

# ARTIST CV DAVID BEGBIE MRSS.



Photo  
Josh Wright

**David Begbie** BA (hons), HDFA Slade, MRSS.

- 1955 Born Edinburgh, Scotland.
- 1975 Winchester School of Art, England
- 1977 Gloucestershire,  
College of Art and Design  
(BA Hons), Cheltenham, England
- 1980 The Slade School of Sculpture.  
Post Graduate (H.D.F.A.),  
University College, London
- 1993 Associate of the  SCULPTORS  
Royal Society of Sculptors
- Awards Gane Travel Scholarship  
Elizabeth Greenshields

Internationally renowned sculptor David Begbie has worked almost exclusively with the human form throughout his career. Since his first pioneering solo show in London 1984 a whole new genre of steelmesh art has emerged and continues to grow. He is the master of his medium wiremesh and his work speaks for itself.

## Sculptor and Technique

David Begbie discovered the particular properties of steel- and bronzemesh as an art student in 1977. Since then his work has been exhibited globally and has been an enormous inspiration to many people, including architects, designers, photographers, world of theatre and dance as well as to other artists. His sculpture is included in numerous museum, corporate and private art collections around the world.

## Background

Since his graduation in 1982 he has worked almost exclusively with the human form, although has often produced abstract composition alongside the figurative sculpture. Primarily sculpting in steel and

bronze he also produces mono-prints, etchings, ink and charcoal drawings, mixed-media work and photographs, but it is for his distinctive wiremesh sculpture that Begbie is most renowned. David Begbie achieves fine sculpting detail of musculature and an aesthetic completeness of the human form. His subject has often been compared to Michelangelo and in particular to Rodin, as it is often that of the partial or truncated figure. Begbie's simple diaphanous optically dynamic sculpture transcends classical forms and is profoundly contemporary.

## Medium Wiremesh

The mesh is transparent – 90% thin air, yet it has a much greater physical presence than any conventional solid form. Begbie's skill, perception, understanding and imagination are succinctly and economically contained within the confines of the simple shell that constitutes each sculpture.

Look again closely and you see that there is not even a skin, only a graphic delineation of one.

In relation to the space it occupies, the catalytic effect a Begbie sculpture has, given that it has no palpable substance or surface, is phenomenal.

## Light and Shadow

The introduction of strategic lighting as an integral part of a particular composition has the most remarkable result where the combination of two and three dimensions, with the use of projected shadows, produces an optical fusion of image and object.

*"Each work is an entity which has a far greater physical presence than any solid object could possibly have because it has the power to suggest that it doesn't exist."*

These sculptures focus on the dynamic optical qualities of the material itself and its interaction with specific or ambient light in suspended space. For the viewer the mesh material has intrigue yet is somehow familiar – the mesh creates a liveliness and sense of movement.

You have to touch a Begbie to make sure of what is real, what is a shadow and what actually exists!

## SELECTIVE RECENT EXHIBITIONS

### Current Continuing Exhibitions

UK	Cris Contini Contemporary, London Hannah Peschar Garden, Surrey Lilford Gallery, Canterbury Watson Gallery, Edinburgh
Australia	Denise Salvestro Fine Art
Austria	Hotel Linde, Mariawörth
France	Bel Air Fine Art Galleries
Germany	Continuum Gallery, near Bonn
Italy	Vecchiato Arte, Padova Cris Contini Contemporary
Netherlands	Van Loon Galleries
Portugal	Art Catto, Algarve
Singapore	Ode To Art Contemporary
Switzerland	Bel Air Fine Art Galleries

### 2020

22 Mar-3 May	<b>Solo Show</b> David Begbie with Jeff Robb, Continuum Gallery, Germany
11 Jan - 13 Jan	Bergamo Arte Fiera, Italy
3 Apr - 1 Nov	Hannah Peschar Sculpture Garden
23 May - 7 Jun	'The Walled Garden Moreton'
25 Jul - 6 Sep	Sculpture Doddington Hall & Gardens

### 2019

17 Nov-15 Dec	'In The Heat of the Night', Germany
15 - 18 Nov	Arte Padova', Italy
08-24 Nov	'Biennale Brabant', Tilburg, NL
11 - 13 Oct	Art Verona', Italy
7 - 23 Jun	'Summer Art Expositie', Mariakerk, NL
11 - 19 May	Art Breda', Van Loon Galleries, NL

