

About Fiona

History



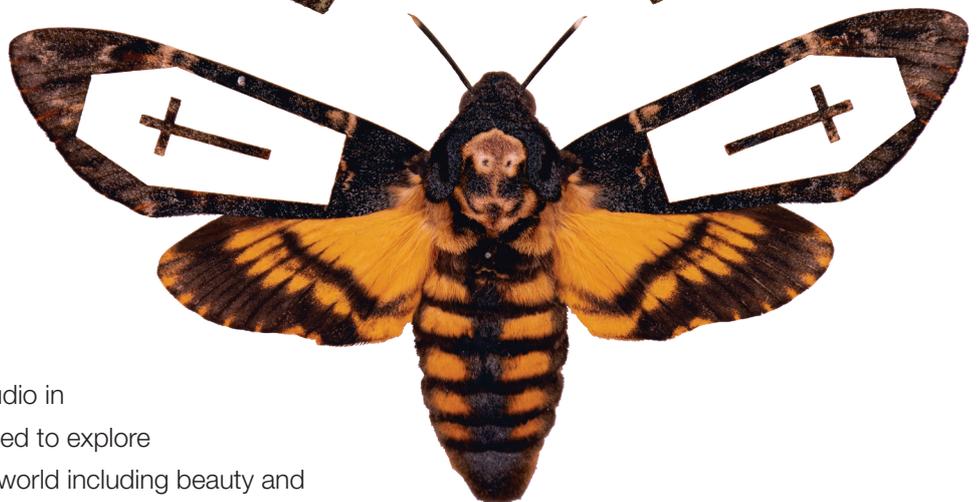
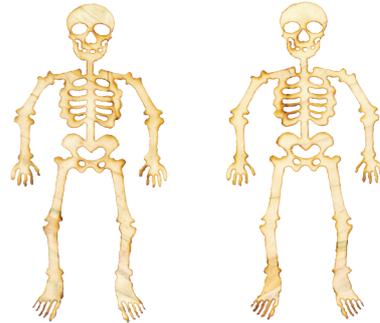
Fiona Parkinson's childhood took her from Yorkshire to South Africa

and back again to an unsettled life on the North East coast. Throughout this upbringing her interest in expressing herself through art became a constant, may be even a requirement and as soon as she was able she continued to explore this passion in further education.

She graduated in 2015 with a first class Bachelors degree and was then awarded a Master's degree with distinction whilst collecting the College of Arts Award at Lincoln University. She has exhibited individually and as part of collectives across Europe and extensively in the North East and has been featured by the media appearing a number of times on local BBC radio.

Fiona's art diverged from what may be considered more mainstream techniques early in her studies with a chance introduction to taxidermy and has explored various species from birds and small mammals to butterflies, spiders and bacteria.

Since graduating and moving to her studio in Stratford on Avon her work has continued to explore contradictions in our experience of the world including beauty and fragility, fear and love, life and death. Her unique techniques fuse modern technology with ancient methods to producing striking images which deliver fascination and emotion in equal measure.



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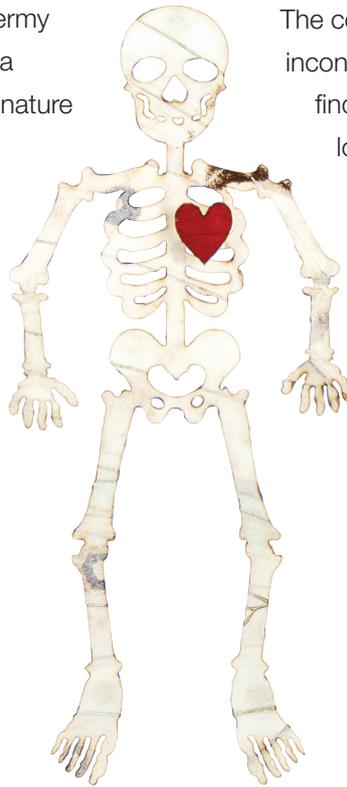
The Work

My techniques combine traditional methods of preservation and taxidermy with modern tools and technology to create beautiful pieces of artwork that can equally inspire emotion and wonder. Given the variation in every specimen each piece is unique and is hand crafted by me in my studio or the lab.

I would hesitate to describe my work as taxidermy where the artist seeks to present a species in a natural state in order to capture the beauty of nature in a recreation of life. In much of my work the specimens are more akin to a precious paint, a paint that not only delivers diversity and beauty but also holds within itself a natural emotional value and meaning from our response to the species.



One would be pressed to find an artist whose work is not personal and I have come to understand much of mine as a reflection of my experiences through life, indeed many of the pieces could undoubtedly be interpreted as self-portraits.



The contradictions, misunderstandings and inconsistencies in our lives are present and I often find myself exploring extremes in the highs and lows our loves and losses and life and death.

My Butterfly Collection is a range of work which was conceived at a time in my life when the fragile and temporal nature of the species resonated strongly with me.





As
this series
has developed
I have discovered
that however personal
and exclusive many of my
own experiences may seem my
emotional response to situations is
shared. Much of this work explores the
journey of a fragile physical and emotional
being in a beautiful but often complex and
overwhelming world.

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