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East Anglia **covered...**



Interview with Sophie Gresswell cont... By Joanna Bailey

young people in the creation of public artwork is the increase you see in their confidence and pride in their local spaces.

Where/who do you seek inspiration from?

At the moment, much of my inspiration comes from artists like Yayoi Kasuma and Carsten Holler who transform spaces into experiences, with immersive, sensory objects. I am looking to create experiences that combine sensory aspects like this with art in the public realm, in order to connect people with the urban landscape around them!

How would you describe your experience as a freelance art practitioner?

It has been a steep learning curve for me becoming a freelance art practitioner, it's not for the faint hearted, you learn a lot in a short space of time, especially when working with young people. When it goes wrong, you know it, but when it goes right it is very rewarding to see people fully engage with your artistic vision.



When did your fascination with craft, visual arts, and design begin?

I have had a fascination with painting from a very young age. I grew up in a very creative household, with a mother who happens to be a photographer and a father who happens to be a poet, so vibrant imagery was always a part of my life. As I grew I found a voice through visual arts and now it is a huge part of who I am.

What advice would you give to young aspiring artists?

Stick with it and learn from your mistakes (everyone makes them). It is all too easy to stop and say to yourself, "what am I doing with my life?" But if it really means something to you, keep going. Now or later someone will see your potential!

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