Jun - Jul	'25 Years Garden Gallery', Hampshire
26 May-8 Sep	'Art Unbound', Rococo Garden, UK
30 Mar-19 May	<b>Solo Show</b> 'David Begbie & Marta Jedrysko', Van Loon Galleries, NL
May - Oct	Summer Show, Rarity Gallery, Mykonos
May - Oct	'Self-Portrait Prize', King's Place, London
Mar - Oct	Hannah Peschar Sculpture Garden, UK
Jan - Apr	Bel Air Fine Art France & Switzerland
06 - 10 Mar	'Art & Antique' Münster, Germany
Nov - Mar	'In The Heat of the Night', Germany

### 2018

30 Nov-16 Dec	'Veghel 2018', Netherlands
16 - 19 Nov	'Arte Padova', Italy, Vecchiato Arte
12 - 15 Oct	'Art Verona' Italy, Contini Contemporary
<i>From June onwards:</i>	
	Bel Air Fine Art Galleries, France and Switzerland
07 - 24 Jun	'Beautiful People', Vught, Netherlands
May - Oct	Summer Show, Rarity Gallery, Mykonos
18 - 20 May	'Lucca Art Fair', Italy
17 May - 7 Jul	The Unattended Moment", Hampshire
Apr - Oct	Hannah Peschar Sculpture Garden, UK
19 - 21 Apr	'ART BREDa', Netherlands
Feb - Mar	Maddox Gallery, Gstaad, Switzerland
02 - 05 Feb	Arte Fiera Bologna', Italy
02 Feb - 07 Apr	'Contempo' Hegemann, Munich
17 - 21 Jan	'First Art Fair Amsterdam'
25 Jan-10 Mar	'Burns Unbroke', Scotland
13 Jan-15 Jan	'Arte Fiera Bergamo', Italy

### 2017

09-26 Nov	'Biennale Brabant', Netherlands
12- 15 Oct	'Art Market Budapest' 2017, Opiom
05 Oct-05 Nov	'Shadows and Light', Cambridge
21 - 24 Sep	'Beirut Art Fair', Lebanon
30 Jun-14 Jul	'Shadows of The Past', London Art Week
13 May - 8 Jul	'Making a Mark', Hampshire, UK
07 - 14 May	'Art Breda', NL
05 - 08 May	'Lucca Art Fair', Italy
26 Apr-04 Jun	<b>Solo Show</b> 'Cutting Edge', London
28 Apr-0 Apr	<b>Solo Show</b> 'Transform', France
Apr - Oct	Hannah Peschar Sculpture Garden, UK
27 Feb	'Project Polunin' - 'Czin', London
27 - 30 Jan	'Arte Fiera', Bologna, Italy
20 Nov-26 Feb	'In the Heat of the Night', Germany

### 2016

02 - 18 Dec	'Biennale Veghel', NL
27 - 30 Oct	'Art.Fair' Cologne, Germany
02 Oct	'Art&Music' near Monaco, France
01 Oct	'Luxury Yacht Experience', Monaco
02 - 04 Sep	'WOP ART' Lugano, Switzerland
9 Jul - 27 Aug	<b>Solo Show</b> 'Silhouette', Munich
26 May-12 Jun	'Bienale Vught', Netherlands
16 Jan - 6 Mar	'Solo Show', Vught, Netherlands
25 - 28 Feb	'Art Up' Artfair, Lille, France
20 - 24 Jan	'Art Palm Beach', USA

