

Emily Allchurch – Biography

Emily Allchurch, born in Jersey, Channel Islands in 1974, lives in Hastings, East Sussex. She trained as a sculptor, receiving a First Class (Hons) degree in Fine Art from the Kent Institute of Art & Design, Canterbury (now UCA) in 1996 and an MA from the Royal College of Art in 1999.

She has exhibited regularly in solo and group shows in the UK and internationally establishing a reputation for her recreations of Old Master prints and paintings from a contemporary perspective. The resulting digital photographic collages, often presented as large-scale lightboxes to enhance their theatricality, form a snapshot of our times and are peppered with topical markers spotted in the environment. Her works are held in the permanent collections of the Royal Academy of Arts (London), Museum of London, Manchester Art Gallery, Minneapolis Institute of Art (USA), Musée des Beaux-arts de Nancy (France), and Tokaido Hiroshige Museum of Art (Japan), amongst others.

Closer to Home (2021) is a response to being restricted to her home in the UK during the Coronavirus pandemic. The series, consisting of twelve digitally collaged photographic landscapes of East Sussex; each image representing a month of the calendar year, debuted with GBS Fine Art at Photo London in May 2022. She presented the complete series together for the first time in her solo exhibition at Lucy Bell Gallery in St. Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex, from 11 Feb – 26 Mar 2023.

Allchurch had a two-person exhibition *Anne Desmet RA & Emily Allchurch – Conversations with Buildings*, in the Belle Shenkman Room at the Royal Academy of Arts in London, from 28 Feb – 20 Aug 2023. In 2022/23 she exhibited in two major international shows: *For the Love of the Master - 25 Artists Fascinated by Piranesi*, in Dublin (celebrating Piranesi's influence on contemporary art 300 years after his birth), and *Impossible Architectures*, at Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nancy, France, from 19 Nov 2022 – 19 Mar 2023.

In September 2021 Emily had a solo presentation of her *Mirrored Cities* series at Pingyao International Photography Festival in China, following its launch at Karin Weber Gallery in Hong Kong in Nov 2020. Exploring the connections between mainland China and Venice, including narratives around trade, mass tourism and globalisation, and the parallels between both places, the project was supported by an Arts Council England 'Developing Your Creative Practice' grant, enabling an extensive period of travel and research in China and Venice.

In summer 2018, a solo exhibition, *Visions of Architectural Fancy*, at the Sir John Soane's Museum in London, presented some of her works inspired by their collection. She was one of six Finalists in the 2018 Columbia Threadneedle Prize for Figurative Art, with her artwork *Babel Britain (after Verhaecht)*, which also won the People's Choice Award.

Emily was awarded an Arts Council / British Council 'Artists' International Development Award' in 2017, enabling her to travel to Hong Kong for the first time to begin a new collaboration with Karin Weber Gallery, and a solo show, *Then is Now*. With photographs she collated during this trip, she developed a new artwork inspired by the city *Babel Hong Kong*, which was launched to much critical acclaim at Art Central Hong Kong in March 2018.

In 2015 Allchurch had her first solo UK museum show at Manchester Art Gallery, *In the Footsteps of a Master*, which then toured to Djanogly Art Gallery, Nottingham. The show presented her ten *Tokyo Story* lightboxes, alongside the original prints that inspired them by the Japanese printmaker Hiroshige, on loan from the British Museum.

Her *Tokyo Story* series launched at the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation in 2011. Minneapolis Institute of Arts acquired the full set for their permanent collection, which has since been loaned for exhibition at the Japan Society Gallery New York (2013) and the Singapore Tyler Print Institute (2014). In 2013 the Tokaido Hiroshige Museum in Japan, commissioned two new works for their permanent collection, which were exhibited alongside her complete *Tokyo Story* series in 2014.

Through a successful Art Fund's *Art Happens* crowd-funding campaign, Manchester Art Gallery commissioned Allchurch to recreate Adolphe Valette's painting of Albert Square in Manchester from a contemporary perspective. The resulting artwork, 'Albert Square (after Valette)', held in their permanent collection, is currently on display in their gallery *What's New? Collecting for Manchester* until 31 Dec 2025.

