

ALEXANDER BRATTELL

photographer

curriculum vitae

“Exceptionally good photographs... Just the kind of pictures I admire.”

Wolf Suschitzky, photographer, cinematographer.

“Having an astute eye must be one of the prerequisites of a photographer’s armoury but it’s surprisingly rare. Alex’s photographs however are riddled with that quality and also convey a sense of humour which is difficult to achieve at will. His range of subjects speak of secret worlds of nooks and crannies and a wider and more public face where his subjects never fail to provide the quirks and nuances that he portrays so well.”

Robin Bell, black and white printer.

“Alexander Brattell’s photographs, like the barking of the dog in the darkness, draw our attention to what might be there, and alert us to the fact that what we see is simply what we see, not the totality of what exists.”

Vasileios Kantas, photography theorist.

“Your work expands awareness to the things not usually seen, in ways not usually perceived.”

Jackie Hayles, special needs teaching assistant.

“Alex Brattell’s photographs are like half-written stories, perfectly poised between a before and after, that ask the viewer to fill in the gaps. They were inspirational material for our poets to create poems with”

George Palmer, Apples & Snakes.

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Selected Group Exhibitions

Your Work Here: The Amelia Scott Open Exhibition 2025. Tunbridge Wells Feb-June 2025.
Locus. Tadhg Mae Projects, Hastings. September 2024.
The Mind's Eye. Electro Studios Project Space October 2023. PhotoHastings 2023.
Back To Normal. Electro Studios Project Space October 2022. PhotoHastings 2022.
Hastings Open 2022. Hastings Museum & Art Gallery. September 2022-January 2023.
Yoolysees. Centenary of James Joyce's Ulysses. Electro Studios Project Space June 2022.
Moth. Summer Exhibition. St Leonards On Sea August 2022.
14 Months of Solitude. Electro Studios Project Space, St Leonards on Sea. November 2021 & also published & exhibited as part of **Silverhill Press Presents**, Electro Studios, May 2022.
Objects of Life Trinity 7 Art Space, Hastings 2021.
Crossings: Community and Refuge Hastings Museum & Art Gallery. 2021.
Solaris Summer Exhibition, Solaris, St Leonards On Sea, 2021.
Work About Work. Dirty Old Gallery Hastings, 2020.
We Baked All Our Own Bread. Zuzushii Art Laboratory. PhotoHastings 2020.
Human Gatherings arts hub space Hastings. 2020.
Premonitions. Zuzushii Art Laboratory Hastings, 2020.
Hastings Open 2020. Hastings Museum & Art Gallery. August 2020-January 2021.
Functional/Dysfunctional. Zuzushii Art Laboratory Hastings, 2020.
Self Comes To Mind. Electro Studios Project Space, St Leonards On Sea, 2018.
Coastal Currents Arts Fair. Hastings UK, 2018.
Sea Road. Electro Studios, September 2017. PhotoHastings 2017, Coastal Currents 2017.
Blood Lake/Still Point/Dark Matter. St Mary in the Castle Hastings, 2016. PhotoHastings 2016.
Beyond The Edge. South Downs Heritage Centre, East Sussex. 2016. Brighton Photo Fringe 2016.
Summer Show 2016. Lucy Bell Fine Art, St Leonards On Sea. 2016.
Chaostrophy. Ludwig, Berlin. 2016.
Never Dark. The Observer Building Gallery, Hastings. 2015. PhotoHastings 2015.
Pin-Ups: A Sense Of Place. Observer Building Hastings. 2015
Point of Decay. Coastal Currents 2015. Curated by Zeroh. Bottle Alley Hastings.
Vantage Point BPF14 Collectives' Hub. Brighton Photo Fringe, 2014.
Virtuoso. St Mary In The Castle Hastings. Hastings International Piano Concerto Competition 2014.
Underexposed. The Garage, St Leonards On Sea. 2014. Part of PhotoHastings 2014.
This One's For You. Lucy Bell Fine Art. 2013.
Fenestration. Brighton Photo Fringe 2013. One Cafe, St Leonards On Sea. 2013.
Strarta Art Fair. Pure Art Space. Saatchi Gallery London, 2013.
Contrast! Conquest Hospital Hastings. 2013.
Post A Postcard. Kave Gallery, St Leonards On Sea. 2013.
Transitions. Pure Art. April 2013.
Who Do You Think You Are? Lucy Bell Fine Art. 2013.
Holiday Heaven/Holiday Hell. The Tent Gallery. 2013.
Pop Up Flowers. The Kave Gallery St Leonards On Sea. December 2012-January 2013.
Brighton Photo Biennial 2012 Photobook Show. Jubilee Library Brighton. 2012.
Off The Wall. Margate Harbour Arm Gallery. 2012.
Telling Stories: Hastings. Hastings Museum & Art Gallery. Autumn/Winter 2012.
Christmas Exhibition. Lucy Bell Fine Art. 2011.
Interim Projects Show. Photo hub group. Hastings Arts Forum. 2011.
Pushing Print Open 2011. The Pie Factory, Margate. 2011.
Telling Stories: Margate. Marine Studios Margate. Part of Pushing Print Fringe. 2011.
London Road. One Cafe Gallery, St Leonards On Sea. 2011. Part of Coastal Currents 2011.
Gallery Photographers Exhibition. Lucy Bell Fine Art. 2011.
Fillet 08/10. F-ISH gallery Hastings. 2011.
They're Not Laughing Now. F-ISH gallery, Hastings. Exhibitor & curator. 2010.
Summer Exhibition 2010. Lucy Bell Fine Art Photography, St Leonards On Sea. 2010.
Photos With Words. PhotoPlace Gallery, Vermont Photography Workplace USA. 2010

