



MODERN MYTHOLOGIES

ESSEX

A COMMISSIONED
PROJECT BY
ESSEX COUNTY COUNCIL
ARTS AND
CULTURAL FUND
2023

The Artists Walter & Zoniel will use their key tools of surrealism and playfulness to engage observers/participants in a multi site-specific installation spanning the County of Essex.

MODERN MYTHOLOGIES

A POEM FOR ESSEX. WRITTEN UPON THE LAND.

INSPIRED BY THE WORDS OF THE PEOPLE



MODERN MYTHOLOGIES is a new commissioned multi-site Land Artwork for 2023, that will tell a new story of the county, inspired by the words and memories of its residents.

The giant Land Artwork is formed of individual lines of text painted on a massive scale on fields across the county, using an eco paint.

Each site specific line of text can be read alone, but it is also numbered and together, when read in order forms a poem, a poem written with the words of Essex's residents.

This artwork brings together geographical, and local communities, it represents togetherness, connection, inspiration in both its creation and its installation stages.

When MODERN MYTHOLOGIES is painted on the fields and grassy banks of Essex, it becomes live, massive colourful words for people to visit, to reflect upon, to photograph themselves with the surreal artwork, with an individual word, with a line that resonates with them.

MODERN MYTHOLOGIES has an innately playful nature, that of a treasure hunt, encouraging people to visit all of the sites, to 'collect' all of the lines of the surreal Land Artwork.

MODERN MYTHOLOGIES is an inclusive, inspired, inspiring, surreal, fun artwork that opens the door to deeper discussion, encouraging those visiting it to share their memories, to interpret what has been written, and connect to one another further.

A GIANT POETIC LAND-ARTWORK

STAGE ONE - OUTREACH PROGRAMME

The MODERN MYTHOLOGIES artwork will be the result of a massive outreach programme, where the artist duo and their team will gather input from thousands of residents throughout the county of Essex.

During the outreach stage of the project, participants will be asked a short series of questions. Each question is designed to elicit participants' positive memories and relationships they have with the county.

This is an inclusive stage, where as many people as possible will be encouraged to partake, in person, online or via social media. It is intended to be a fulfilling and uplifting experience, an opportunity for people to focus upon the positive, to tell their stories and to feel part of a greater joint act of creation. There will also be the opportunity for three individuals who partake in this stage to receive a unique signed print of the final artwork, at the end of the project, as an added joyous opportunity.



STAGE TWO - DEVELOPMENT & PRODUCTION

The MODERN MYTHOLOGIES artwork will be designed in this stage.

The Artists hope to visit as many community groups as possible; to hear stories about Essex and then inspired by the stories of participants from the outreach stage, the artists will first create a poem. A word artwork that reflects the words and feelings of people in this moment in time, whilst being in the uplifting and surreal style that the artists are renowned for.

The poem artwork will be designed to be divided into sections that can act as stand alone artworks or read as a whole.

Once the full list of public sites have been confirmed, each section of the artwork will be designed in relation to its particular site, whether that be a 400 square metre rural field, section of beach or around a local monument.



STAGE THREE - INSTALLATION & LIVE ARTWORK



Eco-Paint being used in an Artwork in Brighton.

The art duo and their team will install the MODERN MYTHOLOGIES artwork throughout the county of Essex.

This will be a multi-site installation on a giant scale. Poetic artworks painted onto grass in public spaces using an eco-paint, designed specifically for painting on grass.

Once installed, the artwork will be free for the public to view and enjoy.

We imagine that people will enjoy the Land Art Poetry, take photographs of it and of themselves with specific words or lines that they relate to and further share these images.

The numbered artworks will indicate that they are part of a larger whole, encouraging people to visit multiple sites. Signage will give a brief overview of what the artwork is about, how people can be involved and direct them to a supporting, interactive online presence.

