

Foreword

It's with huge pleasure that HOUSE welcomes renowned British artist David Batchelor to Brighton this May, as Lead Artist of HOUSE 2012. Delivering striking new commissions including Skip and the Brighton Festival co-commission *Brighton Palermo Remix*, as well as an intriguing exhibition of Batchelor's related work, HOUSE 2012 contrasts the domestic location of The Regency Town House with the city centre site of Bartholomew Square.

Along-side Batchelor's work, five innovative new satellite commissions from regional artists bring a vibrancy to the streets and public spaces of the city. Responding to the theme of domesticity, the commonplace, and the everyday, HOUSE 2012 reaches out within and beyond the gallery walls.

Central to HOUSE 2012 is an exploration of new ways for people to experience the visual arts and Curator Celia Davies, with Assistant Curator Clare Sheppard, brings a dynamic curatorial vision and focus to the city this May.

HOUSE 2012 is enabled by the generous support of Arts Council England.

Judy Stevens
HOUSE Festival Director

Acknowledgements

HOUSE festival would like to thank its supporters and partners: Andrew Comben at Brighton Festival; Bill Randall, Paula Murray and Donna Close at Brighton and Hove City Council; John Garmichael at Visit Brighton; Karin Mori and Belinda Greenhalgh at Phoenix Brighton; Mike Wilkins at Allied Irish Bank; Stuart Dorn at Brighton Race Course; Photoworks; Ben Rubinstein at Cogapp; Jim Clewlow at PDT Solicitors; Roger Browning at Victor Boorman; Ann Boddington, Karen Norquay and Chris Stevens at Brighton University; Dennis Simpson, Elaine Wolf, Arjo Ghosh, Dino Skinner, Nicola Coleby and Stewart Grey.

Thanks also to Nick Tyson at The Regency Town House; Karl at Moshi Moshi; Angi Mariani, Paul Clark and Fiona McTernan at *The Latest*; Lorretta Sacco and The Old Market team.

We would like to thank the HOUSE 2012 artists: David Batchelor, Tim Brown & Anna Deamer, Helene Kazan, Caroline Le Breton, Robin Blackledge, Deb Bowness.

Also the HOUSE team: Guest curator Celia Davies, Assistant Curator Clare Sheppard, Lauren Davies, Natasha Al-Abdullah, Helen Cann, Tim Holmes, Matt Easton, and all the HOUSE 2012 volunteers.

HOUSE festival has been developed and coordinated by directors, Judy Stevens and Chris Lord.

Cover image:
David Batchelor: *Brighton Palermo Remix* (detail)

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Introduction

HOUSE is Brighton & Hove's curated and programmed visual arts festival. Returning for its fourth year, HOUSE 2012 is delighted to be working with prominent contemporary artist David Batchelor. As Lead artist, HOUSE 2012 has created two major commissions with Batchelor specifically for Brighton & Hove as well as a bespoke exhibition. One of these commissions, *Brighton Palermo Remix* has been developed in partnership with Brighton Festival.

As lead artist Batchelor has also influenced the selection and development of five satellite commissions that make up HOUSE Festival 2012. Through the process of an open-call for proposals, the HOUSE 2012 panel selected Helene Kazan, Cinecity & Anna Deamer, Robin Blackledge, Deb Bowness and Caroline Le Breton.

Inherent to the character of HOUSE 2012 is work that exists both within and beyond the gallery walls out on to the street. Collectively, all these projects make playful interventions across the city of Brighton & Hove over the month of May, exploring themes of domesticity, the urban and the everyday.

With significant funding from Arts Council England, HOUSE 2012 promises to be the most ambitious incarnation of the festival across the city yet. This guide provides further information about the talented mix of artists who make up HOUSE 2012 and where you can find their work.

Celia Davies
Guest Curator
HOUSE 2012

Skip

For many years David Batchelor has looked to the street for ideas and inspiration. For him the street is a repository of brilliant colours and often highly inventive forms. These colours and forms are visible for everyone to see but at the same time they have often been overlooked. In the past he has used salvaged light boxes (Spectrum of Brick Lane), plastic objects from Pound Shops (Parapillars) and street markets in Brazil (Disco Mecanique), neon signage (Festival Remix) and, most recently, fairground/seaside illuminations (Big Rock Candy Fountain). In each case the aim is to adapt these materials, forms and colours and draw attention to their presence in our visual culture.

A newly commissioned work *Skip* is sited outside Moshi Moshi in Bartholomew Square, providing a city centre presence of a major commission throughout the festival. The skip, an everyday object found on the street is a readymade for Batchelor. Here a skip is transformed into something which 'hums' with its local environment, exploring colour through the hues of neon and artificial materials of the urban environment. The skip is a commonplace object of every town and city and rarely gets a second glance. Here the skip is given a glowing makeover with the addition of delicate neon tubing that traces its dented contours. *Skip* quietly glows by day and rather less quietly at night in Bartholomew Square.

5 - 27 May

Mon - Sun 00.00-24.00

Moshi Moshi
Bartholomew Square
Brighton BN1 1JS

FREE



Caçamba, 2011, Galeria Leme, São Paulo.

