

Elpida Hadzi-Vasileva

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Born in Macedonia in 1971
UK Resident since 1995

Elpida Hadzi-Vasileva is an artist who creates high quality, ambitious sculptural works and sensitive site-specific installations using materials that are unusual, precious, ordinary and ephemeral; from organic materials and foodstuffs to gold leaf. Central to her practice is an interest in responding to the particularities of a given location, its history, locale, environment and communities. Nature, in particular trees, always played a significant role in her practice, utilising scale, repetition and manipulation; She uses both scale and surprise to challenge us to see the world through different eyes.

Elpida Hadzi-Vasileva has extensive experience of managing and delivering large scale projects, collaborating successfully with engineers, architects, arboriculturists, scientists and others. She has worked artistically in heritage sites such as Gloucester Cathedral, Berwick Gymnasium and the New Forest.

Education

1996-98 **Royal College of Art**, MA in Sculpture, London, England
1993-96 **Glasgow School of Art**, BA(hons) Fine Art in Sculpture, Glasgow (first class honours)

1992-93 **Central School of Speech & Drama**, Art Foundation, London, England
1985-90 **H.S. for Design 'Bogdan Suput'**, Graphic Design, Novi Sad, Yugoslavia

Site specific Commissions and proposals (selection)

2015 **Fragility**, site-specific commission End of Life, Fabrica Gallery, Brighton, England.
2013 Representing the FYR Macedonia, 55th International Art Exhibition, La Biennale di Venezia, Italy
Alexandra Reinhardt Memorial Award, Engage & Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art, England.
Art South, Mottisfont Abbey and Hampshire County Council, England.

2012 **Visual Industries**, Billboards' for Ars Akta in Skopje, Macedonia.
2011 **Compulsive, Obsessive, Repetitive**, commission for the Towner Gallery, Eastbourne, England.

2010 **Transpire**, permanent commission as part of Bristol's Building Schools for the Future program, Bristol City Council, St Bede's Catholic College, Bristol, England.
Raison d'être, permanent commission for shopping centre, partnership of Multi Developments and Aviva Investors, Southgate Project, Bath, England.
Spitalfields Sculpture Prize, shortlisted proposal exhibited at Allen & Overy, Bishops Square, London, England.

2009 **ArtChitecture**, site-specific project in the New Forest, in collaboration with Snug Architects Ltd and TJ Thickett & Associates. Initiated by Solent Centre for Architecture and Design in partnership with ArtSway, England.

2008 **We Are Shadows**, commission to respond to the local area and history of Brick lane, Unit 2 Gallery, in Whitechapel, London, England.
The Beauty of Detail, shortlisted proposal to represent Macedonia at the 53rd Venice Biennale, by the National Gallery of Macedonia, Skopje, Macedonia.

2006 **Weather Cycle**, Coastal Defence Commission to work closely with engineers, architects and the local community, Suffolk County Council Felixstowe, England.

2003-04 **Life Cycle**, temporary commission for The Knowle West Health Park, Bristol, England.

- 2002 **Road to Nowhere**, temporary commission by The Samling Foundation, Kielder Forest, Northumberland.
- 2001 **epidermis**, project developed at the Berwick Fellowship, Berwick upon Tweed, England.
Re|sort, temporary commission for Fabrica Gallery, Brighton, England.
Jerwood Sculpture Prize, Jerwood Sculpture Park, Witley Court, Worcestershire, England.
Sweet Red, permanent commission, Nowton Park, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, England.
- 2000 **Ambush**, underground project part of Year of the Artist Project, Rhinefield Ornamental Drive, New Forest, England.

Exhibitions (selection of Solo exhibitions)

- 2012 **Small Objects**, Makers Cabinets, Brighton Museum and Art Gallery, Brighton, England.
- 2011 **The Wish of the Witness**, Pied a Terre, Two Michelin star restaurant London, England.
Inherent Beauty, Museum-Gallery Kavadarci, Macedonia.
- 2010 **Inherent Beauty**, Public Room, Skopje, Macedonia.
- 2009 **Motectum**, Gloucester Cathedral, Gloucester, England.
- 2008 **We Are Shadows**, Unit 2, Whitechapel, London, England .
Butterflies in the Stomach, l'H du Siege, Valenciennes, France.
- 2006 **Time stands still (1916-1991-2001)**, Kilmainham Gaol Museum, Dublin, Ireland.
- 2002 **Re|sort**, Fabrica Gallery, Brighton, England.
- 2001 **Epidermis_2**, Kelvingrove Museum and Art Gallery, Glasgow, Scotland.
Love Carpet, Hexham Art Centre, Hexham, England.
Epidermis, Berwick Gymnasium Gallery, Berwick upon Tweed, England.
- 2000 **WHO AM I**, ArtSway, Hampshire, England.

