

Rose Davies aka Rosie Scribblah: Artist, Scribbler, Printmaker and Educator

BORN: Swansea, Wales, UK

POST GRADUATE EDUCATION: University of Wales Swansea: Masters in Education [1999], majoring in Adult Continuing Education.

HIGHER EDUCATION: Swansea Art College: Foundation Course [1974]

West Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education: Diploma in Art [1977], majoring in Printmaking.

West Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education: Certificate in Education: [1978] majoring in Secondary Education

FURTHER EDUCATION: Gower College City & Guilds: Life Drawing [2010]

SECONDARY EDUCATION: Llwyn-y-Bryn Grammar School [1966-1973]

'O' levels / GCSEs: Art, Welsh, English Language, English Literature, Geography, General Science, Maths, Physics, Photography

'A' level: Art

PAID EMPLOYMENT

2017 – present Fine arts tutor (part-time) with Crisis, the homelessness charity

2004 – present Independent freelance artist / printmaker / scribbler / blogger

2010 – 2014 Associate tutor with Swansea University (part time), delivering art and creative IT courses to clients of local drug rehabilitation services.

2004 – 2010 Self-employed consultancy business in the substance misuse field, delivering contracts to national and local government, the NHS and third sector organisations.

2002 - 2004 Programme Development Manager with Nacro UK

2000 - 2002 Iechyd Morgannwg Health Authority, Coordinator of the Morgannwg Drug and Alcohol Action Team

1996 - 2000 National Training Development Officer with the Welsh Drug and Alcohol Unit

1992 - 1996 Senior Executive Officer with the Home Office Drugs Prevention Initiative, Bristol

1989 - 1992 Support and training worker with Swansea Young Single Homeless Project (SYSHP)

1988 – 1989 Training development Officer with Community Industry Youth Training Ltd.

1986 - 1988 Community Art Liaison Officer for the Rosehill Quarry Project

1985 – 1986 Assistant Director of the Swansea Festival Fringe

1982 – 1985 Co-director of a small pottery manufacturing company, Moose Pots Ltd., and part-time lecturer in Printmaking at West Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education.

1981 – 1982 Lecturer in printmaking (part-time) West Glamorgan Institute of Higher Education

1978 – 1981 West Glamorgan County Council, Arts Resources Assistant in the Education Library Service.

More on my work

Website: www.scribblah.co.uk

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/Rosie-Scribblah-Printmaker-and-Scribbler-149442308432211>

Facebook Profile: <https://www.facebook.com/rosie.scribbler>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RosieScribblah>

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/user/fightming>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/rosiescribblah/?hl=en>

Swansea Print Workshop:

<https://swanseaprintworkshop.org.uk/product-category/artist/rose-davies/>

Swansea Print Workshop Exhibition Site <https://swanseaprintmakers.com/rose-davies/>

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Graduating from Art College at the end of the 70's, I survived punk, post-modernism and the rise of Thatcherism with my belief in traditional art values and particularly drawing, intact. Majoring in printmaking, I continued to draw after leaving college, but like many other working class artists I developed a secondary career, spending years working with drug / alcohol dependent people, the homeless and those with criminal behaviour, in Wales and England, gaining a Masters in Adult Education from Swansea University. My work with severely damaged and excluded people has influenced me deeply and reflects my admiration for the beauty and resilience of the human body, existing within the often harsh conditions of the modern city. At the turn of the century, I started to move back into the arts, becoming an artist/member of Swansea Print Workshop, and collaborating with several artist collectives to promote public and social engagement in the arts. I now split my time between working part time as a fine arts tutor with homeless people and on developing my arts practice from my city centre studio.

Social engagement

I am committed to making art available to people who would not normally participate and have been involved with a number of collectives that bring art into public spaces including, **Commensalis, 15hundred Lives, Elysium Artspace, Collect Connect, Twelve:34, Creative Bubble, The Bagpuss Window, The Space, The Plebian Scribblers, The Plebian Printmakers, 9-to-90 @ Galerie Simpson**. As Rosie Scribblah, I am an active blogger with an international readership, writing a daily illustrated blog using my sketchbook drawings and current art projects as source material. I also have several years of experience curating exhibitions and art events in public spaces such as cafes, pubs, unused shops and the street, bringing quality contemporary art to a new audience outside the confines of the 'white cube' gallery setting.

