

Peter Heywood

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Personal Profile

I have an unusual combination of creative and engineering skills. I worked as a chartered civil engineer for 10 years before making a big career change and becoming a journalist. Later on, I co-founded a successful technology news website in the U.S.. We sold it in 2007.

Since then, I have developed a career as an artist/designer/maker. My speciality is coming up with ideas and devising innovative ways of implementing them, mainly as 3D objects. This includes finding and working with specialists who have skills and equipment I don't possess myself.

I want my projects to be easily understood. I want to amuse and intrigue people at the same time as encouraging them to think.

I have made work in metal, glass and ceramics as well as all sorts of unconventional materials such as tea-leaves, chocolate, egg-shells, recycled drink cans, electronics and software.

Education

1st Class BA (Hons) in Contemporary Craft at Plymouth College of Art (2018)
BSc in civil engineering at the University of Nottingham (1967)

Relevant Experience

- 2012:** Won a competition to design and then help make the gates for Devonport Column, a Grade 1 listed monument in Plymouth.
- 2013:** Won a competition for my surface design of a giant sunfish for a tourist trail in Plymouth.
- 2014:** "Zip" sculpture selected for Plymouth City Council's Open Art Display.
- 2015:** "Ghosts" sculpture selected for an exhibition during the Plymouth Art Weekender.
- 2016/19:** "Teapotty", a cabinet of strange teapots shown at several venues
- 2017/18:** Won a commission for a project in Tate Exchange, a collaboration between Plymouth College of Art and Tate Modern
- 2018:** "The Snake Pit", an installation of robot snakes, was nominated a "pick of the show" by Design Week at the London Design Fair
- 2018:** Designed part of a mining exhibit on the Eden Project
- 2019:** Various community art projects in Plymouth and Looe

Previous Experience

- 1999-2007: Founding editor and co-founder of Light Reading, an Internet publishing company headquartered in New York
- 1977-1999: Journalist based in London and Paris
- 1967-1977: Civil engineer on various projects in the UK, Algeria and Zambia