Brighton Palermo Remix

5 - 27 May

Wed - Sun 12.00-18.00

**The Regency
Town House**
13 Brunswick Square
Hove BN3 1EH

FREE

Artists talk

15 May

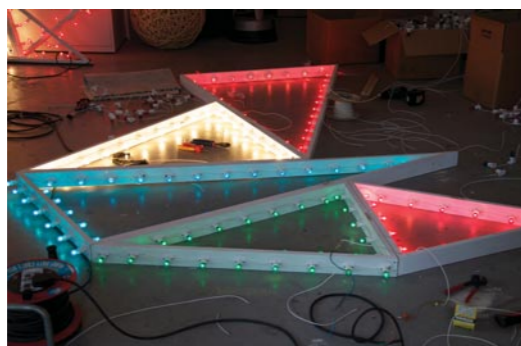
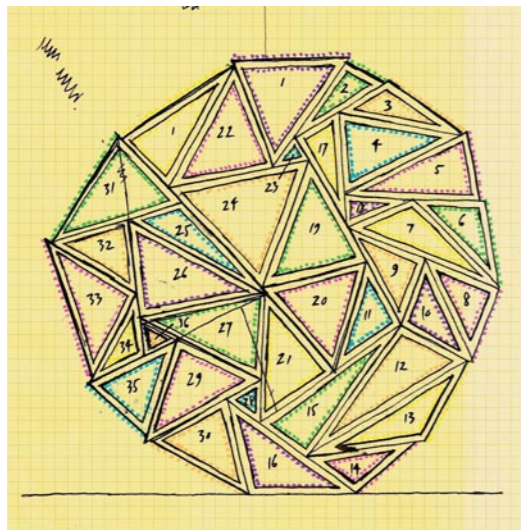
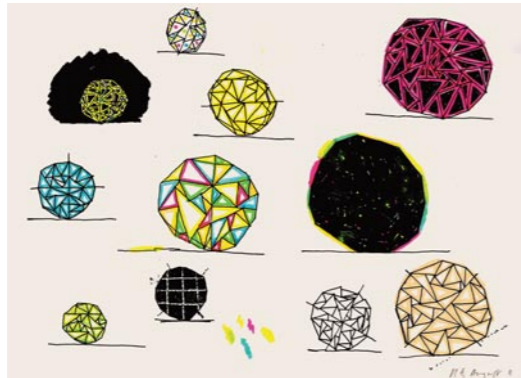
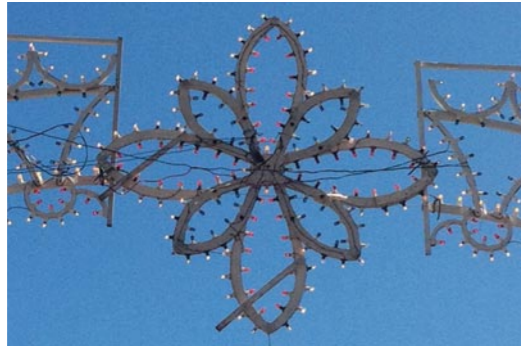
18.30

Old Courthouse
118 Church Street
Brighton BN1 1UD

To reserve a place,
please visit:

www.housefestival.org
and go to **events**

FREE



For this HOUSE and Brighton Festival co-commission, prompted by the festival context, Batchelor is working with a specific form of traditional street festival illumination that he first encountered in Italy two years ago. Fabricated from sections of whitewashed timber and punctuated with hundreds of small coloured lights, these highly decorative structures are hung across streets as a part of summer festival celebrations.

Brighton Palermo Remix makes a connection between two quite different coastal towns and is a development of the artist's long term interest in forms of street decoration and illumination. It is also in part a response to the architectural period details of The Regency Town House, a Grade I listed Terraced house (1824-28) designed by Charles Augustin Busby.

Batchelor's current preoccupation with festival illuminations combines here with an interest in the interior decoration of the Regency Town House; visual prompts include Busby's interior and exterior 'modern embellishments' including the balconies of fine ironwork, curved bow windows, stained glass oriels and ornamental details of the corncing and ceiling centre pieces where chandeliers would have previously hung. These domestic scaled wooden structures adorned with coloured lights are sited with the formal rooms of the main house, the parlour, dining room and drawing rooms.

Working in this way, will create a street festival experience that combines the vernacular of seaside architecture, (its arcades and illuminations) with the Regency influence. The work will express something of the hedonist character for which Brighton and its Regency history is renowned.

Batchelor has exhibited internationally over the last two decades, including shows at the Paco Imperial, Rio de Janeiro; Galeria Leme, São Paulo; MoMA, New York; Tate Britain; and the South Bank Centre, London. At the end of May this year he will exhibit a mid-career survey of work at the Gemeentemuseum, The Hague.

Street decorations,
Palermo Italy (top).

Preparatory drawings for
Brighton Palermo Remix
(centre top, centre lower).

Brighton Palermo Remix
under construction (left).



Brighton Palermo Remix, under construction at the Batchelor's studio.

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Related works

Alongside the new commissions a selection of work is to be sensitively sited in The Regency Town House basement, an extraordinary domestic setting, that still echoes its past, in a warren of servants quarters and rooms. Here Batchelor's work will have interplay with the character of its surrounding environment, providing moments of both subtlety and brilliance.

Works to be included are a combination of 2D and 3D works including the complete Found Monochromes series shown as a projection for the first time in the UK, Idiot Stick, white works including White Blob and White Parapillar and a selection of various table top works sited in the former regency servants kitchen.

5 - 27 May

Wed - Sun 12.00-18.00

**The Regency Town House
Basement
10 Brunswick Square
Hove BN3 1EH**

FREE



*Parapillar (above),
White Blob (left).*



*Prepillar (top),
Parafence (centre),
Prepillar (bottom),
Idiot Stick (left).*