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## SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- 2020** 22 Mar - 24 May David Begbie and Jeff Robb, Continuum Gallery, Königswinter, Germany
- 2019** 30 Mar - 19 May 'David Begbie & Marta Jedrysko ' Van Loon Galleries, Vught, The Netherlands
- 2017** 24 Apr - 31 May 'Cutting Edge' ContiniArt UK, New Bond Street, London ≡ 28 Apr - 30 Apr 'Transform' Chateaux La Chèvre d'Or, Èze, France
- 2016** 16 Jan - 06 Mar 'David Begbie & Marco de Kok', Netherlands ≡ 9 Jul - 27 Aug Silhouette Solo Exhibition, Galerie Hegemann, Munich.
- 2015** 16 Oct - 16 Nov 'Solid Air' Vecchiato Arte, Padova, Italy ≡ June/July Plateaux Gallery in Italy/Spain ≡ Jan Juliane Hundertmark Galerie, Berlin
- 2013** 14 - 29 Oct 2013 Townhouse, 5 Fournier Street 'Salon Sculpture Exhibition'
- 2012** Gallery David Begbie, Percy Street, London
- 2011** 'Archetypes', Moorhouse, London ≡ 'Skindeep', Ode to Art, Singapore ≡ Van Loon Galleries, Netherlands ≡ 'GENUS', Australian Galleries, Sydney ≡ 'GENUS', Australian Galleries, Melbourne ≡ 'Soft Opening', Different, London ≡ 'David Begbie', Albemarle Gallery, London
- 2010** Gallery David Begbie, London ≡ 'Thin Air' Air Gallery, London ≡ 'Aria Sottile', Vecchiato Arte, Padua ≡ 'Unud', AM Gallery, Roquetas Del Mar, Almeria, Spain ≡ 'Iconii' Chapter House, Canterbury Cathedral ≡ 'Archetypes' Moorhouse, London ≡ 'Skindeep', Ode to Art, Singapore
- 2009** Gallery David Begbie, London ≡ 'Nudus', Number Nine, Birmingham UK ≡ Biennale, Galerie Van Loon Galleries, Holland including 'Rhythmic Ties' violine concert ≡ 'Unud' Somerville Gallery, Plymouth ≡ Gallery David Begbie at Queens Elm Gallery, Chelsea, London
- 2008** 'Genii' Albemarle Gallery, London ≡ 'Grandslam 2008 maquette', (A.L.T.E.C. Wimbledon) Albemarle Gallery, London
- 2007** Gallerie Il Ponte Contemporanea, Rome ≡ Gallery David Begbie, London ≡ Van Loon Galleries, Netherlands ≡ Form 2007 Olympia; London ≡ 'Antebodies' Buschlen Mowatt Galleries, Vancouver, Canada
- 2006** Gallery David Begbie, London ≡ Number Nine, Birmingham
- 2005** 'Nuduu', Gallery David Begbie ≡ The Catto Gallery, London ≡ Etienne & Van Loon, Netherlands
- 2004** Gallery David Begbie, London ≡ Hotel Linde, Mariawörth, Austria ≡ Herman Miller Event, International Art Consultants, London
- 2003** Gallery David Begbie, London ≡ Camino Real Gallery, Boca Raton, Florida ≡ Magidson Fine Art, Aspen, Colorado International Art Consultants, Spectrum, London ≡ Plus One Plus Two Galleries, London ≡ Number Nine, Birmingham ≡ Spectrum, International Art Consultants London ≡ Festival Gallery, Henley Festival, England
- 2002** ≡ **2001** ≡ **2000** Gallery Differentiate, London
- 1999** Gallery Differentiate, London ≡ Inauguration of Stirling Square, St James, London - Sir James Stirlings final building
- 1998** 'Begbie Selected Retrospective', early Work 1983-1991 and recent work 1998, Gallery Differentiate, London
- 1997** Gallery Differentiate, London ≡ The Festival of Erotica, Olympia, London
- 1996** Gallery Differentiate, London ≡ Artopia, New York, USA ≡ Hannah Peschar Gallery & Sculpture Garden, Surrey
- 1995** Gallery Differentiate, London ≡ Magidson Fine Art, Aspen, Colorado, USA ≡ Posner Fine Art, Santa Monica, California, USA
- 1994** Gallery Differentiate, London ≡ Fire Station Gallery, Sydney, Australia (Opened by Terence Meecham - Director of the Powerhouse Museum, Sydney) ≡ Emporio Armani, Brompton Road, London. Special Collaboration ≡ Joel Kessler Gallery, Miami, Florida, USA
- 1992-93** Gallery Differentiate, London ≡ Catto Gallery, London
- 1991** Salama-Caro Gallery, Cork Street, London
- 1990** Wates City Tower, London ≡ Salama-Caro Gallery, Cork Street, London
- 1989** Salama-Caro Gallery, Cork Street, London
- 1988** 'Crucifix', Installation at Winchester Cathedral, England ≡ Henley 88 Festival, Henley On Thames, England (OMS)
- 1987** Salama-Caro Gallery, Cork Street, London ≡ I.C.A.F, Olympia, London (OMS)
- 1986** Galeria Il Ponte, Rome (Margarita Failoni) ≡ Forum, Zurich, Switzerland, (OMS) ≡ Navy Pier, Chicago, USA - (Galeria Il Ponte) ≡ 'Mandelzoom' Canino, Italy, curator Antonio d'Avossa ≡ Savacou Fine Art, Toronto, Canada ≡ 'Tristan' MOMA, Palma de Mallorca curator Achille Bonito Oliva ≡ Simpsons of Piccadilly of London - Special Collaborative One Man Exhibition ≡ Brompton Gallery, Knightsbridge, London
- 1984-1985** Brompton Gallery, Knightsbridge, London