Most recently I completed a 4 month residency in the Waun Wen area of the city, a deprived working class community with almost no cultural and social facilities, as part of Home and Hinterland, a Wales-wide cultural project commissioned jointly by the universities of Swansea, Bangor and Aberystwyth.

My Practice As An Educator

I graduated with a Certificate in Education after I completed a Diploma in Art and throughout the 1980s I did some part-time lecturing in printmaking and a lot of community arts, but then changed career to work with marginalised groups of people where I developed and delivered less formal education and training in community settings. A major component of my work with the Home Office and Welsh Drug and Alcohol Unit, Iechyd Morgannwg and NACRO, was the development, accreditation and delivery of professional training, which was aided by gaining a Masters in Education.

Since moving back into the Arts this century, I have developed and run workshops and accredited courses in drawing, printmaking, digital art and design, creativity, history of art and

culture to a wide range of people at all levels of ability, from marginalised groups to experienced artists; from hobbyists to people in therapy. I have delivered these with **Swansea University Department of Adult and Continuing Education, Swansea Print Workshop, Swansea Drugs Project, Crisis** and independent art education providers. I also delivered workshops and lectures during my two international residencies in the USA and Pakistan.

Scribbling – a compulsion to draw

I have been drawing since I was a tiny child; a sketchbook is my constant companion. I have never wavered from my conviction that several thousand years of European artistic tradition cannot be wrong. Far from just being practice pieces, drawings are works of art in their own right. Throughout a long tradition from Leonardo da Vinci, through Egon Schiele and onto the comic book renaissance of the 1980's and 1990's, drawings have expressed artists at their most raw and uninhibited. I draw directly from the world around me, taking inspiration from the fast-moving cityscape and the teeming life within it and I am heavily influenced by my work with marginalised groups, looking at the extraordinary within the ordinary.

I keep up my professional practice and development in drawing, completing three year's part-time study of life drawing (City and Guilds) in order to force myself out of my comfort zone and I also draw regularly with the 'Thursday Night Life Drawing group' at Swansea Print Workshop.

En plein air

Drawing *en plein air* underpins my art practice and I have no problem drawing live in public, I think it is good for the public to see how artists work. I have participated in a number of live outdoor drawing events in Wales and England - **Fringe Arts Bath, Locws International**, and I frequently hang about on street corners scribbling what's in front of me – the artist as voyeur! Through all weathers I worked with a prehistorian and a film maker to visit and draw ancient monuments - Neolithic and Bronze Age burial chambers, ceremonial circles and standing stones across South Wales. Coming face to face with these symbols both of a long lost culture and of continuity in a rapidly changing world has had a profound impact on me and resulted in a number of solo shows and public engagement events across Wales called "**Yr Helfa / The Hunt**".

The human form

There is a long tradition in Western art of representing the human figure, but the way in which the body is viewed has changed through the ages, sometimes venerated, sometimes reviled. Currently, the nude appears to be out of favour in Western art and seems to have the capacity to shock. Traditionally, male artists have taken the lead in representing the human body, but in the early 21st century, there is an opportunity for a female interpretation and a feminine / feminist viewpoint, interpreted through intense personal and cultural influences. In an age where many seek to alter their looks artificially, wiping the hard-won marks of their lifelong endeavours from their faces and bodies, I revel in scrutinising the human figure and reflecting the experiences written all over it. This practice underpinned my work with **Marc Rees' "Nawr Yr**

Arwr" where I was commissioned to produce a monotype of a nude of a soldier for the 1914-1918 Now UK commemoration.

