

bo.lee gallery

Tessa Farmer

Biography

Born in Birmingham, England, 1978
Lives and works in London

Education

2003 MFA in Fine Art, Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Art, University of Oxford
2000 BFA (Hons) in Fine Art (First Class), Ruskin School of Drawing and Fine Art, University of Oxford

Solo Exhibitions

2019 In Fairyland, Pound Arts, Corsham
2018 Out of the Earth, Anima Mundi, St Ives
2015 In Fairyland, Viktor Wynd Museum of Curiosities, Natural History and Fine Art (June - November)
2015 In Fairyland, Leeds College of Art (with Annelies Strba, Sverre Malling, Su Blackwell and the Cottingley Fairies) (Touring)
2014 Unwelcome Visitors, The Holburne Museum, Bath
2012 ISAM:Control Over Nature,collaboration with Amon Tobin, Spencer Brownstone Gallery, New York
2012 From The Deep, Millennium, St Ives
2011 The Coming of The Fairies, Viktor Wynd Fine Art, London
2011 ISAM: Control Over Nature; collaboration with Amon Tobin, Crypt Gallery, London
2011 Nymphidia, Danielle Arnaud Contemporary Art, London
2008 Spencer Brownstone Gallery, New York
2007 Little Savages, Natural History Museum, London
Infestation, Chapter Arts Centre, Cardiff
2006 The Terror, Firstsite, Colchester
2002 Touch Wood, Rochester Art Gallery, Rochester

Group Exhibitions

2019 Ten Years, Charlie Smith London, London
2018 Through the Looking Glass, Cob Gallery, London
Beckoning, Leeds Arts University, Leeds
2017 Encounters, Museum Aan der Stroom, Antwerp
Black Mirror, Arts University Bournemouth
Nature's Alchemy, bo.lee gallery, London
2016 Sneakyville, Haugar Vestfold Kunstmuseum, Norway
Pastoral Noir, Wood Street Galleries, Pittsburgh
Field Days (touring, commissioned by Artsreach) Dorset
Animalia, Sassoon Gallery, Folkestone
Curio: Sites of Wonder, Studio 3 Gallery, University of Kent
Petrichor, bo.lee gallery at 19 Greek Street, London

- Perfectionism III, Griffin Gallery, London
 Strange Worlds: The vision of Angela Carter, Royal West of England Academy, Bristol
- 2015 Step in Stone (July- October), Somerset
 The Gallery of Wonder on Tour, Northumberland (May- October)
 Unnatural Curiosities, Viktor Wynd Museum of Curiosities, London
- 2014 The Infected Museum, Viktor Wynd Museum of Curiosities, London
 Secret Lives, Beaux Arts, Bath
 Vanitas, Karin Janssen Project Space, London
 Odyssey, St Edmund the King Church, London
 Apiculture: Bees and the Art of Pollination, Peninsula Art Gallery, Plymouth
 Exile: A Living Forest, ONCA, Leighton
- 2013 Victoriana, Guildhall Art Gallery, London
 World Fantasy Convention, Brighton
 Beautiful Minds, Kleine Galerie, Humboldt University
 Reforest, Stour Valley Arts Gallery, Ashford
 Red Queen, MONA, Tasmania
 The Nature of the Beast, New Art Gallery Walsall
 Odyssey, Bath Abbey, Bath
 From Grimm to Reality, Sidney Cooper Gallery, Canterbury
 Beastly Hall, Bexley Hall, Kent
 Oscillator, Science Gallery, Dublin
 World of Wild Doubt, Hamburg Kunstverein, Germany
- 2012 Bedlam, Old Vic Tunnels, London. Organised by Lazarides Gallery, London
 Entomology, Lotte Inch Gallery, York
 Pertaining to Things Natural, Chelsea Physic Garden and John Martin Gallery, London
 Tatton Park Biennial, Tatton Park, Knutsford
 Minimal, Ha Gamle Prestergard, Norway
 Hunters and Hunted, Museum Villa Rot, Germany
- 2011 Saatchi Gallery in Adelaide, British Art Now, Art Gallery of South Australia
 Lafcadio's Revenge (with Dana Sherwood and Nina Nichols), New Orleans, USA
 Mindful, The Old Vic Tunnels, London
 Inaugural exhibition, Museum of Old and New Art (MONA), Tasmania, Australia
 The Charter of The Forest, The Collection, Lincoln Art Gallery
 House of Beasts, Attingham Park (National Trust), Shrewsbury
 Enchanted Garden, Flower Fairies and Dark Tales, Mottisfont Abbey (National Trust) Hampshire
- 2010 Cabinet, John Martin Gallery, London
 The Witching Hour, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery (Water Hall), Birmingham
 Newspeak: British Art Now: Part Two, Saatchi Gallery, London
 Provenance (Exhibition and Symposium), Corsham Court, Bath
 Revelation Film Festival (screening of An Insidious Intrusion and Nest of the Skeletons), Perth, Australia
 Fairytales: The Surreal House, Barbican, London: 10th June- evening screening of An Insidious Intrusion
 Larger than Life Stranger than Fiction, Eleventh Triennial of small scale sculpture, Fellbach, Germany
 Oasis, Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery, Bury St Edmunds
 Dead or Alive, Museum of Arts and Design, New York
 Extraordinary Measures, Belsay Hall, Northumberland
 East Wing IX: Exhibitionism, The Courtauld Institute, London
- 2009 Newspeak, British Art Now, The State Hermitage Museum, St Petersburg, Russia
 Small Moments of Fantastic Things, Galerie Antje Wachs, Berlin, Germany
 Festival, South Bank Centre, London
 Slump City, Space Studios, London
 Breaking New, Five Hundred Dollars, London
- 2008 Riddle Me, Danielle Arnaud Gallery, London

