire process starting with our artist at work in his studio to preparation of sand casts, casting the bronzes, connecting them together, right through to a very well organised and successful installation in the main square of our Brewery Wharf redevelopment."



'Steeped Vessels' in Leeds

During my visits to Llanrhaeadr for progress checks I had the opportunity of a detailed foundry tour to be able to understand the complexity of the processes and the skilled professional way that Castle addresses each commission. During this tour I was able to see Steeped Vessels in its various stages of casting. Now when I see the piece in its place within Brewery Wharf I will appreciate the major team effort needed to achieve such a magnificent sculpture"

Jonathan Maud of developer Rushbond Plc concluded:
"Developments like Brewery Wharf add an obvious and tangible benefit to a city but I believe that the addition of artwork like 'Steeped Vessels' adds that extra impact and richness to a scheme that is so often lacking in today's harsh commercial world. 'Steeped Vessels' and public art like this is a huge asset to an area and most importantly to the people within it."

If you would like to read more about the amazing project please log on to www.sculpture.gb.com

Our Experience - Your Peace of Mind.

The unveiling of a new sculpture is the result of a lot of hard work and a real team effort. It's an exciting time for everyone involved and at Castle Fine Arts we are very proud of the role we play in creating public art - a role which extends way beyond the technical aspects of the casting.

We work in the public arena on high profile projects and understand the importance of working to deadlines and within budgets.

From the very start we are there to support you and focus on the requirements of the whole project.

We appreciate and accommodate the very different demands of clients, contractors and artists, and success can often depend on clear communication between everyone in the team. Our experience means we can anticipate problems and keep everyone updated on progress.

Our wide range of contacts and working partners, developed working on many successful projects is available to you to provide everything you need right through to installation. We can even provide maintenance schedules for the future.

How much will it cost Castle to manage your project? This all depends on the complexity and over all budgets.

An added expense? Or an investment which guarantees a smooth running and successful project, frees up your time to concentrate on your work or the next project and gives you complete peace of mind.

For details please contact our Project Manager, Steve Page or go to www.sculpture.gb.com to see how we create landmarks.

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