



## **PRESS RELEASE: 5th July 2017**

### **The Observatory rotating structures move to Burton Bradstock in partnership with Arts University Bournemouth and the National Trust.**

Artists are taking up residence in *The Observatory* temporary structures, that have just been installed on the Coastal Footpath at Burton Bradstock overlooking the beautiful Jurassic Coast.

*The Observatory* will be on site from 4<sup>th</sup> July until the end of September 2017 and will host creative students, graduates and staff from Arts University Bournemouth, particularly from the architecture courses. They will be responding creatively to the location and researching what makes Dorset so unique.

The two striking structures – an artists' studio called *The Study* and a public shelter named *The Workshop* – are part of a collaborative project with [SPUD](#), a charity which specialises in the arts, architecture and educational projects.

Both wooden structures stand on turntables and have rotating handles to change the view of the landscape throughout the day, looking out to sea or inland to the Dorset hills. The artists will use *The Study* as a small site specific studio, while *The Workshop* will remain open to visitors when artists are away.

**The Observatory**, which is supported by Arts Council England and James Lathams Ltd, was created as a sculptural installation, workspace, shelter and a look-out for

artists. It has been travelling around multiple locations over two years, including another National Trust site at Mottisfont in Hampshire.

The rotating structures, which are clad in charred wood created with the traditional Japanese preservation technique Shou Sugi Ban, were designed by a team of young architectural graduates at Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios in London who won a competition. The Observatory has been recognised with awards including a RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) South Award in 2016. The structure also includes traditional rope weaving techniques by Devon-based artist Edward Crumpton.

**SPUD ([www.spudgroup.org.uk](http://www.spudgroup.org.uk)) is an award-winning charity** based in Hampshire and has previously worked on the Exbury Egg project, an eye-catching, energy efficient and self-sustaining workspace for artist Stephen Turner on the Beaulieu River.

For the latest updates about The Observatory at Burton Bradstock and its visiting artists see: [www.lookinlookout.org](http://www.lookinlookout.org) and Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SPUDObservatory](https://www.facebook.com/SPUDObservatory)

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