Exhibitions and Projects (selection of Group exhibitions)

- 2012 **Summer Exhibition**, Royal Academy of Arts, London, England.
Skin and Texture, part of Art Lending Library, Market Gallery, Glasgow International Festival of Visual Art, Glasgow, Scotland.
- 2010 **Heft: Weight and Touch in Contemporary Sculpture**, The Gallery, Winchester Discovery Centre, Winchester, England.
ArtChitecture, Artsway Contemporary Art Gallery, Sway, New Forest, England.
Spitalfields Sculpture Prize, Allen & Overy, Bishops Square, London, England.
- 2009 **Climate change = cultural change**, Swiss Embassy Gallery and the World Bank, Skopje, Macedonia.
Lastari, Cifte Amam, National Gallery of Macedonia, Skopje, Macedonia
Creative inclusion: Scotland and Macedonia, Step Beyond Mobility Travel Grant, European Culture Foundation, Macedonia.
Alperton Creative Outdoor Installation, Alperton Community School, London, England.
- 2008 **Around Photography**, Brighton Photo Fringe Exhibition, Apec Studios, Brighton, England.
Skin and Texture, UH Galleries, University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield, England.
- 2007 **Meeting Place**, Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum, Bournemouth, England.
Meeting Place, Text+Work, The Gallery, Arts Institute at Bournemouth, England.
- 2005 **New Forest Pavilion**, Palazzo Zenibio, 51st Venice Biennale, Italy.
Urban Condition Meeting House Square, Temple Bar, Dublin, Ireland.
- 2004 **Crossovers Watershed II**, Ecology Centre, Mile End Park, London, England.
- 2002 **Jerwood Sculpture Prize**, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, Scotland.
- 2001 **Jerwood Sculpture Prize**, The Jerwood Gallery, London, England.

Artist in Residence (selection)

- 2011 **Pied a Terre**, Artist in Residence at a two Michelin starred restaurant in central London. This 8 month residency will result in a solo show at the restaurant.
- 2008-09 **Gloucester Cathedral**, Artist-in Residence, Gloucester, England
One-year research fellowship at Gloucester Cathedral and teaching at BA and MA Fine Art at the University of Gloucestershire
- Butterflies in the Stomach** l'H du Siege, Valenciennes, France. A 3-month residency (15 Sep- 15Dec 2007) which involved researching regional and local budget for residency and exhibition <http://elphv.co.uk/work/exhibitions/butterflies-in-the-stomach/>

Awards & Grants

- 2010 **September 7** award by the National Assembly of Kavadarci, Macedonia, Award of recognition for special achievements in the field of Fine Art - Sculpture of importance for the development of Kavadarci
- Ministry of Culture of Macedonia**, grant for solo exhibition **Inherent Beauty**
- 2009 **Arts Council England** South East, Grants for the Arts, to support one year R&D funding.
- Arts Council England** South West, Grants for the Arts, Site Specific Installation at Gloucester Cathedral.
- European Cultural Foundation**, STEP Beyond Mobility Fund, to support travel to Macedonia with Dr Fiona Dean. Sharing of ideas and discussions for potential work connections between artists, art educators, cultural researchers and organizations between Macedonia and Scotland.

Publications (selection)

- 2008 **The Berwick Gymnasium Fellowship**, an archival record, editor Judith King, ISBN 978-0-9557478-1-6, page 70-74, 144
- Meeting Place**, by Stephanie James and Les Buckingham, ISBN 978-0-901196-20-0, ISBN 978-0-905173-95-5, page 28-29.
- Fabrica – the first 10 years**, Edited by Nannette Aldred, ISBN 978-0-9543380-2-2, page 54-56

Catalogues and Brochures (selection)

- 2011 **Compulsive, Obsessive, Repetitive**, Published by Towner, ISBN 978-1-871360-18-9
- 2010 **Inherent Beauty**, Published by Public Room, Skopje, Designed by 24 Point, Commissioned text by Ana Frangovska, Curator, ISBN 978-608-65222-0-9
- 2009 **Climate change, cultural change**, Swiss Embassy Gallery and the World Bank, Skopje, Macedonia
- Motectum**, Published by University of Gloucestershire, Designed by 24 Point / Hold, Commissioned text by Tracey Warr, Keran James and Nicholas Bury the Dean of Gloucester Cathedral, ISBN 978-1-86174-198-1
- 2008 **We Are Shadows**, Published and designed by Unit 2 Gallery, Commissioned text by Alison Wilding
- Butterflies in the Stomach**, Published and designed by L'H du Siege, commissioned text by Mark Segal
- The New Forest Pavilion**, published and designed by Artsway for the 51st Venice Biennale

