

# DAVID BATCHELOR

David Batchelor's primary concern is colour. His work expresses a sheer delight in the myriad brilliant hues of the urban environment and is underlined by a critical concern with how we see and respond to colour in our advanced technological age.

His studio is a treasure trove piled high with an endless variety of fluorescent plastic objects – clothes pegs, fly swatters, buckets, spades, children's toys, empty bottles of household products – found in shops and markets in cities the world over. Batchelor combines these everyday items with a range of light-industrial materials: steel shelving, commercial lightboxes, neon tubing, warehouse dollies, acrylics, plastics and so on, producing extraordinary installations that exalt the ordinary and celebrate the lurid and trashy whilst being, in themselves, often mesmerisingly beautiful.

Batchelor's portfolio includes a number of major public artworks including a commission for the British Council headquarters in Hong Kong, a 10-metre high light installation at the Archway Tube Station in London, a major commission for St. Pancras International Station entitled *Chromolocomotion*, and his most recent commission in 2015, *Chromorama*, in Broadgate, London.

In 2013, a major solo exhibition of Batchelor's two-dimensional work, *Flatlands*, was displayed at the Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh and toured to Spike Island, Bristol. *Monochrome Archive* was presented at Whitechapel Gallery, London, coinciding with the landmark group exhibition *Adventures of the Black Square: Abstract Art and Society 1915 – 2015*. *My Own Private Bauhaus*, a solo exhibition of sculptures and paintings by Batchelor was presented by Ingleby during the Edinburgh Art Festival, 2019.

Batchelor's portfolio includes a number of major of temporary and permanent artworks in the public realm. These include a commission for the British Council headquarters in Hong Kong; *Spectrum on the Hill*, Seoul, South Korea; a 10-metre high light installation at the Archway Tube Station in London; and a chromatic clock titled *Sixty Minute Spectrum* installed as the roof of the Hayward Gallery, London

Batchelor has written and edited a number of books including *The Luminous and the Grey* (2014), *Found Monochromes* (2010) and *Colour* (2008) and *Chromophobia* (2000).

## Biography

1955	Born in Dundee, UK
1975-78	B.A. Fine Art, Trent Polytechnic, Nottingham, UK
1978-80	M.A. Cultural Theory, Birmingham University, UK

Lives and works in London

## Selected Solo Exhibitions

2019	<i>My Own Private Bauhaus</i> , Ingleby, Edinburgh, UK
2018	<i>Sixty Minute Spectrum Redux</i> (commission) Chromatic clock for Hayward Gallery, London, UK <i>Psychogeometry 2</i> , Site Eight, Melbourne, Australia <i>Colour Is</i> , Margaret Lawrence Gallery, University of Melbourne, Melbourne, Australia
2017	<i>Sixty Minute Spectrum</i> (commission) Chromatic clock for Hayward Gallery, London, UK <i>Psychogeometry</i> , Matt's Gallery London, UK <i>Chromatology</i> , Ab-Anbar, Tehran, Iran

- 2016 *Reef*, Handel Street Projects, London, UK  
*Glowsticks*, Galeria Leme, São Paulo, Brazil
- 2015 *Flatlands Remix*, Virginia Commonwealth University in Qatar, Doha, Qatar in association with the British Council  
*David Batchelor: Monochrome Archive, 1997-2015*, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
- 2014 *Concretos*, Roche Court, New Art Centre, Salisbury, UK  
*Monochrome Archive 1997-2015*, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
- 2013 *Parede por Parede*, Centro Universitário Maria Antonia, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Flatlands*, The Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh, UK, touring to Spike Island, Bristol, UK
- 2012 *Magic Hour*, Gemeentemuseum, The Hague, The Netherlands  
*Brighton-Palermo ReMix*, Brighton Festival, Brighton, UK  
HOUSE 2012, The Regency Town House, Hove, UK  
*Slugfest*, Leme Gallery, São Paulo, Brazil  
*Magic Pavement*, Pavement Gallery, Manchester, UK
- 2011 *2D3D: David Batchelor*, Karsten Schubert, London, UK
- 2010 *Big Rock Candy Fountains*, Archway tube station, London, UK  
*Chromophilia*, Paco Imperial, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2008 *The Backlights*, Galeria Leme, Sao Paulo, Brazil
- 2007 *Unplugged*, Talbot Rice Gallery, University of Edinburgh, UK  
*Unplugged (Remix)* Wilkinson Gallery, London, UK
- 2006 *Festival Remix*, South Bank Centre, London, UK (Christmas Lights Commission)  
*Candela V & VI*, Ingleby Gallery (off-site) Old Royal High School, Edinburgh, UK  
*Candela 7/450 (For the Death Star)*, Victorian Palmhouse, Royal Botanic Garden, Edinburgh, UK  
Wilkinson Gallery, London, UK
- 2005 *Ten Silhouettes*, Gloucester Road Underground Station, London, UK
- 2004 *Shiny Dirty*, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham, UK
- 2003 *Spectrum of Hackney Road*, Wilkinson Gallery, London, UK
- 2002 *Barrier*, 38 Langham Street, London, UK
- 2001 *Shiny Dirty*, Habitat, London, UK
- 2000 *Electric Colour Tower*, Sadlers Wells Theatre, London, UK  
*Apocalypsestick*, Anthony Wilkinson Gallery, London, UK