Printmaking

My drawings form the basis for my work in fine art printmaking. I specialise in a number of techniques:

- Three colour separation monotype, a drawing-based approach favoured by the Impressionists, particularly Degas and Monet.
- Renaissance drawing technique underpins my ongoing series of photopolymer plate etchings.
- I explore *maniér noir* and *chiaroscuro* in my block printing where I often cut into discarded materials - various wood products and recycled signwriters' foamboard. I was commissioned by Sky Arts to produce a large woodcut "**Here Be Dragons**" for a television documentary.
- My drawing practice is also central to the development of large scale mixed media pieces, building layers of monotypes, screenprint and drawing to produce unique pieces.

Exhibitions, commissions and residencies

2022 – As the plague recedes, I move back into the real world.

- “Poverty In A Word” – a group collage project commissioned by the Swansea Poverty Truth Commission.
- “Home and Hinterland” (November 2021 – March 2022), a multi-disciplinary arts residency in the Waun Wen community of Swansea, commissioned by Swansea University
- Curating the Swansea Print Workshop Facebook group to inform and extend its online community

2021 – The second year of the plague – big change in my arts practice....

- “The Swansea Open”, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea
- Online “In Situ” a group show of observational drawing
- Online “Painting Through The Pandemic” – a solo show of lockdown paintings
- Blogging, blogging, blogging – daily
- Curating the Swansea Print Workshop Facebook group to inform and extend its online community
- Faking!!!! Continuing to paint a copy a masterpiece a week in acrylics on canvas
- LATCH – an online fundraiser for the Welsh Children's Cancer Charity with a number of my “fake” paintings

2020 – The year of the plague – exhibitions went online after March

- International Women's Day exhibition with Patti McKenna at Cinema Co, Swansea
- “Dragon's Revenge” a collaborative commission with the artist Jamie Reid and Galerie Simpson
- 9 to 90, a series of public engagement collage projects with Galerie Simpson
- Online “20 Years at SPW” Printmaking group show
- Online “Our Pakistan Connections” International Printmaking group show
- Online “Drawn From Life” – an exhibition of Welsh life drawing group show
- Online “One For The Birds” – group show of drawings and screen prints highlighting environmental impact on bird life
- Blogging, blogging, blogging – daily
- Curating the Swansea Print Workshop Facebook group to inform and extend its online community
- Faking!!!! Painting a copy a masterpiece a week in acrylics on canvas

2019

- The Swansea Open, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea
- “Female Expressions”, group show, Queen Street Gallery, Neath.
- Sky Arts ART50 exhibition at The Barbican, London
- “ART50” documentary on Sky Arts television channel featuring my commissioned work
- “Revolt Women”, International Women's Day exhibition at Cinema & Co, Swansea with Patricia McKenna Jones

- “Inspired – Poets And Prints” – Mid Wales Arts Centre
- “Printopia” – printmaking group show, Volcano, Swansea
- “Habitat” the annual show of the Welsh Women's Arts Association
- 9 to 90, a series of public engagement collage projects with Galerie Simpson
- Leftovers XI, International Print, a group show touring various venues across the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Europe and Wales

2018

- The Swansea Open, Glynn Vivian Art Gallery, Swansea
- ‘Here Be Dragons’, a commission for Sky Arts Art50
- “Nawr Yr Arwr / Now The Hero” Open Studio and solo show at Volcano, Swansea
- Now The Printmakers group show at Swansea Print Workshop
- “En Plein Air”, The Workers Gallery, Ynyshir. Group show.
- “Print Explosion”, group show at Volcano, Swansea
- Leftovers VII miniature prints group show at the Qilin Gallery in Dongguan, China
- International Women's Day: Swansea Creatives at The Welfare, Ystradgynlais
- International Women's Day: Swansea Creatives at Cinema & Co, Swansea
- Leftovers VIII, International Print, a group show touring various venues across the USA, Australia, New Zealand, China, Europe and Wales