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Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

IPG's Greatest Hits. The Independent Photographers Gallery, Battle. 2009.
Indian Summer. Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, 2009.
Conversations...From The Edge. Photo Hub Group, St Mary In The Castle Hastings, 2009.
Jack In The Green. Hastings Arts Forum, St. Leonards on Sea. May 2008, 2009, 2010.
Shadowlands. South Coast Artists. Arts Forum, St. Leonards on Sea, 2008.
Spirit Of The Season. The Independent Photographers Gallery, Battle, Dec 2007 - Jan 2008.
Regeneration. SoCo Gallery, Hastings, 2007.
Seaside. Conquest Hospital, Hastings, 2006.
South Coast Artists Spring Show. SoCo Gallery Hastings, 2006.
Landscape Through The Lens. SoCo Gallery Hastings, 2006.
War! The Rivington Gallery, London EC2, 2003.
Looking at London. The Prince's Foundation, London EC2, 2002.
London College of Fashion Faculty Show. London W1, 2001.
Cordwainers College Faculty Exhibitions. 1997, 1998, 1999.
Spitalfields. A Last Linger Look. The Clerks House, Shoreditch, 1999.
Smalls. The Clerks House, Shoreditch, 1998.
Camerawork Open Exhibition. Camerawork, London E2, 1990.

Selected Solo Exhibitions

Looking At The Legacy: Coastal Currents Arts Festival 2012-24. Festival Photography by Alexander Brattell. Hastings Railway Station, September-November 2024.
Asperity. St Andrews Mews Hastings. October 2023. PhotoHastings 2023.
Saccades. Solaris, St Leonards On Sea. October 2017. PhotoHastings 2017.
The Sun Does Not Move. Conquest Hospital Hastings 2012. Eastbourne District Hospital 2013.
Tulpa. Photographs 2009-10. Marina Post Office Tearooms, St. Leonards On Sea. Part of "On The Map", Brighton Photo Fringe Hastings 2010.
The Edge Of England. McCarrons, St Leonards On Sea, East Sussex 2009.
Word On The Street. Royal London Hospital, Whitechapel, 2004-05.
19Hz. The Spitz, Spitalfields London, 2004.
Antinomy. The Rivington Gallery, London EC2. The Fashion Space Gallery, London College of Fashion, London W1, 2003.
Lines of Desire. The Space Arts Centre, London E14, 2003.
Spectacle. The Eye Company, Wardour St, London W1, 2002.
Last Minute. The Alex public house, Victoria Park London E5, 2002.
Recent Photographs. The Alex, London E5, 2002.
britart.com. Foyer exhibition, London E2, 2000.
Paul Mark Hatton Jewellery. London E2, 2000.
Portals and Spirits. The Clerks House Shoreditch, London, 1999.
Photographs. Freuds Cafe Gallery. London W1. 1992.
Brattell In Poland. Polish Social & Cultural Association Gallery, London W6. 1990.

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Employment

1986 - present. Self-employed photographer. Fine art, portrait, editorial & advertising photography. Exhibiting & selling prints, primarily from a darkroom based art practice. Working to commission for national newspapers, magazines, publishers, agencies, galleries, artists & craftspeople.

2012 - present. Lecturer in Photography. Arcadia University Philadelphia USA, London Study Centre. Semester courses & summer schools for undergraduates & interns.

2022 - present. External Moderator, Art & Design. University of The Arts London.

