



CHRIS DRURY



THE ARTIST

Drury was born in Colombo, Sri Lanka in 1948. His family moved to the UK when he was 6 years old. From 1966, he attended Camberwell College of Arts (at the time known as Camberwell School of Arts and Crafts), studying art and sculpture. Here he was taught drawing by artists such as Euan Uglow. In October 1975, he was invited to accompany walking artist Hamish Fulton on a journey through the Canadian Rockies. He describes this as the catalyst (the turning point) in his transition from traditional sculpture and portraiture to environmental or land art.

ENVIRONMENTAL ARTIST

Chris moved onto working as an environmental artist (though he doesn't necessarily label himself as such), creating site-specific, nature-based sculpture, often referred to as Land Art or Art in Nature. He works with scientists and technicians, using whatever technologies and media to best suit the situation. His work creates connections between phenomena such as nature and culture. In other exhibition or installation works, however, he has been known to create videos, work with paper, or digital photography. He describes his work as exploring his relationship to nature outside and his own nature inside.

LAND ART

Land art uses natural materials such as stone, wood and sand as the main medium. Land art is usually made directly in the landscape by sculpting the land itself or by making structures in the landscape with natural materials. Land art, also known as earth art, was part of the wider conceptual art movement in the 1960s and 1970s. It was established by a group of pioneering artists who investigated natural sites and alternative modes of artistic production.



INSTALLATION ART

Installation art is a 3D work using mixed media, integrating various elements of an environment with the art piece itself. It is therefore often designed for a specific place or a fixed time period. Within an exhibition, some designs are expected to be walked through and around to fully engage with it. In an open environment, a piece is perhaps expected to be looked at from a specific angle or various angles to appreciate its composition.





FIND OUT MORE...

<https://www.chrisdrury.co.uk>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tai8xEftLSQ>

EXAMPLE QUESTIONS

1. Where was Drury born?
2. Where did he visit, which then transformed his artistic direction?
3. What is Land Art also known as?
4. Which art uses mixed media?
5. What is used to create Land Art?