### **Selected Group Exhibitions**

- 2021 *Colour Space*, Mucciaccia Gallery, Rome, Italy
- 2020/2021 *Shadows and Light*, Southampton City Art Gallery, Southampton, UK
- 2020 *Reduct: Abstraction and Geometry in Scottish Art*, Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh, UK  
*Ideas Travel Faster Than Light*, Mecklenburgh Square Garden Project, London, UK  
*New Work*, Waddington Custot, London
- 2019 *David Batchelor and Alfredo Vollpi*, Case Leme, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
*Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London, UK  
*Habitat: Artists Making Furniture Or Things That Might Be Confused As Furniture*, JGM Gallery, London, UK  
*Colour is a Verb*, Dominik Mersch Gallery, Sydney, Australia

- Objects of Wonder: British Sculptures from 1950s – present*, Palais Populaire, Berlin, Germany  
*Criminal Ornamentation*, Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter, UK
- 2018 *PRISM: The Art and Science of Light*, The Glucksman, Cork, Ireland  
*TWENTY*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*The Monochrome: New Beginnings*, JPNF Museum, Dubai, United Arab Emirates  
*Summer Exhibiton*, Royal Academy, London, UK  
*The Everyday and Extraordinary*, Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery, Birmingham, UK  
*Monochrome: Empty and Full*, Margaret Lawrence Gallery, University of Melbourne, Australia  
*Criminal Ornamentation*, Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter, UK  
*Objects of Wonder: British Sculptures from 1950s – present*, Palais Populaire, Berlin, Germany
- 2017 *Ingleby at the Fitzrovia Chapel*, London, UK  
*Totem: Spirit Beings & Sacred Objects*, Saatchi Gallery, London, UK  
*Art of the Postcard*, Handel Street Projects, London, UK  
*Purity is a Myth*, curated by Michael Asbury, Roesler Hotel, Sao Paolo, Brazil  
*Colour Is*, Waddington Custot, London, UK  
*Between Poles and Tides*, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh, UK
- 2015 *Light Show*, Sharjah Art Foundation, Al Mareija, Arts Area, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates  
*Light Show*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Australia  
*Adventures of the Black Square: Abstract Art and Society 1915 – 2015*, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK
- 2014 *Abstract Drawing*, Drawing Room, London, UK
- 2013 *Once upon a time and a very good time it was...*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Why Painting Now?*, Vienna, Austria  
*White*, Nederlands Fotomuseum, Rotterdam, The Netherlands  
*Touching Colour*, Hatton Gallery, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK  
*Just what is it that makes today's homes so different, so appealing?*, New Art Centre, Salisbury, UK  
*Drawing Biennial 2013*, Drawing Room, London, UK  
*Tell me whom you haunt: Marcel Duchamp and the contemporary readymade*, Blain/Southern, London, England  
*Fragile?*, Le Stanze del Vetro, Venice, Italy  
*Light Show*, Hayward Gallery, London, England
- 2012 *Illuminated*, QUAD Gallery, Derby, UK  
*Luz na Cidade*, Centro Cultural Justiça Federal, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
*Royal Academy Summer Exhibition*, Royal Academy, London, UK  
*The Curator's Egg Altera Pars*, Anthony Reynolds Gallery, London, UK  
*Phantom Limb*, LiMAC, Museo de Arte Contemporaneo de Lima, Lima, Peru
- 2011 *Lumiere*, various venues, Durham, UK  
*Gravity's Rainbow*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Lumiere*, various venues, Durham, UK  
*Richard Of York Gave Battle In Vain*, Whitechapel Gallery, London, UK  
*The Shape of Things to Come: New Sculpture Part 1*, The Saatchi Gallery, London, UK  
*A Painting Show*, Autocentre, Berlin, Germany
- 2010 *Kupferstichkabinett: Between Thought and Action*, White Cube, London, UK  
*Fast Forward – Arte Contemporanea Britanica no Brasil*, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
*Biennale für Internationale Lichtkunst*, Unna, Germany  
*The Gathering*, Longside Gallery, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, Yorkshire, UK  
*FIAT LUX*, Meuse de Arte Contemporaneo Gas Natural de la Coruna, Spain  
*Open Light in Private Spaces Biennale fur Internationale Lichtkunst*, Unna, Germany  
*Party*, New Art Gallery, Walsall, UK
- 2009 *Almost Nothing*, Laure Genillard Gallery, London, UK  
*Boule to Braid*, Lisson Gallery, London, UK  
*Repeat Please*, Stedelijk Museum's, Hertogenbosch, The Netherlands  
*Presque Rein III*, Laure Genillard Gallery, London, UK