- Wrap Your Troubles in a Dream, curated by Power Ekroth, Lautom Gallery, Oslo, Norway
 In Transit, Ladbroke Grove, London
 Animal Magic, Eleven, London
 Tatton Park Biennial, Knutsford
 LOCKED IN: The Visible, Casino Luxembourg, Luxembourg
 Gothic, Fieldgate Gallery, London
- 2007 The Future Can Wait, Atlantis Gallery, London
 Growing Wild, Andreiana Mihail Gallery, curated by Jane Neal, Bucharest, Romania
 Am Schlimmsten: nicht im Sommer sterben, Nassauische Kunstverein, Wiesbaden, Germany
- 2006 Repatriating the Ark, Museum of Garden History, London
 Miniature Worlds Jerwood Space, London
 The Mouse that Roared, Project 133, London
 Where the Wild Things Are, Imperial College, London
- 2005 The Unlimited Dream Company, The Biscuit Factory, Newcastle
 Radar, Empire Gallery, London
 Thinking the Unthinkable, Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art, Sunderland
 New Sculpture, Museum 52, London
 The Young Ones, Said Business School, Oxford
- 2004 Bloomberg New Contemporaries, The Barbican, London
 Bloomberg New Contemporaries, The Coach Shed, Liverpool
- 2002 Tweede Natuur, Lia Schelkens Sculpture Gallery, Antwerp

Awards & Commissions

- 2015 The British Science Fiction Association (BSFA) Art Award
 2013 The Discerning Eye Meynell Fenton Purchase Prize
 2012 A2IM Libera Music Awards, Creative Packaging Award (For Amon Tobin ISAM artwork)
 Independent Music Award (IMA) Best Album Art (For Amon Tobin ISAM artwork))
 2011 The Kindle Project (USA) Makers Muse Award
 2007 Arts Council England award for residency at the Natural History Museum, London
 The Times/South Bank Show Breakthrough Award (nominated)
 2005 RBS Bursary Award
 2004 Selected for Bloomberg New Contemporaries
 2002 AHRB Award for Postgraduate Study
 2001 Sculpture residency for Stour Valley Arts in King's Wood, Challock
 2000 Vivien Leigh Prize, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford
 1999 Short-listed for Pirye Prize, Oxford University Press

Collections

- Saatchi Collection, London
 David Roberts Collection, London
 Libeert Collection, Belgium
 Ashmolean Museum, Oxford
 MONA (Museum of Old and New Art) Hobart, Australia
 21 Century Museum, Kentucky, USA
 George Hartman Collection, Toronto
 Private collections in UK, Europe, Australia and USA

