



## Stone Sculpting for Schools



Schools and Colleges are offered the opportunity to meet artist Graeme Mitcheson who makes a living from creating stone sculptures. View his many fascinating and varied artworks situated throughout the UK including work in Northumberland, Wales, Belfast and London, in a powerpoint presentation. You may also wish to host a residency in which your pupils can try some 'hands on' 3D stone carving and take part in some brainstorming and drawing sessions with the artist.

## **Price Guide**

1 Day Workshop                      £280 +vat & materials (about £40)

Includes: Powerpoint presentation (on artists work, sculpture and stone), ideas generating session with a class or a group of children and the creation of several small 2D relief carvings in stone for your school to keep.

3-5 Day Residency                      £260 per day +vat & materials

Includes: Powerpoint presentation, ideas generating and drawing sessions, creating larger 3D carvings for your school to keep.

Commissions                      £ to be agreed

Sculpture created by Graeme Mitcheson for the school, which can include a one day brainstorming and drawing workshop to help design the sculpture.

## **Residencies and Workshops**

### Apple Tree

In 2001 two schools merged creating an opportunity for art to help forge the union. The children were asked for ideas for a sculpture that would symbolise the merger. Elements were taken from four or five drawings to create this one apple tree growing from two trunks. Even the 0's on the date stone plinth are linked. This was the result of a presentation and brainstorming workshop in school, two days work for Graeme in the studio and a fourth day in school again letting the children see their sculptures completion and having a go too. The school have since used this as their emblem.





## The Owl

This school was very clear with its idea for their sculpture. They wanted an Owl but the children were asked to design the style. The final design was chosen from one child's drawing. This was a five day residency, one of which was spent in the classrooms (ideas workshops) two weeks prior to four days carving in the school playground. Each child in the school had a go at carving the owl and each child took a stone chipping away.

## '36 Little Thoughts'

For this project, four schools were approached each situated in the villages surrounding a park. One class from each school was selected and discussed the history of the park, from coal mine to new wildlife reserve. Each child produced their own 'thought' on a piece of paper, 36 of which were chosen to be interpreted and carved onto little stone plaques. Under my tuition, the children then spent some time carving these stones before I took them back to my studio to complete them.



The 'thoughts' were then installed into the stone walls around the park. The ideas for the '36 little thoughts' included a mine wheel, bridges, trucks, trains, tools, wildlife, flora, fauna and activities the children enjoyed in the park. The collection of little sculptures was considered to be very successful and over a hundred children took part in the process.

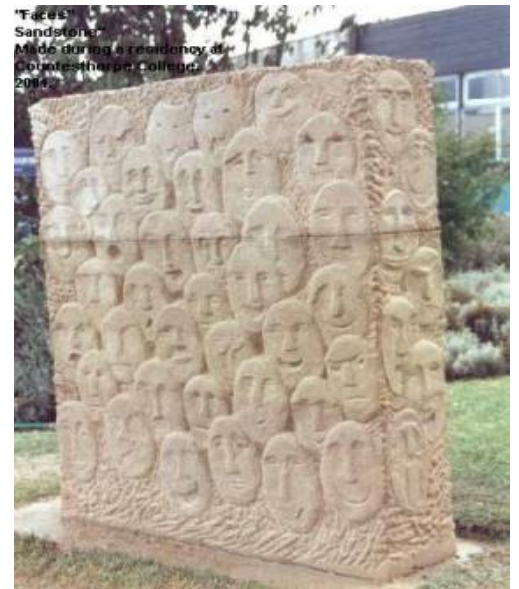
### 'Hopes and Aspirations'

Here children from a school in an ex-mining village were asked for their thoughts on their own futures now the mine had closed.



### Faces (gifted and talented)

A group of gifted and talented 11-16 year olds were asked to draw a picture of how they felt 'right now' to choose an expression. These facial expressions were transferred on to this exciting and interesting piece, which now resides at the entrance to their school.



### Repeat Residencies

Graeme visits one secondary school once a year for a four day residency to teach a different group of children each time. This allows all years to experience stone carving first hand and the school to extend its art collection.

## Head Teachers Recommendation

Mrs M Robinson, St Edward's CofE School, Castle Donington.

“Graeme has worked in our school on three occasions. He is inspiring, calm, approachable and listens to the children. We have always been pleased with the outcome.”

## Examples of Graeme's Public Art Commissions

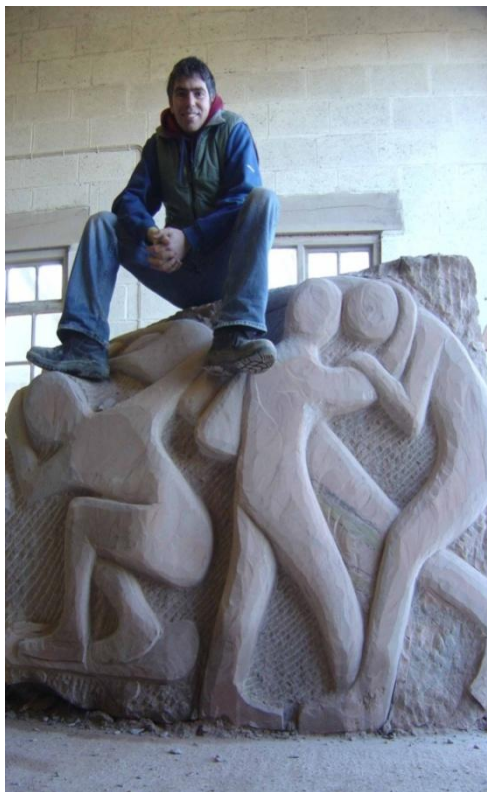


Graeme Mitcheson was born in 1973 in Northumberland, England, and grew up there, but has spent most of his adult life in Leicestershire. He graduated in Fine Art (Sculpture) from Loughborough College of Art & Design, Leicestershire in 1995. Since then he has been creating significant pieces of public art and private commissions sited throughout the UK. Working primarily with stone he also occasionally works in wood and bronze.

Graeme creates bold, site specific pieces with emphasis on strong sculptural forms which relate to the area or the people who will view it most often. He likes to involve schools and community groups while formulating ideas for a piece. Aside from the useful feedback generated during these sessions, Graeme feels this process gives the public a greater sense of ownership and respect which has long term benefits, while an understanding of the sculpture and the work involved in its creation is also important.

In 2008 Graeme Mitcheson was elected an Associate member of the Royal Society of British Sculptors and has a valid CRB certificate.

For more information on Graeme Mitcheson or to view his full port folio please take a look at [www.chisel-it.co.uk](http://www.chisel-it.co.uk) or contact him on the address overleaf.



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