Emily Allchurch – CV

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Born in 1974, Jersey, Channel Islands. Currently lives and works in Hastings, UK

Education

Royal College of Art, London. MA Sculpture. 1997-1999

Kent Institute of Art & Design, Canterbury. BA (Hons) Fine Art. First class. 1993-1996

University of the West of England, Bristol. Foundation Art & Design. Distinction. 1992-1993

Solo Exhibitions

- 2023 **Closer to Home.** Lucy Bell Gallery. St Leonards-on-Sea, East Sussex.
- 2021 **Mirrored Cities.** Solo Presentation. Pingyao International Photography Festival, China.
- 2020 **Mirrored Cities.** Karin Weber Gallery, Hong Kong.
- 2018 **Fact and Folly.** Private & Public Space, Jersey, C.I.
- 2018 **Emily Allchurch: Visions of Architectural Fancy.** Sir John Soane's Museum, London.
- 2018 **Gloria Mundi.** Galerie Rothamel Frankfurt, Germany.
- 2017 **Then is Now.** Karin Weber Gallery. Hong Kong.
- 2017 **Project Space: Babel London.** Galerie Rothamel Erfurt, Germany.
- 2015 **Emily Allchurch: In the Footsteps of a Master.** Djanogly Art Gallery, Nottingham
- 2015 **Emily Allchurch: In the Footsteps of a Master.** Manchester City Art Gallery.
- 2013/14 **Tokyo Story / After Hiroshige.** Tokaido Hiroshige Museum, Shizouka. Japan
- 2011 **Tokyo Story.** Diemar Noble Photography. London
- 2011 **Tokyo Story.** Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation. London
- 2008 **Urban Chiaroscuro.** Galeria Galica, Milan.
- 2007 **Urban Chiaroscuro.** Frost and Reed Contemporary. London
- 2006 **Emily Allchurch, A Retrospective.** Frost & Reed Contemporary. London
- 2006 **Model City.** Galica Arte Contemporanea. Milan
- 2006 **Model City.** Alberta College of Art & Design, Calgary. Canada
- 2004/05 **Settings.** The Blue Gallery. London.
- 2003 **Setting.** Solo Show. Galica Arte Contemporanea. Milan.
- 2002 **Light Sensitive.** Solo Show. East73rdgallery. London.
- 2002 **Exposure** with Laura White Standpoint Gallery. London.
- 2002 **A Hill with a View** with Pamela Wells. Orleans House Gallery. Twickenham.
- 2001 **On The Horizon.** Royal London Hospital.

Group Exhibitions

- 2023 **Unreal** – with Suzanne Moxhay & Liane Lang. James Freeman Gallery. London.
- 2023 **Anne Desmet RA & Emily Allchurch – Conversations with Buildings.** The Belle Shenkman Room. Royal Academy of Arts, London.
- 2023 **Royal Academy of Arts Summer Exhibition.** London (also exhibited 2022/21/20/19/18/17/15/14/2013).
- 2022/23 **Impossible Architectures,** Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nancy, France.
- 2022 **For the Love of the Master: 25 Artists Fascinated by Piranesi,** Dublin.
- 2021/22 **A Generous Space,** Artist Support Pledge. Hastings Contemporary.
- 2021 **Concrete and Tyres,** GBS Fine Art, Somerset.
- 2020/21 **True Fictions: Visionary photography from the Seventies until today,** Fondazione Palazzo Magnani, Reggio Emilia, Italy
- 2020 **The Grand Tour,** James Freeman Gallery, London
- 2019 **20/20: Celebrating 20 Years at Karin Weber Gallery,** Hong Kong
- 2019 **Inspiration Masterpiece,** Museum Villa Rot, Germany
- 2018 **Columbia Threadneedle Prize.** Figurative Art Today. Mall Galleries, London.
- 2017 **Terra Firma.** James Freeman Gallery, London.
- 2017 **Sussex Open.** Towner Art Gallery, Eastbourne (also exhibited 2016).
- 2016 **Trace Elements.** James Freeman Gallery, London.
- 2016 **Merge Visible.** Mall Galleries, London.