Selected Press

- 2014 Kays, Hayden, Hunger Magazine, September, Feature and Interview
Authers, Kate, Bath Life Magazine, August, Interview
Craft Magazine, May/June 2014, 'A world of fiendish fairies, Tessa Farmer' Interview by Teleri Lloyd Jones
Crafts Council website article about 'Unwelcome Visitors' <http://www.craftscouncil.org.uk/articles/unwel-come-visitors/>
Wall St International website: <http://wsimag.com/science-and-technology/10356-tessa-farmerunwelcome-visitors>
Hoare, Philip, The Guardian, 'Museum and gallery curators reopen the cabinet of curiosities concept' 13/01/14
<http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2014/jan/13/cabinet-curiousities-taxidermy-retromuseums>
- 2013 McCara, Catriona <http://www.preservedproject.co.uk/tessa-farmer-march-of-the-anti-fairies/>
Hope, Emma, The Mercury, Australia, 22/06/13, Journey Inside the Red Queen
http://prelive.themercury.com.au/article/2013/06/22/381958_tasmania-news.html
Frost, Vicky, Guardian Australia Culture Blog, 19/06/13
<http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/australiacultureblog/2013/jun/19/mona-red-queen-hobart>
Isbel, Paul, Artshub.com.au <http://www.artshub.com.au/news-article/features/all-arts/tessa-farmersfairies-are-invited-to-the-court-of-the-red-queen-195576>
The Australian, Red Queen Gallery <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/arts/review/photos-fn9n8gph1226674392870?page=1>
McDonald John, Sydney Morning Herald, 10/07/13 <http://www.smh.com.au/entertainment/creativity-it-s-all-a-matter-of-survival-20130709-2po7f.html>
Aloi, Giovanni, White Hot Magazine, May 2013, Review of Nature of the Beast
<http://whitehotmagazine.com/articles/beast-new-art-gallery-walsall/2772>
- 2012 Ashton, Rachel, National Trust Magazine, May 2012, Interview
Clark, Robert, Guardian Preview 12/05/12
<http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2012/may/12/this-weeks-new-exhibitions>
Clark, Robert, Guardian Preview 25/10/12
<http://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/gallery/2012/oct/25/exhibitionist-art-shows/#/?picture=398332011&index=2>
- 2011 Holledge, Richard, The Times 27/08/2011. Contemporary Art casts a spell at historic Mottisfont
<http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/life/courtsocial/article3146721.ece>
Bramich, Beth, Nottingham Visual Arts <http://www.nottinghamvisualarts.net/articles/201110/interviewtessa-farmer>
Male, Howard, 28/05/11, The Arts Desk
<http://www.theartsdesk.com/new-music/tessa-farmer-danielle-arnaud-art-gallerycryptgallery>
Solon, Olivia 10/10/2011, Wired Magazine
<http://www.wired.co.uk/news/archive/2011-10/10/tessa-farmer-evil-fairies>
ARTE TV: Programme as part of TRACKS series:
<http://www.arte.tv/fr/mini-orgies-pour-maxi-cauchemars/4289924,CmC=4289798.html>
Tobin, Alex, Feature made for GESTALTEN TV:
<http://www.gestalten.tv/motion/tessa-farmer>
2010 Goldstein, Melissa, Wall Street Journal, 03/09/10 Farmer's Frankensteinian Fairies
Cumming, Laura The Observer, 02/05/10 'Extraordinary Measures'
Smith, Hayden, Metro, 26/04/10 'Squirrels that really bug you'
Siegel, Miranda, New York Magazine, 25/04/10, 'Skip the oil paint, go straight to the boneyard'
Higgins Junior, Chester, New York Times, 29/04/10, 'Fun with feathers and bones'
- 2009 El Pais, 31/10/09, 'El arte mas nuevo entra el Hermitage'
El Pais, foto del dia, 31/10/09, 'Swarm, Tessa Farmer'
Antennae Magazine, Insecta, Autumn 2009, 'The Horned Skullship'
Benjamin, Alison, Guardian website, Environment blog, 03/09/09 Festival picture gallery

- Jeffreys, Tom, spoonfed.co.uk, 'Slump City at Space' 08/06/09
- 2008 Saltz, Jerry, New York Magazine, 'The Year in Superlatives', 15/12/08
- Johnston, Ken, New York Times, 'SoHo galleries: Provocations, Reflections and Abstractions' 13/11/08
- New York Magazine, The Entomologist, 10/11/08, p. 106.
- Buck, Louisa, ExtraOrdinary,Vogue, London, Oct 2008, p. 174-175.
- Campbell-Johnston, Rachel, Tessa Farmer, Times, London, 1/04/08
- Sumpster, Helen, In the Studio-Tessa Farmer, Time Out London, 20/02/08
- 2007 Antennae Magazine, Insect Poetics, Autumn 2007, 'In Conversation with Tessa Farmer'
- Harrod, Horatia, Kiss of Death, The Sunday Telegraph, 14/10/07
- Martin, Colin, Demonic deeds in symbiotic art, Nature, 17/10/07
- The Guardian, Fairies with a vicious streak, 03/10/07
- Price, Matt, Tessa Farmer, Fused Magazine, Issue 34, Dec. 2007
- Sharpe, Emily, Tessa Farmer: lady of the flies, The Art Newspaper, 06/12/07
- 2006 Guner, Fisun, Marvellous in Miniature, thisislondon.co.uk, London, 17/08/06
- Herbert, Martin, Miniature Worlds, Time Out London, 23/08/06
- 2005 The Sunderland Echo, the Ones to watch, 02/02/05
- 2004 Art Monthly, November 2004, 'New Contemporaries'