2017

- ‘Breaking New Ground’, international printmaking group show at Swansea Print Workshop
- ‘Breaking New Ground’, international printmaking group show at Franklin Pierce University, New Hampshire, USA
- ‘Working Out’ – group show at The Workers Gallery, Ynyshir
- WMD – Women Of Mass Dimensions, International Womens Day group show, Cinema & Co, Swansea
- Leftovers VII, International Print, a group show touring various venues across the USA, Australia, New Zealand, China, Europe and Wales
- Yr Helfa / The Hunt, Cinema & Co, Swansea
- TROUBLEMAKERS with the Plebeian Printmakers and Plebeian Scribblers – live performance drawing and printmaking, Swansea
- ‘En Plein Air’ – street collage at Cardiff Arts Week
- ‘Nasty Women’, group show, London
- ‘FiliArt’, feminist group show, London
- ‘Winter Woodlands’, group show at The Workers Gallery, Ynyshir
- ‘The Uncredited Woman’, Women's Arts Association (Wales) group show, Cardiff
- Residency at The Workers Gallery, Ynyshir
- The Swansea Open group show, Glynn Vivian Gallery, Swansea

2016

- 'The SPace,' a 3-month artistic collaboration with Swansea Print Workshop in Swansea's High Street
- Print From Two Cities, a group show between Cardiff and Swansea Print Workshops, Pier Pavilion Gallery, Penarth
- 'A World Of Work', group show of gallery artists, The Workers Gallery, Ynyshir
- 'The Plebeian Scribblers', live performance drawing in Fringe Arts Bath
- 'Divided By The Meltwater II', group show from a collaboration between South Wales and North Devon artists at University of Wales, Trinity Saint Davids, Swansea
- 'Leftovers VI' International Print, a group show touring various venues across the USA, Australia, New Zealand, Europe and Wales
- AitTV (Arts in the Tawe Valley), a group printmaking show at The Welfare, Ystradgynlais
- 'Y Twrch Trwyth', The Workers Gallery, Ynyshir, a solo show of drawings and prints of ancient monuments in the South Wales Bronze Age landscape.
- 'Breaking New Ground', international printmaking group show at Aberystwyth University School of Art
- Artist Residency at Galerie Simpson, Swansea
- Women's Arts Association (Wales) Annual Exhibition, Llanover Hall, Cardiff
- FiliArt: Refuge **The New Face of Feminism**, Oxford House, London
- 'Alone In The Universe', group show, The Workers Gallery, Rhondda
- Swansea Print Workshop annual show

2015

- 'Curioser And Curioser', an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective
- 'Divided By The Meltwater', a group show from a collaboration between South Wales and North Devon artists in Petroc Gallery, Barnstaple
- Permanent collection, The Worker's Gallery, Ynyshir, Wales
- 'Casting Balls And Lego Men' an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective
- 'Art Lovers', a group show of contemporary national and international printmaking at Galerie Simpson, Swansea, featuring Gavin Turk, Angela De La Cruz, Jamie Read, Gary Hume and others
- 'Process, A Museum Experience', a mixed media and public access collaboration between the 15 Hundred Lives collective and Swansea Museum
- 'On The Map', a collaboration with collage artist Melanie Ezra for the London-based Collect Connect art collective, producing a map of a walk with our artwork for publication and exhibited in the Embroiderer's Gallery, London
- 'Workers In Progress', a group show and drawing residency at The Workers Gallery, Ynyshir
- The London Art Car Boot Fair
- 'The Plebeian Scribblers', live performance drawing in Fringe Arts Bath
- Leftovers V, International print show, The Worker's Gallery, Ynyshir and Swansea Print Workshop
- 'The Big Draw', an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective

