

Article by Nora Gaston

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I am presently working on an idea for an exhibition in July 2013 called "Undersong". Working out basic ideas in a sketchbook, I then work on a collage interpretation. Glass samples follow to work out texture and movement.

"The undersong is the emotional current that carries us along through the very life of the inner world." Ralph Waldo Emerson.

My studio is in Overstrand, an area of the North Norfolk coast that will, one day, be claimed by the sea. Indeed at the Sidestrand end of the beach, where the man made defenses end, there is quiet relentless slipping of the cliffs into the sea each year, farmland, a house, a garden, steep steps disappear where families excitedly climb up and down, eager to enjoy this magnificent beach.

At one point, when the tide is out and the sand has been shifted there are fossilized items that cause great discussion. Is it a candlestick from the church tower, which fell into the sea, (the rest of the church was moved stone by stone inland) or the base of an ornate lamp from the hotel, also claimed by the sea?

Vikings navigated by the moon and the stars to inhabit this area. The moon still affects the waves and tides no matter how man tries to intervene. Birds, fish, even some sailors, still navigate this way. My inner world is shaped/ nurtured by the outer world where I live, it runs deep.

Most recent Major Public Art Commissions.

2006. Fused glass canopy (20ftx20ft) and interior panel (3ftx1ft) for Renal Unit. U.C.H.T.
2006. 2 glass and stainless steel sculptures, R.A.B.I.U. Musgrave Park Hospital. (6ftx2ft each)
2005. Memorial window, leaded and fused, Belfast City Hall, commissioned by D.H.S.S. (6ftx3ft)
2001. 10 leaded windows Church of Sts John and Paul, New Maryland, New Brunswick, Canada. (Eight are 5ftx2ft, two are 10ftx2ft)

Recent Private Commissions.

2012. Fused glass sculpture, commission for public presentation, Belfast N.Ireland.
2011. Fused glass panel, private home, Norwich, Norfolk. (3ftx1.5ft).