2016 **Fix Photo Festival.** Bargehouse Gallery / LA Noble Gallery, London.

2015 **:Xenotopia.** Gibberd Gallery, Harlow.

2014/15 **Small is Beautiful.** Flowers, New York

2014 **/seconds.** Sharjah Art Foundation

2014 **Edo Pop. Graphic Impact of Japanese Art.** Singapore Tyler Print Institute, Singapore.

2013/14 **Sense of Soane.** School of Art Gallery. Aberystwyth University.

2013 **Liminal.** Camberwell College of Art, London.

2013 **The Wisdom of Escape,** Nancy victor Gallery, London.

2013 **Edo Pop.** Japan Society Gallery. New York.

2013 **Memory & Imagination. Dutch Italianate & Contemporary Landscape.** Mall Galleries

2012 **Sense of Soane.** Pitzhanger Manor and Gallery. London

2012 **BITE: Artists making prints.** Mall Galleries. London

2011 **Edo Pop.** Minneapolis Institute of Arts. USA

2010 **Based on a True Story.** ArtSway. New Forest. UK

2010 **Perspectives.** Candlestar. Hyatt Regency, London

2009 **Paper City: Urban Utopias.** Royal Academy of Arts

2009 **Diemar/Noble Photography.** Inaugural exhibition, London.

2008 **Transcriptions.** Sarah Myerscough Fine Art, London.

2008 **Anima.** Organ Factory, Holland Park, London.

2008 **Set in Stone.** PM Gallery and House. London

2007 **The Light Fantastic.** Nicholas Metivier Gallery, Toronto, Canada

2007 **Britain in Pictures.** Museum of Film & Photography, Bradford.

2006 **Lumiere, transparence, opacite.** Nouveau Musee National de Monaco

2006 **Making Space.** Corporation of London, Spitalfields. London.

2006 **Celeste Art Prize.** The Well, Old Truman Brewery, Brick Lane, London

2006 **Metropolitanscape,** Palazzo Cavour. Olimpiadi Program of Culture.Turin

2006 **The City Boundary: Fotografia Europea Festival.** Reggio Emilia. Italy

2005 **The Wrong Map.** Three Colts Gallery, London

2005 **A Digital Picture of Britain.** Museum of Film & Photography, Bradford.

2003/4 **Reduced.** Century Gallery. London.

2003 **Landscape.** The Blue Gallery. London.

2003 **La Ciudad Radiante.** Bancaja Foundation. Valencia. Spain.

2003 **Distopie Urbane.** Change Studio d'Arte Contemporanea. Rome

2003 **In the City.** Midland Hotel. Manchester. UK.

2003 **Fresh Art.** Islington Design Centre. London

2002 **2 in uno.** Galica Arte Contempoanea. Milan

2001 **Visions of Arcadia.** Britart.com Project Space. London.

2001 **Nineplusnine: Exterior.** The Spitz Gallery. London.

2001 **Sky Lights.** Britart.com. Whitechapel Gallery. London.

2000/1 **And then there was the bad weather...**LWF Projects. London & Memphis USA

2000 **Tunnel Vision.** Alydwyth tube station. London Open House.

2000 **Route 12:36.** Commission. South London Gallery, London.

Commissions / Awards

2023 **Following Ravilious: Newhaven Views,** Towner Eastbourne. Public Art Trail in Newhaven.

2020 **Arts Council England: Emergency Response Fund Award.**

2019 **Arts Council England: Developing Your Creative Practice Award.**

2018 **Columbia Threadneedle Prize.** Visitors' Choice Award.

2018 **Columbia Threadneedle Prize.** Finalist

2017 **British Council & Arts Council England, Artists' International Development Grant.**

2016 **a-n Travel Bursary**

2015/16 **Oslo Agency for Cultural Affairs.** Commision for Haugentua Kindergarten, Oslo.

2015 **Grants for the Arts Award.** Arts Council England. *Tower of Nottingham.*

2015 **Art Happens. The Art Fund.** Manchester Art Gallery, Crowd funding Commission.