“W&Z wish to utilise this simplicity of involvement to be able to make the installation as beautiful, powerful and inclusive as possible”

TIME SCALE - INSTALLATION

We are planning on completing Artworks on 5 -10 sites through the county of Essex during the weeks leading up to the easter break in 2023, so that the work can be explored by families during the holidays., weather permitting.

Oct / Nov / Dec 2022 - Planning / Location Visits

Feb / March - Meeting Community groups / talks etc

3rd - 9th April - Dates of Installation of Artworks.

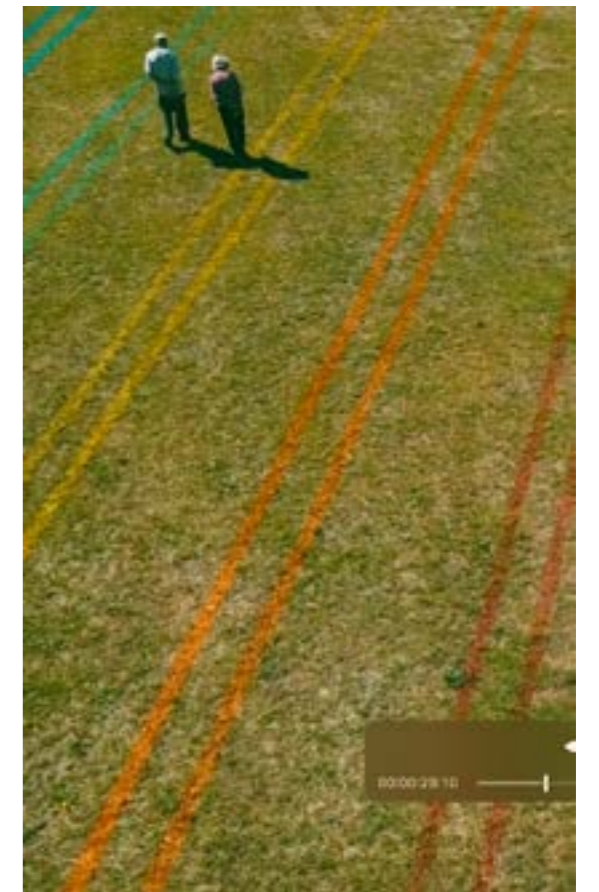
3rd - 14th April - Easter Holidays Essex

April - May - Artwork visible till grown out / mowed.



IMPACTFUL - AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY AND DRONE FOOTAGE WILL ALLOW PARTICIPANTS TO SEE THE ARTWORKS IN A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT WAY.