Press and News reviews (selection)

The Independent

"Hadzi-Vasileva chose to earn her meal ticket in the most gruelling way... She spent months experimenting with the scavenged materials, washing them in detergent, preserving them, drying them out and eventually moulding them in to her equivalent of canvas or clay....The quail army will

enter the permanent collection, where it will hang alongside works by Peter Blake, Howard Hodgkin and Richard Hamilton, who was a director of the restaurant." *Alice Jones* – [read full article](#)

The Wall Street Journal

"But my intention is to create something beautiful through transformation and that its why I am interested in working with items that are perceived as ugly."... Ms. Hadzi-Vasileva says. "It has made me aware of how obsessed chefs are with using only the best of the best ingredients. There are also certain elements that surprised me, such as how much food is discarded because of this quest for perfection — but it isn't wasted, as it is used for stock and other things." *Bruce Palling* – [read full article](#)

Arts Council England

"Central to Elpida Hadzi-Vasileva's practice has been her desire to respond to particularities of a given location, and for her show at Gloucester Cathedral, Hadzi-Vasileva will presente a sound installation consisting of 40 individual sounds, played by 40 speakers... The speakers will transmit recorded sounds consisting of a collection of existing bird songs and Gregorian chants by the Cathedral Choir, as well as live transmitted sounds from the Cloisters Garth (garden) and from the nearby Highnam Woods." [read full article](#)

AnOther

"Catching our eye first in the main dining room is Witness of Virility... So well-suited in colour and form to the burgundy, purple and tan decor – as is the blanket of monkfish skins that adorns one of the walls – diners may not realise that they're sitting under a hive of testicles,... Many of the other pieces have this symbiotic relationship to the space, including the scallop skirt lampshades in the front dining room..." *Ananda Pellerin and Neil Wissink* – [read full article](#)

New Scientist

"An artist in residence at London's Pied à Terre restaurant, Elpida Hadzi-Vasileva uses kitchen cast-offs to create stunning sculptures... Hadzi-Vasileva experiments with different chemical treatments to turn kitchen scraps into the stuff of art... I poked my way around her macabre workspace - with its fridges stocked with frozen lab rats and roadkill - she explained only that her process requires a lot of patience and organisation. The testing period for a single material can sometimes run for months, and each step she meticulously records in a logbook." *Kat Austen* – [read full article](#)

MutualArt.Com

"Pied à Terre is giving a new take on recycled art of the gastronomical variety. But make no mistake - not just anyone is allowed to come and throw some catsup packets on the wall and call it art... Elpida Hadzi-Vasileva, who was handpicked by 12 curators and art-world aficionados as the first artist-in-residence to work at the restaurant in an unusual capacity: assembling the leftovers of haute cuisine into clever a-la-carte artworks that are quite literally a feast for the eyes." *Lauren Meir* – [read full article](#)

The Guardian

"In 2006, standup comic Terry Saunders hit upon the idea of hosting an event in a Camberwell children's library. The event featured comic Josie Long and sketch group Pappy's Fun Club... Edinburgh Fringe saw Welsh comedian Mark Watson present The Hotel, taking over a 10-room building on Edinburgh's Queen Street... Earlier this year, visual artist Elpida Hadzi-Vasileva presented a month-long residency in Gloucester Cathedral, exhibiting visual and sonic artwork responding to her surroundings." *Hazel Davis* – [read full article](#)

Utrinski Vesnik

"Promo-Center "Public Room" in Skopje Debar neighborhood will remember last week's opening of the exhibition "Inherent beauty" of fine artist Elpida Hadzi-Vasileva. The work is set opposite-opposite in the narrow gallery space, and its artistic individuality night did not confuse visitors. On the contrary, with glasses of wine in their hands stood before the delicate white skins in sumptuous forms, whose certain parts were visible traces of blood, chatting, commenting and laughing." *Katerina Bogoeva* – [read full article](#)

