

School: Bath School of Art

Researcher: Jenny Dunseath, Reader in Fine Art

**Project Title:** Artist Boss

UOA: 32: Art and Design

# Research Timeline

Date	Rationale of research activities and decisions undertaken
April 2010 - 2015	Stage 1: Gathering The project was conceived in 2010 in Anthony Caro's studio from conversation amongst Caro and his studio assistants. Stage 1 involved contacting and interviewing Caro's assistants to gather the voices, thoughts and opinions of former assistants to explore the similarities, trajectories and impact of these roles that span across five decades of art production.
	Stage 2: Dissemination Stage 2 opened up questions to students, academics and artists through a series of seminars, workshops, discussion groups and conferences that began to disseminate and explore the emerging themes of practical pedagogy and learning communities.
June 2012: Norwich University of the Arts	Seminar and studio visit to Anthony Caro Studio and gallery Participants Yr2 & 3 BA Fine Art sculpture students from Norwich University of the Arts visited Anthony Caro's studio for discussion with Caro, studio manager Patrick Cunningham and the current studio assistants John Wallbank and Oliver Cheyne. Discussion centered on ways of making (both assisted and independent) career paths and artists development.  Outcome After the visit, a live forum discussion took place with Caro responding to comments and students work across the Fine Art department, using the University's Virtual Learning Environment. Students wrote up and reflected on the experience and its impact on their practices in blogs.

### December 2013:

### Norwich University of the Arts Research event

With Professor Marcia Pointon, Tom Simmons, Liam Wells, Suri Krishnamma, Phil Archer, Neil Bousfield and Jenny Dunseath. NUA staff, BA, MA and PhD students and collaborators were invited to examine and discuss research projects and the contexts in which art, design, architecture and media are produced, understood, used, exchanged and sustained.

#### January 2014:

### Norwich University of the Arts Seminar Caro Feast

A seminar event with Jenny Dunseath for BA Yr1, 2 and 3 Fine art undergraduate students discussing the role of assistants in the production of art. The session involved a presentation and discussion with students centered on their experiences of making. The session looked at the 2010 interview with Caro and two key texts: *The art of not making: the new artist/artisan relationship* by Dr Michael Petry (2011) and Richard Sennett's *The Craftsman* (2009).

### September 2014:

### **Meeting at Tate Britain**

Mark Wilsher and Jenny Dunseath meet and discuss project aims and direction with Penelope Curtis at Tate Britain. She says of the project: 'I think this could be a really interesting project in which students could assemble and talk through some of these very pertinent issues'

# September 2014:

### **Meeting New Arts Centre, Roche Court**

Madeline Beesborough and Stephen Feeke, Jenny Dunseath and Mark Wilsher met to discuss project aims and direction with New Arts Centre Roche Court.

### October 2014:

Central St Martins, London Symposium Collaborating with Caro
The symposium explored the sculpture and teaching of Anthony Caro
(1924-2013) through a series of talks and panel discussions with artists,
academics and studio assistants. Drawing on the testimony of fellow
artists, studio assistants, and his colleagues at St Martin's and Triangle,
the symposium sets out to explore Caro's legacy from different
generations perspectives. Organized by Sam Cornish and Mark Dunhill.
Speakers: William Tucker, Tim Scott, David Evison, Peter Hide, Robin
Greenwood, Hamish Black, Jenny Dunseath, Frances Richardson, Anna
Best, Elena Crippa, Ian Dawson, Olivia Bax and Neil Ayling.
Link:http://events.arts.ac.uk/apex/EventFormPage?id=a0RD0000000BRg
x2MAD&book=true

### March 2015:

### Barford Sculptures Itd, Camden London Discussion group

Pool group coordinated by Olivia Bax, Charles Hewlings and Gina Medcalf, Claire Baily, Jean-Philippe Dordolo, Neil Ayling, John Wallbank, Jenny Dunseath, Hywel Livingstone, Rafael Blasco Ciscar, Ed Goolden, Sophie Hoyle. Discussion of individuals' practices, sculptural concerns and common themes to begin planning for The Cut exhibition.

#### August 2015:

#### The Cut, Halesworth Discussion group

A site visit and meeting with Tony Casement at The Cut with Pool group Olivia Bax, Claire Baily, Jean-Philippe Dordolo, Neil Ayling, Jenny Dunseath, Hywel Livingstone, Rafael Blasco Ciscar, Charles Hewlings and Gina Medcalf.

### November 2015:

### Bath Spa University Research event: *Projects, Process and Audiences*

Chaired by Mike Tooby with Dr Robert Luzar, Jenny Dunseath and Keith Harrison. An opportunity for BSU staff, MA and PhD students to discuss current research projects discussing the way projects build the relationships between process, exhibition and presentation, and audience.

## November 2015:

# Bath School of Art & Design Seminar and academic workshop: *Behave stupidly with reason*

A studio based workshop and seminar for Yr2 undergraduate Fine Art students exploring Caro's educational devices and approaches to making with Jenny Dunseath. The session involved students re-enacting activities from Caro's teaching program at St Martins. The session explored the currency of learning and explored modes of sharing of knowledge. Students analyzed and referenced key texts.

### December 2015:

Pangaea sculptors center, London Symposium *Life cycles*, *continuous Life Cycle*, *Continuous* considered the life cycle of both artwork and artist's legacy with a particular focus on how it transforms, evolves and transitions across platforms, people, place and time. The invited speakers referenced specific projects and shared insights into their own experiences and approaches of working in this field. Speakers:

Dr Jo Melvin – Reader in Fine Art Archives and Special Collections Jenny Dunseath – Artist & Senior Lecturer at Bath Spa University Anne Hardy – Artist

Link: http://www.pangaeasculptorscentre.com/lifecycle-continuous/

#### March 2016:

Barford Sculptures Ltd Camden, London Discussion group Participants: meeting with Brendan Prendeville, Goldsmiths UAL with the Pool group: Jean-Philippe Dordolo, Neil Ayling, John Wallbank, Jenny Dunseath, Olivia Bax, Hywel Livingstone, Claire Baily, Charles Hewlings and Gina Medcalf, to discuss current work, catalogue text and exhibition planning.

