

The Big Draw

Patrons: Sir Quentin Blake, Lord Foster of Thames Bank, David Hockney OM CH RA, Andrew Marr, Sir Roger Penrose OM FRS, Frances Quinn, Chris Riddell, Gerald Scarfe CBE, Posy Simmonds MBE, Bob & Roberta Smith RA



PRESS RELEASE

For immediate use: 21 October 2016

Cass Art Supports The Big Draw

As Cass Art celebrates 100 years of patronage of the arts, arts education charity, The Big Draw, is delighted to announce their sponsorship of The Big Draw's work to increase access to art for all ages and to promote visual literacy and the universal language of drawing, in the twenty-first century.

Commenting on the announcement, **Kate Mason**, Director of The Big Draw said:

"We live in an increasingly tumultuous period of history and rapid change which, whilst presenting challenges, also offers immense opportunity. Against this backdrop of change lies a consideration of shifting social values; a questioning of entitlement, access and the nature of - and central role of - creativity in our contemporary culture.

Perhaps more than ever the arts have the potential to play a major role in helping drive social change and re-balance an ecology which currently undervalues cultural learning and arts education.

The Big Draw will continue to advocate for the importance and value of creative education and work to support the next generation of artists, designers, innovators and creative thinkers.

With all the above in mind, we are delighted to announce Cass Art as our new partner and sponsor. Cass Art share our passion in supporting arts education and our core values around advocacy, quality and the right for everyone to be able to express oneself creatively. We are looking forward to what we know will be a fruitful and dynamic partnership."

Kate's comments were echoed by **Mark Cass**, Founder of Cass Art, who said:

"Cass Art is delighted to announce its support as a new sponsor and partner for The Big Draw. The Cass Family have a long history and track record in supporting artists and have always been passionate advocates in supporting art education.

At a time when the arts as one of the key pillars of a broad and balanced schooling, is increasingly under threat, from a beleaguered education system, those with aligned values and beliefs must all work together and collaborate to stimulate change.

Cass Art look forward to exploring ways and synergies between it's art manifesto, 'Let's Fill This Town With Artists', alongside The Big Draw's #drawingchangeslives campaign and imminent manifesto around the role and value of drawing."

ENDS

CONTACT

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#thebigdraw

Notes to Editors

About The Big Draw

Founded in 2000, The Big Draw is an arts education charity that promotes visual literacy and the universal language of drawing as a tool for learning, expression and invention. The charity leads a diversified programme encompassing advocacy, empowerment and engagement, and is the founder and driving force behind The Big Draw Festival – the world's biggest celebration of drawing.

The Big Draw manages collaborative research projects, campaigns and educational conferences on visual literacy, digital technology and STEAM. The charity supports professional and emerging artists through The John Ruskin Prize and exhibition, and through events, awards, and competitions, creates platforms for each and everyone who wants to draw. www.thebigdraw.org.

About Cass Art

Cass Art was founded by Mark Cass in 1984 when he took over the lease of 13 Charing Cross Road. Situated next to The National Gallery, it has been an art store for over 100 years, first opening its doors to artists in 1898.

Mark Cass is a trustee of the Cass Sculpture Foundation, a British charity devoted to the promotion of 21st British sculpture through public commissions and exhibitions. His family have been involved in art over many generations – his great uncle, Paul Cassirer, was an important art dealer in the 1920s, and was a promoter of the Impressionist movement in Europe.

Cass Art is on a mission. A mission to fill every town with artists, underpinned by the company's long standing [manifesto](#). Cass Art is committed to encouraging everyone to realise their creative talents by providing the world's top quality materials at the guaranteed best prices.

Cass Art not only partners with some of the leading art brands across the UK, including The National Gallery, The Royal Academy of Arts, National Galleries Scotland and Sky Arts, it also works with local galleries and art institutions.

<https://www.cassart.co.uk/customer/pages/aboutuspage>