- 'The Art Of Caring', group show with Collect Connect, Surrey, England
- 'People And Place', a Group Show and public access collaboration with the 15 Hundred Lives collective at Oriel Ceri Richards, Taliesin Arts Centre, Swansea
- 'Victoriana' group show, Tapestri, Swansea
- 'The Bagpuss Window', a one-month public interaction and artist collaboration in a derelict building on Swansea's High Street The Bagpuss Window:
<http://scribblah.co.uk/2016/03/16/build-it-and-they-will-come/>
- 'Pakistan Pop Up', a four day public access art event at Swansea Print Workshop in collaboration with silkscreen artist Hannah Lawson, based on our residency at the Zaira Zaka Print Studio in Rawalpindi in 2014.
- '15 Years, People and Printmaking', group show, Swansea Print Workshop, Artswing, Swansea
- Xmas Group Show, Oriel Ceri Richards, Swansea, Wales
- 'The SPace', a 3-month artistic collaboration with Swansea Print Workshop in Swansea's High Street

2014

- 15 Hundred Lives group show The Brunswick Swansea (continued)
- 'RECYCLE' an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective.
- 'The Industrial Valley', Printmaking and Drawing Show Rhondda Heritage Centre
- 'LOVE!' an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective.
- **Artist in Residence, Zaira Zaka Print Studio, Rawalpindi, Pakistan**
- **'Five Connect' group show of 5 Welsh and Pakistani artists, The Satrang Gallery, Islamabad, Pakistan**
- 'Metaphor' group show, The Cove, Swansea
- 'Fridge Arts Bath' public interactive group show with the Collect Connect Collective as part of Fringe Arts Bath 2014
- 'The Body' group show with the Commensalis collective at Fringe Arts Bath
- 'The Cellar of Curiosities' group show with the 12:34 collective as part of Fringe Arts Bath 2014
- 'First Come, First Served' an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective.
- Leftovers IV and Public Gesture, two international printmaking group shows at The Cove, Swansea
- 'See What They Just Did!' an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective.
- **Leftovers V, international print show, Australia**
- 'What Are They Doing Now?' an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective.
- 'A Week At The Bubble', 15 Hundred Lives group show at Creative Bubble Artspace, Swansea
- 'The One Show' participated in a public art event organised and filmed by BBCs The One Show, St. David's, Wales

- 'They're At It Again' an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective.
- Swansea Print Workshop group show, Y Galeri, Caerphilly, Wales
- 'In The Zone' an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective.
- **Leftovers V, International print show, Wharepuke Gallery, New Zealand**
- A Book About Death, international miniature show, Royal Cambrian Academy, Conwy, Wales
- Xmas Show, Oriel Ceri Richards, Swansea, Wales
- Winter group show, Womens' Association of Artists, Cardiff, Wales
- Permanent collection, The Worker's Gallery, Ynysir, Wales
- 'Over By Where?' an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective.

2013

- 15 Hundred Lives group show, The Arts Wing, Swansea
- Arts Birthday Locws International Swansea
- Drawn To Print The Cove Swansea
- 'What Do Artists Do All Day? 1', an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective
- 12:34 group show The Cove Swansea
- 'What Do Artists Do All Day? 2', an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective
- Emerging Welsh Artists Fountain Fine Arts Llandeilo
- Drawing participant in Twelve34 Big Draw at Swansea Foyer
- 'What Do Artists Do All Day? 3', an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective
- **Artist in Residence, Wingtip Press, Boise, Idaho USA**
- **Residency exhibition, Wingtip Press, Idaho USA**
- 'Memories', an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective
- **Leftovers IV International touring group exhibition including venues across the USA, Australia, Wales and New Zealand**
- 12:34 @ Fringe Arts Bath, UK
- 'Commensalis II', Walcot Gallery, Bath, UK
- 'Feed The Artists', an ongoing monthly public interactive art event at Creative Bubble with the 15 Hundred Lives collective
- **'Public Gestures', a printmaking portfolio of 13 Welsh and American printmakers, shown at the Printmaking Alliance Symposium, Utah, USA**
- 'The Xmas Show'. Oriel Ceri Richards Swansea
- The Industrial Valley, Printmaking and Drawing Show Cynon Valley Gallery
- Swansea Print Workshop Annual Show Cynon Valley Gallery
- 15 Hundred Lives group show The Brunswick Swansea