2006 - 2020. Part time lecturer in photography. University Centre Hastings. BA (Hons) Visual Communication: Photography, 2017-2020. Sussex Coast College. Teaching analogue & digital, practice & theory. HND Photography 2012-18. Adult courses, A level photography & graphics 2010-12. Hastings College of Arts & Technology. ND, NCFE, Btec art & design, Community education 2007-12, Course Leader, National Diploma Photography 2006-7.

2006 - 2007. Part time tutor, Bexhill College, East Sussex. AS, A2 photography & graphics, 1st Diploma media (photography & web design).

2000 - 2005. Associate lecturer in photography at The London College of Fashion, working with Foundation & foreign exchange students. Teaching analogue & digital studio & location photography, monochrome printing, Photoshop. Group tutor.

1996 - 2000. Visiting tutor in photography at Cordwainers College Hackney. Art Foundation, Btec, GAD.

1995 - 1996. Photographer, writer & co-editor, ON Magazine, London. Student, Btec Creative Computing (digital arts - 2d, 3d, time based), Tower Hamlets College.

1984 - 1985. Junior Photographer, Dawson Strange Photography, Cobham, Surrey - supporting a team of three specialist photographers (social & commercial, location & studio).

1983 - 1984. Travelling, photographing, working in Australia & South East Asia. Work in this period included market research, photographic printing & nannying.

1982 - 1983. Social photographer & colour printer, Photoworld Monaco. Photographing & printing portraits & conference pictures for conventions, business & social events.

1981 - 1982. Photographer & writer for Breakout, an independent monthly art & culture fanzine, Liverpool.

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Community & Education: Selected Projects & Events.

The Memorial Studio. Community Portrait Project & exhibition in a Victorian daylight studio, in use again after 104 years. The Memorial Studio Hastings, October 2022. PhotoHastings 2022.

Searching For Kushti: 50 Years of The Diddakoi. Electro Studios. West St Leonards, East Sussex. April 2022. Glastonbury Festival (Atchin Tan area) June 2022. Supported by Arts Council England. Part of A Town Explores A Book Festival 2022.

Elisabeth Buchmeyer Lewis (1935-2018) Archive. Cataloguing photographic materials & ephemera culminating in transfer of the archive to Hundred Heroines, a UK charity dedicated to promoting women in photography.

Looking At Things. Explore The Arch Theatre Company, Active Arts Hastings, Bexhill Mencap. Hastings Museum & Art Gallery January - May 2021.

A Town Explores A Book: The Time Machine. Southwater Centre, St Leonards on Sea. 2020.

Young Curators Programme. Hastings Museum & Art Gallery 2018-19. Working with the Museum's glass negative collection.

A Mirror Bending Time. Animation workshop for artists. Blue Monkey Network, Towner Gallery Eastbourne. 2017.

Re Birth. Exhibition by Rye Studio School photography students. Rye Arts Festival 2016.

Page Break Festival Hastings. Photogram & pinhole portrait workshop. 2016.

PhotoHastings.org. "For photography in Hastings & East Sussex". News & resources. Founder & editor 2009-2014. PhotoHastings is now the name of the annual photography festival produced by Photo hub group since 2010 (originally Brighton Photo Fringe Hastings). Committee member 2010-24.

Silverhill Darkroom, St Leonards On Sea. Community & education space. Co-founder & co-director, Silverhill Darkroom CIC. 2012-2016.

ParkLife. Photography workshop for Egerton Park funded by Rother District Council, De La Warr Studio Bexhill. 2013.

Towner. Eastbourne. Artist and Practitioner Pool 2011-14. Working with the Gallery's education & outreach programmes including The Big Draw 2011, BBC: Your Paintings February 2013, Pathways photography Autumn 2013.

Jerwood Gallery. Jerwood Schools Project 2012-13. Working with local schools as part of the Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts START programme.

De La Warr Pavilion. Young Photographers. A summer school for 8-12 year olds. 2011.

On Arrival. Helenswood School Hastings/Creative Partnerships. A "Change School" project with Yr7 pupils. 2011.

Pier Support. Fundraising exhibition, NCFE photography Sussex Coast College. 2011.

De La Warr Pavilion. Exhibitions Interpretation Team 2010-11. Creating events to accompany The Pavilion's exhibitions.

Artist Rooms: Robert Mapplethorpe. Towner Eastbourne. Workshops with Willingdon Community School creating content for the Towner youth community website. 2010.

The Helenswood Newsroom. Helenswood School Hastings/Creative Partnerships. Working with Yr 9 students to create The Helenswood Reporter, a printed & online newspaper. With journalist Jane Hughes & designers Playne Design. Creative Partnerships 2010.