2014 **Friends of the Institute Public Lecture.** Minneapolis Institute of Arts

2013 **Artist in Residence, Tokaido Hiroshige Museum,** Shizuoka, Japan

2013 **AA2A Artist in Residence at Wimbledon College of Art**

2013 **Honorary Fellow. Society of Architectural Illustration.**

2012 **Grants for the Arts Award.** Arts Council England. *Sense of Soane*.
 2012 **Diamond Jubilee Pageant Commission.** States of Jersey, Channel Islands
 2011 **This Green and Pleasant Land.** BBC 4 film celebrating British landscape painting.
 2011 **Royal Brompton & Harefield NHS Trust.** *A Place in Mind*. Commission for Transplant Ward.
 2009/10 **Hoarding design for St Paul's Way Transformation Project,** Tower Hamlets. Bow Arts Trust.
 2007 **Britain in Pictures. How we Built Britain.** BBC series profiling British Photographers
 2006 **Fotografia Europea Festival Commission.** Reggio Emilia. Italy
 2006 **Celeste Art Prize.** Finalist
 2006 **Artist in Residence.** Financial Services Authority.
 2006 **Visiting Artist.** Drawing Department. Alberta College of Art & Design. Canada
 2005 **A Digital Picture of Britain.** BBC series profiling British Photographers
 2004 **Museum & Galleries Month Award:** Most inspiring project. Orleans House Gallery.
 2003 **London Residencies. Footsteps in the Street.** London Arts Grant.
 2002 **A Hill with a View.** Commission for Orleans House Gallery. Twickenham.
 2001 **London Arts. Individual Artist Bursary**
 2000/1 **Year of the Artist Residency Award.** Arts Council of England.
 2000 **Route 12:36.** Commission. South London Gallery, London.

Collections

Royal Academy of Arts, London / Museum of London / Minneapolis Institute of Arts, USA / Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nancy, France / Manchester Art Gallery / Tokaido Hiroshige Museum, Japan / Nouveau Musée National de Monaco / States of Jersey, Channel Islands / Galleria Parmeggiani, Italy / ACAD, Canada / Financial Conduct Authority, London / Fidelity, Tokyo / Aspen Re Insurance, London / Unilever, London / Schroders, London / Rathbones, London / Morgan Stanley, London / Société Générale, London / Borough Art Collection, Twickenham / Charing Cross Hospital, London / Mr. Hans Michael Jebesen / Gaw Capital, HK / Link Reit, HK / Modern Media Group, HK.

Publications / Reviews / Articles

Apollo. "Today the Tower of Babel belongs more to Bruegel than to the Bible", Will Wiles. April 2023 p.23-24
Country Life. Art Market. Review of London Original Print Fair, Huon Mallalieu. 12th April, 2023.
BBC Southeast. Short film 'Closer to Home at Lucy Bell Gallery' Directed: Fiona Irving. Broadcast 14/02/23
Hastings Independent Press. *No Place like Home* by Gareth Stevens. P.13, Issue 219. 10/02/23
Architectures Impossible. Catalogue Musée des Beaux-Arts de Nancy. Snoeck. ISBN: 9789461618238
Apollo. *The contemporary artists who are paying their respects to Piranesi* by Robert O'Byrne, 26 July 2022
Photo London Magazine: Issue 72. Emily Allchurch – featured artist. May 2022, pp.1-41
Deutsche Welle, Euromaxx: Lifestyle in Europe, 'Art in Crisis: Photo Collages by Emily Allchurch, 6 min film about artistic response to Covid-19 pandemic. First broadcast 15/05/2020.
<https://www.dw.com/en/art-in-crisis-photo-collages-by-emily-allchurch/av-53442398>
RIBA Journal. Vol 126, Issue 07. 'Climate change takes the floor' RA Summer Exhibition. Jul '19 pp. 70-71
HEDGE. Issue 55. 2019 pp.84 & 85
Deutsche Welle, Euromaxx: Lifestyle in Europe, 'Old Masters in Digital Collages', 5 min film about working process. First broadcast Feb 2019. <https://www.dw.com/en/old-masters-in-digital-collages/av-47643879>
Het Financieele Dagblad, the Netherlands. Collage als protest. 5th January 2019. Pp 12 & 13
Wired. December 2018. Photo Vertical interview with Michael Hardy.
Photomonitor. August 2018. Interview with Christiane Monarchi.
South China Morning Post. Art Basel Review. Enid Tsui. 02.04.18 <https://www.scmp.com/culture/arts-entertainment/article/2139898/best-art-basel-hong-kong-stand-out-artists-both-local-and>
ZARCH. Journal of interdisciplinary studies in Architecture and Urbanism. Issue #9. Arquitectura, mirada y cultura visual (*Architecture, glance, and visual culture*), December 2017.
<https://papiro.unizar.es/ojs/index.php/zarch/article/view/2270>
Hong Kong Perspective: Architecture / Design / People. November 2017. Pp 16 & 17.
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Photomonitor – August 2015. *In the Footsteps of a Master.* Review by Camilla Brown.
Manchester Art Gallery. 2015. Catalogue. Emily Allchurch. *In the Footsteps of a Master.*
Ashgate. 2014. *The Architectural Capriccio: Memory, Fantasy & Invention* ISBN: 987-1-409-3191-6
Impressions (The Journal of the Japanese Art Society of America). Issue: 34. 2013 pp 122-139
Photo+. South Korea. Issue 12, Winter 2012. Tokyo Story - pp. 34-41