2012

ACE South East, December

a-n, December
a-n, December
a-n, November
Dnevnik, November
Nova Makedonija, November
MRT, November
Deutsche Welle, November
Radio Slobodna Evropa, November
Nova Makedonija, November
Sitel, November
Dnevnik, November
Opstina Kavadarci, November
Regioni, November
Kultura, November
+INFO, November
Alfa TV, November
MKD, November
Sitel, November
Vecer, November
Utrinski Vesnik, November
Nova Makedonija, November
24 Vesti, November
Bukvar, November
Dnevnik, June
For Net, November
Idividi, November
Libertas, November
Marili, November
+INFO, June
Vest, June
Time.mk, June
Nova Makedonija, June
Sky, June
Utrinski Vesnik, June
+INFO, June
Plagijat, June
Radio MOF, June
Time.mk, June
The Guardian, May
rpmcollections.wordpress.com, May
Royal Academy, May
Art and Christianity Enquiry, quarterly journal, May
The Guardian, March

2011

Utrinski Vesnik, December
G1 Globo TV, October
AnOther, October
AAH Magazine Horsham, October
Practical Fish Keeping, October
Vecer, October
New Scientist, September
The Independent, September
The Wall Street Journal, September
The Independent, July
BBC News, July
The Independent, July
BMI Voyager, May

2010

The Diary, Independent, December
London Evening Standard, December
offlinekalendar.on.net.mk, November
Utrinski Vesnik, November
Public Room, November
Public Room (Macedonian text), November
Nova Makedonija, November
kadevecer.com.mk, November
Forum.com.mk, November
Architect.mk, November
Grad Skopje, November
In Press, November
Bristol Evening Post, September
Spoonfed, January

2009

artdaily.org, December
The Guardian, November
The World Bank, September
Cotswold News, May
Gloustershire Echo, May
Gloustershire Echo, May

2008

Cornerhouse, May
Culture 24, April
Forum, November
Vreme, November
Vest, July
Let's Motiv, January
Va-infos, January

2007

L'H du Siege, September
Meeting Place, September
A-N projects unedited, September
Fabrica, July
Utrinski Vesnik, January

2006

Artdaily.com, June
Venice Biennale, June
Sirius Arts Centre, March
Arts Council England, February

2005

Realttimearts.net, November
One NorthEast, November
Artdaily.com, July
IMMA, May
Tea Moderna Magazine, May

2004

BBC News, November
British Archaeology, Magazine, issue 79, November
Crossover - Watershead ||, catalogue, October
Contemporary Art, September
Pollock-Krasner Foundation, September
The Times, August
The Guardian, August
Weekend Post, August
BBC West News, August

Radio 3, August
Daily Express, August
The Times, August
The Sun, August
The Sun, August
Evening Post, August
Bristol Evening Post, August

2002

The Samling Foundation, September
The Argus, August
The Argus, August
24 Hour Museum, August
a-n, August
The Guardian, July
Art Preview, July/August
Brighton and Hove Leather, August
The Brighton Source, July
The Argus, July
ABC Magazine, July/November
The Argus, June
Fabrica, June
Scotland on Sunday, March
Merseyside Arts Magazine, January/February
a-n, January

2001

Evening Times, December
Merseyside Arts Magazine, November/December
ArtSway, November
Jerwood Sculpture Prize, November
Financial Times, November
The Times, November
BBC News, November
The Times, November
Whats on in London, November
Enfield Gazette, November
a-n, November
Art Monthly, October
Crafts Magazine, September/October
Museum for Contemporary Arts, Skopje, June
Crossover - outdoors, May
Building and Design Magazine, May
Sunday Herald, April
The Journal, April
The Journal, April
Berwick Advertiser, April

2000

Solo South Radio, November
Meridian News, October
Sunday Mirror, October
BBC South News, October
Daily Echo, October
The Independent, October
Daily Mail, October
The Mirror, October
The Sun, October
New Forest Post, October
[a-n] Magazine for Artist, October

Art Monthly, October
Hampshire Chronicle, September
New Forest Post, June
Have I got news for you, May
The Guardian, February
The Daily Echo, February
The Daily Echo, February
New Forest Post, February
New Forest Post, February
BBC South News, February
Meridian News, February
New Forest Post, January

1997

Whats on in London, June
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew - Magazine, June

1996

The Glasgow Herald, June
The Scotsman, February
Scotland on Sunday, February

1995

Scotland on Sunday, November
The Glasgow Herald, November
West End (Free Press), November
The Big Issue, November
Huddersfield Daily Examiner, October
Barnsley Chronicle, September
Vesnik, Republic of Macedonia, June

1994

The Glasgow Herald, November
The Glasgow Herald, November

For further articles, press reviews and projects including images of works please refer to
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