

**Press information**  
October 2008

**EFFERVESCENCE III**  
**Sussex Barn Gallery's Annual Buying Exhibition**  
**- Just in time for Christmas**

Following last years highly successful *Effervescence II*, West Dean's annual buying exhibition at the Sussex Barn Gallery, *Effervescence III* is once again showcasing some of the best and most innovative new work in contemporary crafts and the visual and applied arts. From 28 November 2008 to 25 January 2009, with prices will ranging from £10 to £15,000 there are plenty of opportunities for gift-buying and art investment.

*Effervescence III* celebrates the wealth of talent in the UK and abroad, and features innovative sculptural and functional work ranging from glass, metals and ceramics to jewellery, automata, textiles and paper.

Just in time for Christmas, this exciting show is an opportunity for seasoned collectors and first-time buyers to purchase some of the strongest new talent in England and to discover unique and distinctive work, as well as buying individually made pieces as gifts.



Amongst the many exhibitors and for the third year running, **Robert Race** will show his work. An ever popular Short Course Tutor at West Dean College, Robert is also one of the country's leading makers in automata and a pioneer in making use of driftwood and found items.

The rough textures of driftwood help to emphasise the elegant visual wit and humour present in his work. Robert's previous experience as a science-teacher becomes evident in his mechanical expertise, and, coupled with an exceptional ability to create automata, his work ranges from the

seriously thought-provoking to just plain entertaining - expect to be surprised!



**Wendy Stevenson** works from her workshop in West Sussex, where she runs courses and workshops for children and adults. Following an impressive education in ceramics, culminating at Goldsmiths College in London, Wendy worked at Chessil pottery on the Isle of Wight and had a workshop at the Newport Art Centre. Her later teaching experience at educational establishments including Dartmoor Prison and schools specialising in special needs, has helped develop Wendy's individual style and form.

"Inspiration for my work comes from the vast array of textures and markings found in nature, and on pebbles in particular." Wendy says "I like simplicity of form and feel that the shape and form of a piece should be able to stand on its own and not need decoration to give it meaning, but merely to enhance it."

Wendy's passion for her craft can be seen for the first time at Effervescence this year.

**Kathryn Wightman** is an award-winning artist, designer and maker of quality/quirky, funky/fresh, stylish/sassy handblown glass.

Her products include one off art pieces, functional objects created for an interior led market as well as a stunning range of glass 'art for wearing'.



Her work is often tongue in cheek and gives her audience something to comment about.



**Alison Evans** is well known for her exquisite jewellery based around the techniques of chain mail. She trained at Portsmouth and exhibits her work in London and internationally.

Effervescence III is the perfect opportunity to enjoy and buy some truly individual pieces of contemporary craft.

### Notes to editors

- The exhibition runs from 28 Nov 2008 – 25 Jan 2009, and is open daily until Christmas from 11.30am to 4pm. After Christmas Wednesday to Sunday from 11.30am to 4pm.
- Admission to the exhibition is free; admission to gardens during the winter is £4 for adults plus concessions.
- The Gardens are open throughout the year. From November until 24 December 2008 & 2 January 2009 until 1st March 10.30am to 4.00pm, and from 1st March until 31st October 2009 daily 10.30am to 5.00pm, and during November and December 2009 daily 10.30am to 4.00pm.
- The Sussex Barn Gallery is part of the Edward James Foundation, a charitable trust that also includes West Dean College & Gardens and West Dean Tapestry Studio. The college runs over 700 short courses each year as well as postgraduate programmes in visual arts and conservation.
- West Dean College is situated on the A286, six miles north of Chichester and six miles south of Midhurst.

### **For further information and high-resolution digital images, please contact:**

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