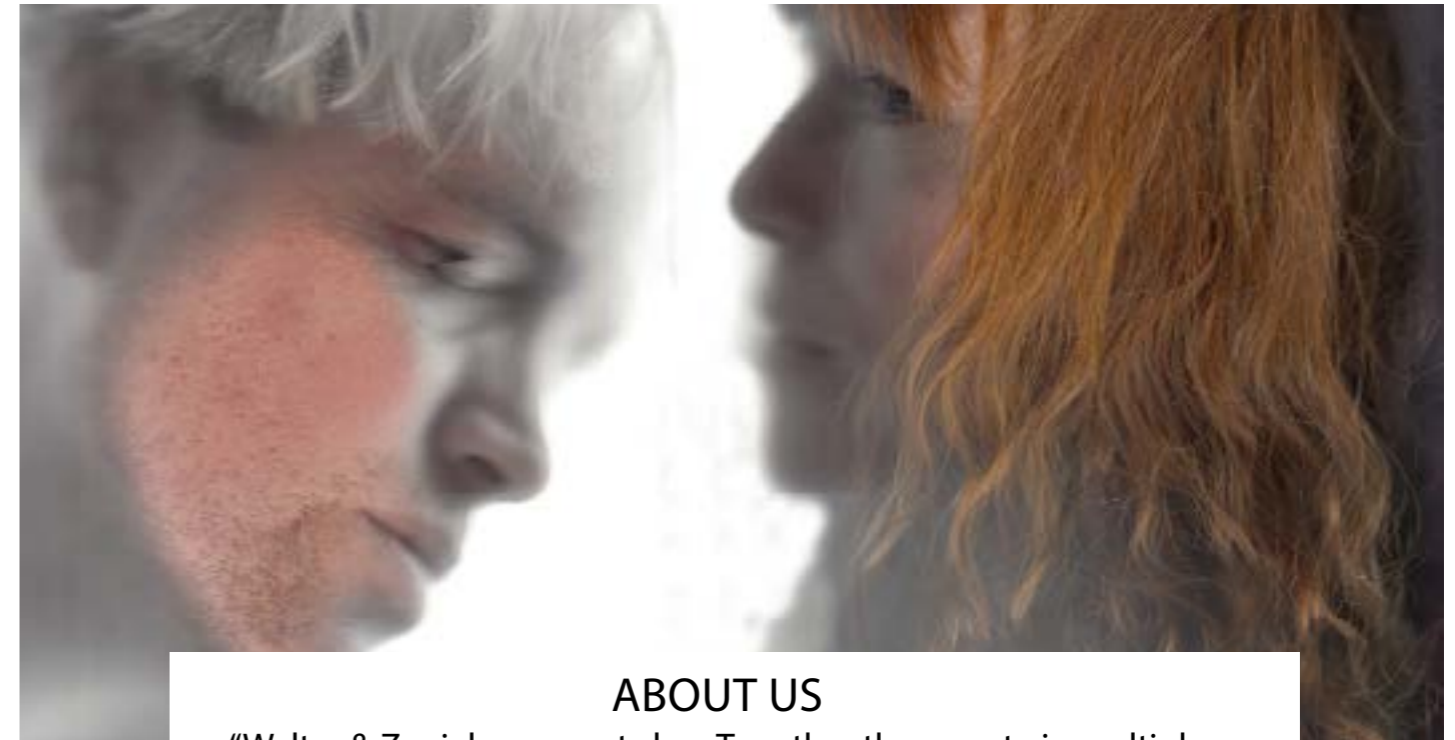
INSPIRATION AND INTERACTION. TO SHARE IN REAL LIFE AND ONLINE.



PROJECT SPEC

Overview of Installation of Artworks at proposed sites.

- Visit proposed locations and work with staff to agree upon a workable site.
- Location confirmed.
- Proposed artwork designed to scale digitally.
- Confirm Installation date.
- Final sign off from relevant bodies involved.
- Marketing of live installation.
- W & Z team arrive on site.
- Mark up artwork using pole and rope grid.
- Artwork created by spraying Eco paint on grass.
- Drone photography and footage recorded.
- Signage to be installed on site for visitors.
- Public invited to visit and interact with the artworks.
- Artwork will then naturally fade over time as grass grows and will disappear as the grass is mowed.



ABOUT US

“Walter & Zoniel are an art-duo. Together they create in multiple mediums, using the power of beauty, play and surrealism to explore the subjects of their inspiration



OUR WORK

We are an artist duo, who work with a team of assistants. We create large scale uplifting installations that utilise surrealism and fun to evoke a sense of joy, connection and give access to deeper creative thought and debate about spaces and subjects.

We use fun, joy and mischief as powerful, active tool within our artworks.

These tools are used as a means to allow people to meaningfully engage with the artwork, in an actively emotional manner. Our use of colour and surrealism (such as painting upon grass, catapulting paint at galleries in previous projects.) is meant to uplift the viewer or participant, taking them out of their everyday expectations, simply giving them an unusual and fulfilling experience

Our installations are interactive in either their research or creation stages. We are often commissioned to create large scale public installation which celebrate areas, themes, or communities, many of which, have been previously overlooked by the arts world.