- Colour Chart: Reinventing Colour, 1950 to Today*, Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, UK  
*The Sculpture Show*, V22, London, UK  
*Kaleidoscopic Revolver*, Hanjiyun Contemporary Space, Beijing, China and Total Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, South Korea  
*Better than Grey*, Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery, Suffolk, UK  
*London Calling: Who Gets to Run the World? - Far from England*, Total Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, South Korea  
*A Twilight Art*, Harris Lieberman Gallery, New York, USA
- 2008 *Sculpture from the Scrapyard*, Henry Moore Institute, Leeds, UK  
*Conversations*, Kettle's Yard Museum & Art Gallery, Cambridge, UK  
*Irony & Gesture*, Kukje Gallery, Seoul, South Korea  
*Color Chart: Reinventing Colour, 1950 to Today*, MoMA, New York, USA  
*1<sup>st</sup> Folkestone Triennale – Tales of time and space*, Folkestone, UK
- 2007 *David Batchelor & Nikolai Suetin*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*Echo Room*, Alcala 31, Madrid, Spain (organized in collaboration with the British Council)  
*Passion Complex: Selected Works from the Albright-Knox Art Gallery*, 21<sup>st</sup> Century Museum of Contemporary Art, Kanazawa, Kanazawa, Japan  
*Shifting Ground*, Angel Row Gallery, Nottingham, UK  
*Art Car Boot Fair 2007*, London, UK  
*Front Room / Killing Room*, David Risley Gallery, London, UK  
*Rummage: Sculptors' Drawings*, The Winchester Gallery, Winchester, UK  
*Light*, Winchester Cathedral, Winchester, UK  
*Abstraction: Extracting from the World*, Millenium Galleries, Sheffield, UK
- 2006 *Thread*, Ingleby Gallery, Edinburgh, UK  
*A noir, E blanc, I rouge, U vert, O bleu. Farben*, Kunstmuseum Magdeburg – Kloster Unser Lieben Frauen, Magdeburg, Germany  
*off-site projects at the Palm House*, Botanic Gardens and Old School, Edinburgh, UK  
*Multiplication*, Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Universidad de Chile, Santiago, Chile  
*Materical World – Sculpture from the Arts Council Collection*, Gallery of Modern Art, Glasgow, UK  
*Backdrop*, Bloomberg Space, London, UK
- 2005 *Radiance*, Off-site projects in the Merchants' Quarter, Glasgow, UK  
*Double Meaning*, Galeria Leme, São Paulo, Brazil  
*David Batchelor and Joao Paulo Feliciano*, Galerie Leme, Sao Paulo, Brazil (curated by Jacopo Crivelli Visconti)  
*The Art of White*, The Lowry, Salford, UK  
*Extreme Abstraction*, Albright Knox Art Gallery, Buffalo, New York, USA  
*Tall Stories*, MOT, London, UK  
*Contrabandistas de Imagenes*, Museum of Contemporary Art, Santiago, Chile  
*Colour my World*, Riflemaker, London, UK  
*Untitled*, Marc Selwyn Gallery, Los Angeles, USA (curated by Melissa Dalrymple)
- 2004 *26<sup>th</sup> Biennial de Sao Paulo*, Sao Paulo, Brazil  
*Sodium and Asphalt*, Museo Rufino Tamayo, Mexico City, Mexico  
*Some Versions of Light*, The Telephone Repeater Station, Richmond, North Yorkshire, UK  
*Chromosexuals*, Galleri Bouhlou, Bergen, Norway  
*One Night Stand*, PEARL at El Montan Motor Hotel, Mexico
- 2003 *In Good Form: Recent Sculpture from the Arts Council Collection*, Longside Gallery, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, UK  
*Primary Colours*, City Gallery, Leicester, UK  
*Embargo*, Aubery Square, London, UK  
*Days Like These: Tate Triennial of Contemporary British Art 2003*, Tate Britain, London, UK
- 2002 *Furori Uso*, Ferrotel, Pescara, Italy  
*Colour Love*, Johnson County Community College, Kansas, USA  
*New Religious Art*, Liverpool Biennial, Liverpool, UK
- 2001 *Ruby*, PEARL, London, UK

