

“Shifting Worlds”

by Derek Hill, Visiting Artist

Centre For Bacterial Cell Biology,
Medical School, Newcastle University

Summary

The art on display will be a selection of current paintings by Derek Hill, accompanied by his interactive film work with Dr Richard Daniel, demonstrating many months of collaboration between Derek’s studio and the labs at the Centre for Bacterial Cell Biology (CBCB). The work explores the circumstances and substances in life that nurture its development. By embracing microbiology as a prime source for its continued construction, it juxtaposes the physical, human world with the intricacies of the hidden microbial one, in an attempt to illuminate perceptions of who we imagine we are, from an alien perspective. It’s our longer term aim to exhibit the work through programmes of related events, as an inspirational multimedia installation, for everyone, young and old, to participate in.



Thanks to artist Ian Hall for post-production/editing films. Special thanks to Professor Jeff Errington FRS and to Professor Colin Harwood and Dr Richard Daniel for their continued support

About the Artist

Since leaving the RCA in 1982 Derek Hill has spent his time aligning his art practice with developing projects in the public domain. The most notable has been founding and establishing the Art Studio, Sunderland 1986-2012. This project between art and science, with its focus on the construction of art for public engagement, is a relatively new concept and collaboration with the CBCB materialised through an unusual set of circumstances: a brush with death, a need to identify with life’s mysteries, and most importantly, to nurture a greater understanding of what painting and drawing represents to himself and others.

John Millard is former Manager of Tyne and Wear Museums and Liverpool Museums, he says of Derek’s work. *“Some of his canvases are like microscopic biological processes expanded to a massive size. Others appear to be vast geographical processes made to happen in a few square feet. They are lucid and mysterious, generous and intense, majestic and, literally, wonderful.”*

Further information

Derek’s site (<https://www.derehill.co.uk/about/>)

Linked-IN - Derek Hill (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/derek-hill-0913b1b2>)

Centre for Bacterial Cell Biology (<https://www.ncl.ac.uk/cbc/b/about/>)