Our work is joyous. We are firm believers that art should be accessible to everyone, this is what has driven our Public Art Practice from the start. We find that in the act of spreading joy, deep and wonderful connections can be made, and art itself can become much more accessible.

Those joyous connections in turn are then naturally shared with a greater audience through word of mouth and social media.



They practice in multi-media, predominantly through installation, conceptual photography film and performance. Their installation works have been staged during Liverpool Biennial, Venice Biennale, Miami Basel, Lumier Festival Durham & London. They have used interaction and live streaming to connect multiple locations with a single installation from Toxteth Liverpool with Mayfair London to Little Haiti with the Design District in Miami.

They have engaged local social groups from teenagers to OAPs in the creation and live elements of their installations.

Recent projects include a performance-practice installation at the Tate Britain, entitled Salt Print Selfie, Art Enlightens at the National Portrait Gallery, Public space installation at Frieze Fair London 2019.

Site-specific public installations include Miami Basel, Liverpool Biennial, Brighton Festival, Lumiere Festival - Durham and London.

They were the commissioned artists for PhotoLondon in 2016 and again in 2022, where they produced one of the worlds largest cameras @ Somerset House.

In 2019 /2021 Walter & Zoniel were nominated for the Prix Pictet.

There work is in the permanent collection of the National Portrait Gallery and the National Art Collection.



PREVIOUS PROJECTS

Brighton 2020

A Simple Act Of Wonder was a giant scale artwork by us, commissioned by Brighton Festival, Fabrica Gallery and through an EU funding body.

The artwork consisted of vast multiple public installations throughout a suburb of Brighton and the city centre. The suburb had long been stigmatised by crime and never before received arts funding. The commissioners of the artwork were keen to see a work that recognised local residents, was inclusive and celebratory.

We created three massive (nearly a mile long) grass paintings, multiple painted installations upon local residents houses and community centres, a poetry journey presented upon plaques throughout the neighbourhood leading to Fabrica gallery in the city centre, in which was an immersive installation was housed.

All of the work was a colourful celebration of the stories of the local and past residents of the area, the landscape and historical relevance.



THE RAINBOW CAM - FRIEZE LONDON -



ANON - LUMIERE FESTIVAL - LONDON



THE PHYSICAL POSSIBILITY - LIVERPOOL BIENNIAL -

Revealed in absolute secrecy, with no press or pr being released about the work. The first public experience of the installation was as dusk fell, when the shutters automatically lifted to reveal the surrealism living within. Allowing the artwork to naturally effect the neighbourhood.



THE PHYSICAL POSSIBILITY - Miami Basel -

Revealed in absolute secrecy, with no press or pr being released about the work. The first public experience of the installation was as dusk fell, when the shutters automatically lifted to reveal the surrealism living within. Allowing the artwork to naturally effect the neighbourhood.



SPECTRA - BRIGHTON BEACH - BRIGHTON FESTIVAL -

The public participation piece uses the elements key to Walter & Zoniel's installations, of fun and surrealism and working on reassigning meaning to buildings and spaces that are familiar to us in a different context.



SPECTRA - OPEN EYE GALLERY - LIVERPOOL BIENNIAL -

Walter & Zoniel's Spectra is a large scale site specific installation dealing with the transformation of a public space or building through the use of colour and disruption.

CONTACT US

WWW.MODERNMYTH.UK

INFO@MODERNMYTH.UK

INSTA:@MONDERNMYTHESSEX

#MODERNMYTHESSEX

#ESSEXARTSCULTURALFUND



www.walterandzoniell.com
[instagram @walterandzoniell](https://www.instagram.com/walterandzoniell)

+44 (0) 7591431982

+44 (0) 7454 937 495

WALTER & ZONIEL

43 Berkley Square, London, W1J 5AP

Studio 25, The Yard, Hastings

If you would like to view
additional work or for enquiries
please drop us a line via email.

—
zoniell@walterandzoniell.com
walter@walterandzoniell.com