### 2015-2017

### Funding applications and sponsorship work

Sponsorship partnerships with New Art Centre Roche Court, Creativepool, Ambit, Mtec, Visual Arts South West and Wiltshire County Council with support in-kind to the value of £11.5K

Funding for Artist Boss included support from the following:

Research Funding Bath Spa University

Annely Juda Gallery

David Mirvish Canadian Philanthropist

Barford Sculptures Itd

Hubbub funding

Grant for printing

Stripe funding

Ambit Magazine and Pangaea Sculptors center

**Fairhurst Donations** 

Norwich University of the Arts, Bath Spa University, University of

Southampton, Bennington College, US

The Artist Boss project was used in conjunction with an application by New Arts Centre to support a substantial bid to repair a Caro sculpture in Poole Dorset, which was awarded £195,600 by the Heritage Lottery Fund and £41,018 by Arts Council England to repair Sir Anthony Caro's Sea Music sculpture.

### Stage 3: Outputs

### 2016-17

The final stage opens up the project for everyone. A series of exhibitions across the South East and South West regions presents the work of Caro and artists associated with his studio. The varied work of these artists illustrates the different ways in which the evolution of sculptural language has been negotiated.

The publication reveals the voices of the individuals and provides an insight into the thought processes and studio methodologies of artists across the decades. The website chronicles the project for it to be shared and developed by others.

The project aims to provide a new unchartered approach on the reading of Caro's work and legacy in sculpture today to foreground collaborative partnerships and support communities of learning.

#### June 2016

### Artist Boss Website Released http://www.artistboss.org.uk/

The website holds all of the project information in one place. It includes the project development, Learning resources for schools, colleges and audiences and cites all of the project partners and funders.

# July-August 2016:

Artist Boss: Anthony Caro's studio assistants and issues of legacy in

British sculpture. Published by Wunderkammer Press.

Editor: Jenny Dunseath Co editor: Mark Wilsher Paperback Pages: 192

Illustrations: 91 colour and b/w

Size: 170 x 225mm ISBN: 978-0-9935511-0-9

The Publication is held in international collections at Bennington College USA, Art Gallery of Ontario Canada, National Institute of Design India, Concordia University Canada, SCAD Savannah, AAU Africa and UAL China. It is held in the national collections of Central St Martins Archive London, Goldsmiths University, Norwich University of the Arts, Bath Spa University, University of Southampton Winchester School of Art, Henry Moore Institute Leeds, British Library and DACS. It is held in the private collections of the Caro family, Annely Juda Gallery, Tim Marlow Artistic Director of the Royal Academy of art and Sir Alan Duncan, Minister of State for Europe and the Americas.

### **August 2016:**

Artist Boss book launch at The Royal Academy of Arts, London. Speeches by Tim Marlow, Stephen Feeke, Prof Anita Taylor, Prof John Strachan and Dr Graham Mclaren.

September -

Pool Exhibition at The Cut, Halesworth, Suffolk.

Opening event 3.09.16

October 2016: Closing discussion event 1.10.16 with Brendon Prendeville, Charles

Hewlings and the artists.

November

Artist Boss at New Art Centre, Roche Court.

2016 -January 2017: Opening event 19.11.16 with Madeleine Beesborough and Prof Anita Taylor. Artist Boss 'Generation z depth' workshops with Ian Dawson and

Roche Court Educational Trust, for primary and secondary schools.

December 2016 -

January 2017:

Artist Boss at Bath School of Art & Design, Bath Spa University.

6.12.16 Artist crits and talks- Olivia Bax, Hywel Livingstone, Neil Ayling and John Wallbank work with students and Talk about their practice and

17.01.17 MA & BA Student trip to New Art Centre with talk by Jenny

**Dunseath and Roche Court Educational Trust** 

**December** 2016

Artist Boss at Art Gallery of Ontario, Canada 9.12.16

Studio assistants from Artist Boss publication speak at 'Anthony Caro's Late Works: The Life and Process of Sculpture.' A round table discussion at the Art Gallery of Ontario with Julius Bryant, Keeper of Word & Image at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, UK, Caro's former studio assistants Patrick Cunningham and Jon Isherwood, and New York-based curator and critic Karen Wilkin. The panel was moderated by exhibition curator, Kenneth Brummel, the Art Gallery of Ontario's Assistant Curator of Modern Art, and introduced by Paul Caro. Artist Boss publication was also available at this event. Art Gallery of Ontario: Round table

discussion at Art Gallery of Ontario with Julius Bryant, Patrick

Cunningham and Jon Isherwood, Karen Wilkin and Kenneth Brummel.

January 2017:

12.01.17 **Artist Boss Lecture** at Norfolk Contemporary Art Society at

The Curve, Forum Norwich

17.01.17 Artist Boss Talk at ARTBAR discussion with Jenny Dunseath

and Mike Tooby

February 2017:

Symposium Blip Blip: What's a studio and how do we use one?

Leeds. Featuring Martin Newth Program Director of Fine Art Chelsea College of Arts, Juan Cruz Dean of Fine Art Royal College of Art, Neil Mulholland Shift/Work Edinburgh College of Art & Edinburgh Sculpture

Workshop and Jenny Dunseath, Bath School of Art & Design.