

CCANW

Art, Ecology and the Economy exhibitor information

Aune Head Arts

Arts Collective
Princetown

Artist-led, not-for-profit, Aune Head Arts (AHA) was formed in 1997 to encourage the creation of contemporary artworks on, about and with the people of Dartmoor. While AHA now works across the UK, Dartmoor remains at its centre.



Collaborative and partnership working is important to their focus on the creation of arts projects in response to contemporary rural life, as well as the education, training and mentoring of artists. Some projects are multi-year and involve partners and locations on and beyond Dartmoor, while others are shorter and have Dartmoor partners and focus.

The work of AHA is done from the home offices of the staff team in South and North Devon and Cornwall. The management and pay structure is flat, a reflection of their approach to organisational flexibility and sustainability – team members are able to switch roles as project work shifts. The staff and board share an interest and expertise in the development of high quality project and education work.

Re-use and recycle describes AHA's systems. The use of recycled office products and reliance (as much as possible) on local and/or green suppliers is the norm. AHA specialises in savvy on-line purchasing of 'barely used' computers and a/v equipment. Work in rural places means the use of cars is unavoidable. However, whenever possible, team members use public transport – AHA does not fly.

The work on view at CCANW was from AHA's 2007 project Women in Farming which brought together six women artists to explore the lives and work of three women hill farmers on Dartmoor. The resulting artworks explored farming practice, the people, and the place in which they live and work. The work in the exhibition was made at Drywell Farm in Widecombe by artist Jennie Hayes. It comprises 3 handmade books illustrating the life and work of farmer Sue Peach. The fleece on show was a Whitefaced Dartmoor from Runnage Farm, Postbridge.

Art, Ecology and the Economy was shown at CCANW's Project Space in Haldon Forest Park and Duchy Square Centre for Creativity, Princetown, in two simultaneous parts in Winter 2010. It was supported by Arts Council England, Devon County Council and Greater Dartmoor LEAF, incorporating funding from the EU, Defra, SWRDA and LEADER.

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