2012 Welsh Printmakers group show White Hart Gallery Tenby
 'Woodcuts' The Brunswick Swansea

Group Show Saith Gallery Burry Port
 Swansea and Cardiff Printmakers Oriel Canfas Cardiff
 Welsh Print International Biennale Lancashire
 "Commensalis" Walcot Gallery, Bath, UK
 Tros Gynnal group show Swansea, Cardiff, Shropshire
 The Drawing Project Nottingham
 Swansea Print Workshop Annual Show. Swansea
 'The Xmas Show'. Oriel Ceri Richards Swansea
 "Rinascere" The Brunswick Swansea

Leftovers III International touring group exhibition including venues across the USA, Wales and New Zealand

Drawing participant in Swansea Plinth Locws International
 Drawing participant in 'Disruption II' Elysium Swansea

2011 Bread and Roses. Women Centre Stage. Dylan Thomas Centre. Swansea

The Wrexham Welsh Print International Biennale [prizewinner]

'Scribble Cats': Swansea: The Brunswick

'Funguys' Swansea The Brunswick

Summer Show, Farnham, Surrey, LIFE gallery

'100 Welsh Artists' Elysium Venice

Monotypes Café Nisse Swansea

Joy' Monkey Swansea

Tros Gynnal group show Swansea, Cardiff

Swansea Print Workshop Annual Show. The Arts Wing Swansea

Winter Show The Brunswick, Swansea

The Xmas Show Oriel Ceri Richards Swansea

'Leftovers II' International touring group exhibition including venues across the USA, Wales and New Zealand

Drawing participant in 'Disruption' Elysium Swansea

2010 'After The End'. Swansea. The Elysium Gallery

'Three Printmakers'. Swansea. Café Nisse

'Four in Print'. Swansea. The Junction.

'Ten / Deg'. Cardiff. Oriel Canfas

Women Centre Stage. Dylan Thomas Centre. Swansea

'Print Paint Illustration'. Swansea. The Brunswick

Tros Gynnal group show Swansea, Cardiff

Swansea Print Workshop Annual Show. The Arts Wing

'The Xmas Show'. Swansea. Oriel Ceri Richards

Winter Exhibition. The Brunswick. Swansea

Group show, The Freies Museum Berlin

Artawe group exhibition. Tapestri. Swansea

2009 'Prints of Pakistan'. Swansea. The Brunswick

'The Swansea Open'. Glyn Vivian Art Gallery

- 'Changing Swansea'. Swansea. The Arts Wing
Swansea Print Workshop Annual Show. The Arts Wing
Tros Gynnal. Swansea. The Old Museum
Tros Gynnal. Cardiff
'Winter Drawers'. Swansea. The Brunswick
'The Xmas Show'. Swansea. Oriel Ceri Richards
- 2008 'Being Human'. Pembrokeshire. Nantycoy Gallery
Summer Group Exhibition. Pembrokeshire. Nantycoy Gallery
'Works on Paper'. Swansea. The Elysium Gallery
Tros Gynnal. Swansea. The Old Museum
Swansea Print Workshop Annual Show. The Arts Wing
- 2007 'Figure 20'. Newbury. Exhibition by 20 artists working from life
'Afterlife on Thursday'. Swansea. The Arts Wing.
'Six Swansea Printmakers'. Swansea. The Winter Gallery
Solo show of drawings and prints. Swansea. The Brunswick
Swansea Printmakers Exhibition. Pakistan. Islamabad and Lahore
Swansea Printmakers Exhibition. Cardiff. St. David's Hall
'The Swansea Open'. Glynn Vivian Art Gallery.
'Four Swansea Printmakers'. Brecon. The Wood Street Gallery
Swansea Print Workshop Annual Show. The Arts Wing
- 2006 Swansea Print Workshop Annual Show. The Arts Wing
- 2005 Swansea Print Workshop Annual Show. The Arts Wing
'Is there life on Thursday?' Swansea. The Arts Wing. 8 artists working from life.