Sunday Telegraph Seven Magazine. 9th September 2012.
FT weekend. 21st & 22nd Jan 2012. London Art Fair Review , Francis Hodgson. Life & Arts p.11
The Sunday Times Magazine. 6 March 2011, p.42
Printmaker Today. Winter Issue 2010. Front cover.
Digital Photographer. Issue 102. 2010. Text by Dylan Baker. pp.74-77
Frieze. Issue 134. October 2010. Text by David Trigg. pp.246-247
Fotografi. Winter 2008 (Norway) Text by Michael Diemar pp. 28-35
Portfolio. Issue 47. June 2008. Text by Nigel Warburton. pp 50-55
FMR. White Edition. Classical 2008. (Italy). Text by Walter Guadagnini. pp 34-45
Printmaking Today. Vol 17 No.2 Summer 2008, Anne Desmet *Old Masters Reborn* pp.10 & 11
Digital Photography Masterclass. Tom Ang. Dorling Kindersley Ltd. May 2008. pp.332-337
Arte. May 2008. *Emily Allchurch Architetture Ideali* by Nicoletta Cobolli Gigli. pp.120-125.
Building Design. 4 April 2008. *Mean Streets* by Gareth Gardner, p.16.
Design Week. Volume 23 / Number 13. 27 March 2008. *Stone Cold* by Clare Dowdy. Back Cover
BBC Radio London. Robert Elms show. Interview for *Set in Stone*. 24th March 2008.
Guardian Guide. 22-28 March 2008. Exhibitions Previews p.37.
Arts Industry. 7 March 2008. Issue 204. Front Cover.
Ag Magazine. Number 50. pp.10-11. Winter 2008.
Blueprint. Paper City Commission. p.82. January 2008
/Seconds 7: sci-fi, utopia, roadside picnics. December 2007
Urban Chiaroscuro. Exhibition catalogue 2007. ISBN 978-0-9556134-1-8
Contemporary. Issue #91. Special issue on digital art. David Shariatmadari. 2007
Arte. June 2006. *Emily Allchurch Sfida ai Capolavori* di Nicoletta Cobolli Gigli. pp84-89
Corriere della Sera. *London Transformed by Emily.* Italy.14th June 2006
La Stampa. Cultura. Mercoledì 29 Marzo 2006. *Se l'artista gioca con le spine del mondo*
Exhibart. March 2006. www.exibart.com/notizia.asp/IDNotizia/16274/IDCategoria/1
The Daily Telegraph. Market News p.28. January 10th 2006
Times T2 Supplement London Art Fair. January 2005
Modern Painters. Dec & Jan 2005