*The Magic Hour: Art and Las Vegas*, Neue Galerie, Graz, Austria  
*Another Britannia*, Tecla Sala, Barcelona touring to Fundacion Marcelino Botin, Santander, Spain  
*Amidst Concrete*, Clay and General Decay, Konstfack Gallery, Stockholm, Sweden

2000 *Perfidy*, Monastere de la Tourette, France and Kettles Yard, Cambridge, UK  
*British Art Show 5*, Edinburgh, Southampton, Cardiff and Birmingham, UK  
*Fact and Value*, Charlottenberg Palace, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*Give and Take*, Jerwood Space, London, UK

1999 *NINENINENINETYNINE*, Wilkinson Gallery, London, UK  
*Postmark – An Abstract Effect*, Site Santa Fe, Santa Fe, New Mexico, USA

## Commissions

2019 *King's Xmas*, Site specific sculpture, Kings Cross Station, London, UK  
2018 *Richard of York Gave Battle In Vain*, Site specific sculpture, Eddington, Cambridge, UK  
2017 *Sixty Minute Spectrum* (commission) Chromatic clock for Hayward Gallery, London, UK  
2015 *Plato's Disco*, site specific sculpture, Whitworth Art Galleries, Manchester, UK.  
19-20-21, site specific installation, Lyric Theatre, London  
*Chromocochere*, temporary site specific sculpture MK Gallery, Milton Keynes, UK  
*Chromorama*, site specific installation, Broadgate, London, UK  
2014 *Chromolocomotion*, site specific installation, St. Pancras International Station, London, UK  
2010 *Spectrum on the Hill*, site specific installation, Haman the Hill, Seoul, South Korea  
*Big Rock Candy Fountain*, site specific installation, Archway tube station, London, UK  
2009 *Walldella*, site specific installation, McManus Galleries, Dundee, UK  
*Spectrum of 1st Street*, site specific installation, 1011 1st Street, Washington D.C., USA  
2008 *Hong Kong Fesdalla*, site specific installation, The British Council, Hong Kong  
2005 Bloomberg Centre, London, UK  
*Against Nature*, site specific installation, University of Warwick, Coventry, UK  
2004 *Treasury Magic Hour*, site specific installation, The Treasury, London, UK  
*West Wing Spectrum*, site specific installation, St Bart's Hospital, London, UK  
2003 *Evergreen*, site specific outdoor work, More London Development, Tower Bridge, London, UK  
2001 *Electric Colour Picture*, edition of 75 three-dimensional works, The Multiple Store, London, UK  
1999 *Chromodesks*, site specific installation, Pier Trust, London, UK  
*Quick Change Room*, site specific installation, Sadler's Wells Theatre, London, UK

## Selected Public Collections

UBS Art Collection  
The McManus: Dundee's Art Gallery and Museum, Dundee, UK  
Aberdeen Art Gallery, Aberdeen, UK  
British Council, UK  
Government Art Collection, UK  
Leeds City Art Gallery, Leeds, UK  
Tate, UK  
Edinburgh University, Edinburgh, UK  
Albright Knox Art Gallery, UK  
Arts Council Collection, UK  
MAC, Santiago, Chile

## Selected Publications

2015 *The October Colouring-in Book*, Common Editions, London, UK  
2014 *The Luminous and the Grey*; David Batchelor, Reaktion Books, London, UK  
2013 *David Batchelor: Flatlands*, Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh and Spike Island, Bristol  
2010 *Found Monochromes*; David Batchelor, Ridinghouse, London  
2008 *Colour: Documents of Contemporary Art*; David Batchelor, Whitechapel, London / MIT Press  
2007 *Unplugged*; David Batchelor, Talbot Rice Gallery, Edinburgh  
2004 *Shiny Dirty*; David Batchelor, David Noble and Clarrie Wallis, Ikon Gallery, Birmingham  
*Minimalism: Movements in Modern Art*; David Batchelor, Tate Publications, London (reprint)

2000  
1997

*Chromophobia*; David Batchelor, Reaktion Books

*Minimalism: Movements in Modern Art*; David Batchelor, Tate Publications, London (English, Spanish, Portugese, Brazillian, Dutch, Danish Swedish editions)