

Press Release

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'Sol Force' Summer Solstice Art Event

in aid of Freedom from Torture

Friday 21 June | 5pm to 11.30pm | Tremeneheere Sculpture Gardens



Image | PANTHEIST projection inside James Turrell RA's SKYSPACE at Tremneere Sculpture Gardens
By Jesse L Smith and Roger Thorp

Described as a “rampant solstice celebration”, Sol Force is a spectacular outdoor art event for all at Tremneere Sculpture Gardens. Held in aid of Freedom from Torture, the event features soundscapes, films, paintings, ceramics, talks, poetry readings, performance and site-specific artworks from over 60 artists and performers that will take you on a thrilling, multi-sensory tour through Tremneere gardens on the most auspicious night of the summer. From a car crushed by a meteorite, to a boulder head reminiscent of Easter Island, a family of steel cabinets stranded in the woods, lonely doorways in meadows, broken branches forming a multitude of hands, a huge collaborative installation across the hillside, drawings and animations projected onto a wooded brook, and a van converted to a printmaking studio where visitors can make their own images, this multi-media event brings together new work by internationally respected artists, emerging artists and fine art graduates. Participating artists include Christopher Everard, Sam Bassett, Roger Thorp, Jamie Mills, Jo Gorman, Richard Ballinger, Palmer White, Janet McEwan, Matthew Bennington, Winnie Lynn, Dan Pyne and Jesse Leroy Smith amongst many others.

Curated by artist Jesse Leroy Smith ‘Sol Force’ marks the end of his month-long exhibition ‘Force Majeure’ at Tremneere Gallery. Jesse says:

“For *Sol Force* I plan to create something truly memorable that draws on an extraordinary collective, and is a redemptive celebration of camaraderie, nature and hope. For my gallery exhibition I presented an arcade of human images, but by setting work in Tremneere’s beautiful subtropical gardens on Solstice night, we will be able to explore the primal and redemptive elements of nature.”



Image | THE LONGEST DAY | Oil on mirror | by Jesse L Smith



Image | Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens | photo credit Karl Davies

See *Sol Force* for one night only on Friday 21st June from 5pm to 11.30pm. Tickets are £6 at the gate and all proceeds go directly to Freedom from Torture. See tremenheere.co.uk and freedomfromtorture.org for further details or contact Jesse at malvern@blue-earth.co.uk or telephone 07944 262727.

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Print Ready 300dpi images for press use:

Editors Notes

FREEDOM FROM TORTURE

Freedom from Torture is a registered charity providing support for torture survivors living in the UK. Every year, hundreds of people seek their help to overcome the effects of torture. The charity offers a wide range of services to survivors, from one-to-one counselling, to group therapy activities such as gardening and music, and helps them to navigate the complex asylum and welfare systems by providing legal and welfare services, and expert medical assessments to support survivors' asylum claims.

JESSE LEROY SMITH

Jesse Leroy Smith lives in Newlyn and Brighton. He studied Fine Art at Norwich School of Art and completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Painting at the Royal Academy Schools in London. He exhibits internationally at commercial and public galleries and art fairs, and travels widely for art residencies and research.

Most recently, in 2018 he took part in a studio swap with an artist at Agora Collective Berlin, and toured Northern Europe showing collaborative films in art and music venues, concluding in a group show at the Martin Asbaek Gallery in Copenhagen. In 2016 he was awarded a major commission from Cornish Mining World Heritage Sites, to commemorate the area's mining legacy with a series of public performances and a suite of copper etchings. This highly acclaimed project then received funding from the Arts Council England for him to make 'Assembly', 20 portraits on copper.

Over the last decade, Jesse Leroy Smith has initiated and curated numerous multimedia shows in disused and transitory spaces, by gathering together large groups of artists, performers, educators, experts, organisations and the public to collaborate on and re-imagine 'art shows'. Projects include *Unstable Monuments*, held in a wharf side factory in Truro, now an Arts Hub; *Suspended Sentences*, held in a disused Newlyn fish factory, now the Newlyn Filmhouse; he helped launch Helston's CAST

Arts Centre with the immersive *Darkrooms* exhibition, and commemorated the 75th anniversary of the iconic Jubilee Pool lido in Penzance with *ART 75*, which included 90 artists showing works in 75 cubicles and in the water itself; with fellow artist Volker Stox, he curated *Revolver*, held in an ex-car-showroom in Penzance, which profiled a wealth of art practice and is profiled in the full-colour, 220 page hardback book *REVOLVER ART CORNWALL*, with supporting contributions from Falmouth University, Tate St Ives, Newlyn Art Gallery, and various commercial galleries and patrons; the exhibition *PRINT!*, funded by the Heritage Lottery, at the Exchange Gallery in Penzance, was co-curated with artist Bernard Irwin, and brought students, graduates and established practitioners together in a historical survey of International printmaking.

Jesse continues to curate numerous shows, including the Falmouth University graduate showcase in London with critic Sacha Craddock. He also co ran the short lived but highly successful Bucca gallery in Newlyn, and leads the Mentoring Programme at Newlyn School of Art. for emerging artists across the country.

See www.jesseleroy.com and Instagram [@Jesseleroy66](https://www.instagram.com/Jesseleroy66) for details.

Artist enquiries: contact Jesse Leroy Smith | Tel 07944 262727 | Email malvern@blue-earth.co.uk

TREMENHEERE SCULPTURE GARDENS

Tremenheere Sculpture Gardens are located in West Cornwall in a beautiful, sheltered valley with dramatic views across Mounts Bay. The valley's Cornish woods and stream provide the perfect setting for large scale exotic and sub-tropical planting, and are the spectacular backdrop for a collection of inspiring sculptural artworks by internationally renowned artists. The gardens include a café and shop, and in addition a stunning, two floored glass and oak-framed art gallery opened onsite in January 2017.

Tremenheere Gallery, Tremenheere Sculpture Garden, Gulval, Penzance, Cornwall, TR20 8YL.

See www.tremenheere.co.uk for details.

Gallery enquiries: contact Tom Heale | Tel 01736 448089 | tjheale@gmail.com

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