



**a(muse) Eightwonder**

**Group Exhibition**

**Richard Nash**

Following an international call for submissions, *A Paraphrase on a Grecian Urn* by bookwork artist Richard Nash was selected for the group exhibition *a(muse) Eightwonder 2019*. The exhibiting works were selected and curated by guest curator Nina Jesih in collaboration with the 44AD Project Director, Katie O'Brien. The exhibition was held at the 44ad Artspace gallery, Bath, from 08 - 18 August 2019. The group exhibition included painting, print, photography, video, sound, and 3D artworks from 29 regional, national and international artists. Along with an opening private view, the exhibition also included a gallery talk on the theme of the 'muse' by Jessica Otterwell, and a gallery tour and discussion by the artists and curator. As part of a serial body of work, Nash created *A Paraphrase on a Grecian Urn IV* (2019) specifically for the 44ad gallery space.

#### Exhibition

**a(muse) Eightwonder, 44AD Artspace, Bath. 8 August - 18 August 2019.**

# Exhibition Photographs

Photography © Richard Nash (2019)



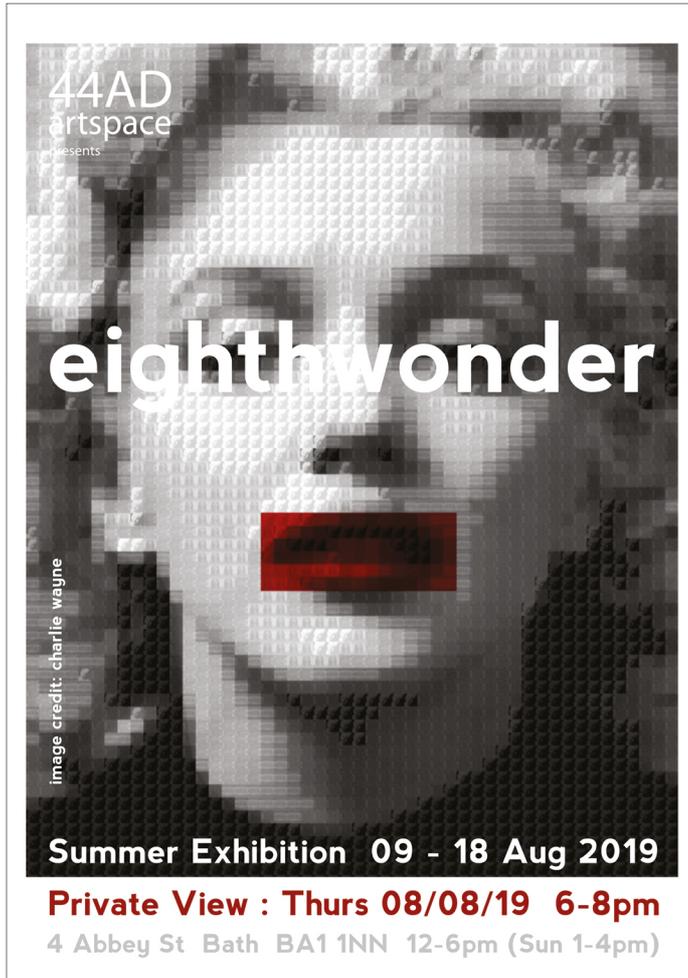
*a(muse) Eightwonder 2019*  
44ad Artspace, Bath.  
08 - 18 August 2019.

# Exhibition Photographs

Photography © 44ad Artspace (2019)



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# eighthwonder 2019

## 'a(muse)'

### 8<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> August

## Curated by Nina Jesih

Artists are always eager to show off their artworks. Finished projects or even works in progress rule the walls of the gallery spaces, offices and households, engaging the audiences. However, what is it that comes before that?

Since ancient times, artists have spoken about their need for inspiration for their creative selves to come out. Striking women (and men) ignited the debates surrounding the paintings and sculpture in Renaissance and Baroque periods. But what (or who) sparks the artists nowadays?

What is their inspiration? How do they start the process of creating? What kind of muse amuses them enough to proceed into creativity?

"The muses are ghosts, and sometimes they come uninvited." Stephen King, *Bag of Bones*

I asked artists from all over the world to express their stimulation in a finished artwork, resulting in a colourful variety of inspirational muses. And who/what is your muse? Come in, get inspired and show us your flair.

### Submission Proposal

Created: 12:36 15/07/2019 | Title: *A Paraphrase on a Grecian Urn* (2013 – ongoing) | Artist name: Richard Nash | Media: Sculptural Bookwork | Size: 75 x 45 x 45 cm (largest iteration) | Year: 2013 – ongoing | Price: £1000 |

The proposed work is a serial body of site-specific sculptural bookworks based on a textual / spatial deformation of Keats, *Ode on a Grecian Urn*. The work is titled *A Paraphrase on a Grecian Urn* and currently exists as three iterative works. The initial two iterations were exhibition at the Devon Guild of Craftsman in 2014. A third iterative edition was created for the Long & Ryle Gallery, London. For the Eighthwonder exhibition, I would like to propose creating a new iterative edition specifically for the 44ad space.

The concept of the paraphrase is important to the iterative nature of the series. Each new iteration becomes a new interpretation or utterance reflecting the situated context. The ethereal nature of the work is defined by space. At a distance the work purposefully dissolves into the space, only offering shards of inviting curiosity. When approached the work comes into being, its form crystallises into space — the moment of ideation and inspiration — the muse takes form. This conceptually reflects Keats' moment of inspiration surveying the various Greek antiquities, notably the Parthenon Sculptures, in the British Museum.

The work is fabricated from laser-cut birch faced plywood, and is suspended using transparent monofilament line from a purposed designed hanging fixture. The hanging device does need clamping / fixing to a ceiling or other architectural structure, i.e., beams, etc. The works are very lightweight; the largest iteration No. 1 is 800g and the smallest No.3 is 400g.

Theme Keywords: Arcadia / Illusion / Reflection / Reflexivity