From This Point On. Hastings Arts Forum Gallery. Sussex Coast College NCFE final show 2010.

The Dark Monarch. Towner Gallery, Eastbourne. Workshops, film making and talks to accompany the Tate exhibition "The Dark Monarch. Magic & Modernity in British Art". 2010.

Heroes For The Future. Workshops in East Sussex schools. Directed by Rachael Roser. Supported by the Shackleton Foundation. 2009.

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Community & Education: Selected Projects & Events (continued).

Working Our Way 2. De La Warr Pavilion/Creative Partnerships. Projects in Bexhill primary schools to create an educational toolkit & an exhibition for the De La Warr Pavilion. Supported by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation. 2008.

Zoom Group. White Rock Theatre Gallery, Hastings. National Diploma in Photography final exhibition. Hastings College 2006.

Bridie Productions. Photography of theatre projects. Tower Hamlets secondary schools 2005/6.

Lea Rivers Trust. Community workshops and photographic competition leading to touring exhibition and postcards. 2003 & 2006.

Jerwood Charity. Jerwood Prison and Community Art Award 2004. Member of judging panel.

Community TV Trust. Photographic workshops in primary & secondary schools in Southwark, enabling students to produce their own content for the southwark.tv website. 2003, 2004.

Groundwork Southwark. Photographic workshops at Poet's Corner Estate, Camberwell Green using disposable cameras and leading to an exhibition for Black History Month 2003.

Big Arts Week. "Captions That Rhyme" Stepney Greencoat Primary School 2002. Large format Polaroids, scanned and projected, of children dressed as characters from their own rhymes.

Resonant Frequencies. Whitechapel Gallery foyer exhibition. Sponsored by Keyphoto. Cordwainers College, 1999.

Dreams Made Flesh. Whitechapel Gallery foyer exhibition of toy camera images. Sponsored by Ilford. Cordwainers College, 1998.

Salle des Fetes, Suresnes, France. Photography exhibition in Hackney's twin town. 1997.

Hackney Visual Artists Mentoring scheme. Mentor. 1997.

Selected Events

Photology. Talks & discussion on photography in Hastings. Pub lectures 2012-present. photology.info.

Marx & The City. Projections for symposium. Arcadia University London centre. November 2018.

Silverhill Press Launch. Talk & Exhibition. Publication of my book Two Lampposts. The Printworks Hastings. October 2018.

PechaKucha Night 20x20. De La Warr Pavilion, East Sussex UK, September 2018.

St Leonards International Film Festival 2015. Masonic Hall, St Leonards On Sea, East Sussex.

In Conversation with Allan Grainger & Gabrielle Farah. A Sense Of Place. Lucy Bell Fine Art 2014.

The Curated Ego: What Makes a Good Selfie? National Portrait Gallery London 2014.

We Are Brighton Photo Fringe. Speaker, 10th Anniversary event. Phoenix Brighton 2013.

Ordinary/Everyday/Quotidian conference. University of York Centre for Modern Studies 2013.

51:zero° Voyager. Film, Video and Digital Media Arts Festival, Medway, Kent UK 2012.

Process Works. Open Studio event with four contemporary jewellers for Coastal Currents 2012.

The Big Photography Debate. University of Brighton Media Enterprise Centre. Chair 2011.

Projection Space. The Electric Palace, Hastings. Screening Q&A Lampshade Making In Ontario 2011.

Jawdance Audio Poetry Competition. Rich Mix Centre London E1. Projections 2011.

Voices and Visions. University of Brighton School of Education Centenary Conference. Workshop leader. 2010.

Conference for Art & Design in Primary and Special Schools. East Sussex County Council, Brighton & Hove Council. Speaker 2010.

London International Documentary Festival. "The Invisible City". Speaker, panellist 2010.

Photoforum. Four Corners. London E2. Speaker 2004.

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Print Sales

Eyestorm London.

Lucy Bell Fine Art Photography East Sussex UK.

Grants

Arts Council England. Project Grant, 2022.

Freelands Foundation. Emergency Fund Grant, 2020.

London College of Fashion. Research Project Fund, 2002-3, 2004-5.

Qualifications

MA Photography: History, Theory, Practice with Distinction. University of Sussex, 2021.

Arts Award Advisor 2014.

Diploma in Life Long Learning (PGCE equivalent). Canterbury Christchurch University, 2008.

Btec Creative Computing Tower Hamlets College, 1996.

LBIPP (by portfolio) British Institute of Professional Photography, 1984.

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