## MUSEUM COLLECTIONS AND PERMANENT PUBLIC/CORPORATE INSTALLATIONS - SELECTION

Galleria Nazionale di Arte Moderna, Rome, Italy ≡ National Gallery Canberra, Australia ≡ Museum Beelden aan Zee, Holland ≡ National Gallery of Canada ≡ Citibank, London ≡ Southwark Bridge, London 'Figure & Fountain' 1989 ≡ City Place House, London 'Back to Front' Diptych and 'Venus' 1991 ≡ The Hyatt Carlton, London, 'The Peak Health Series' 1993 ≡ Natural History Museum, Primates Gallery, permanent site 'Origins' Triptych 1993 ≡ Cannons City Gym, London 'Archetypes' 1994 ≡ Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines 'Fineform' and 'Firmform' 1996 ≡ The Hyatt Carlton, London 'Swimmingtruncs' 1997 ≡ The Park Hyatt, Hamburg, 'Composure I and II' 1998 ≡ Ladbroke Sporting Casino, London, 'Chance' 1999 ≡ The Jam House, Birmingham 'Anangel' and 'Manangel' 1999 ≡ 60 Queen Victoria Street, 'Humantouch' Diptych 1999 ≡ Faith Zone, Millennium Dome, Greenwich, London, Millennium Sculpture 'Faith' 1999 ≡ St Mary the Less, Chilbolton, Winchester 'Cruciform' 1999 ≡ Fleet Place House, Holborn Viaduct 'Fishnet' 2000 ≡ BedesWorld Museum, Jarrow, Tyne & Wear 'Worldsapart' 2000 ≡ Ten Covent Garden, Connaught Rooms, London 'Heavenlybodies' 2001 ≡ The Lowry Hotel, Manchester 'Suspense' 2001 ≡ The Milan Bar, Grants of Croydon, London 'Anangel' 2002 ≡ Hotel Linde, Mariawörth, Austria 'Nuda' 2004 ≡ Radisson SAS Hotel, Stansted 'Standover' 2004 ≡ Shrine of Walsingham, Norfolk 'Crucifix' 2005 ≡ The Jam House, Edinburgh 'Aangel' 2005 ≡ San Domenico House 'Nuuda', 'Nuudu', 'Tunuud' 2006 ≡ International Slavery Museum Liverpool Donation 'Nslave' 2007 ≡ Radisson Edwardian Hotel, Providence Wharf, Genus Series 'Venus', 'Veni' 2007 ≡ 62 Threadneedle Street 'Totu' 2006 ≡ Way of Therapy, London 'Otuu' 2007 ≡ The All England Lawn Tennis And Croquet Club, Centre Court Wimbledon 'Grandslam' 2008 ≡ Coloplast Limited, Peterborough, 'Olo' 2008 ≡ Hanover Grange, Montego Bay, Jamaica 'Statu I' and 'Statu II' 2010 and 'Nuwdstil' 2008 ≡ 'TRANSPOSE' and 'TRANSCEND', Buddha-Bar, Knightsbridge, London 2012 ≡ 'Iconis', Timothy James & Partners, London 2013 ≡ 'Csinu' and 'Ikonis', Dr. Walid Juffali Art Collection ≡ 'Mblem', British Consulate-General Shanghai 2014 ≡ 'Arios Diptych', Conning Asset Management Ltd., Monument, London 2014 ≡ 'Cirrii' Series including 'Cirrus I, II, III', 'Cumulus', 'Cirrostratus I, II' 2014-2015, 8 Northumberland, near Trafalgar Square, London ≡ Le Royal Meridian Beach Resort & Spa, Dubai, UAE 'Airwave' 2017.