

## **Artist's statement:**

Found objects, hand-me-downs, castoffs, remnants, scraps and waste. I make gawky, ham-fisted abstractions which celebrate the rich texture of materials. This-ness. I love the poetry of abandon, patinas of neglect and decay - ripped sacking, twisted rope, netting, gnarled roots, steel mesh, rust. Bringing these elements together, sometimes using ancient craft skills, to find new improvisations of texture, knuckled forms and random knots, helps me orientate, find ways to blunder back towards our dark past. The archaic repetitive processes I have learnt, mindful, engrossing, feel something akin to ritual. I try to tread lightly. We are only here for a blink, but our lives are each beads on a glistened thread, that long baffling tangled trail of human history.

## **Profile**

I am a retired vet. Intrigued by art, I have been making for several years. I work with both traditional materials such as charcoal, clay, and mild steel, but also unusual ones such as hand-twisted rag rope. I also create a diversity of works varying from portrait sculptures and drawings to stone balances, abstract installations and reliefs.

I am inspired by science, the brain, animal behaviour, curves, ritual, laughter, Andy Goldsworthy, prehistory, materiality, cooking, words, human evolution, medicine, perception, secrets, water, awe, absurdity, natural history, collapse, ecosystems, sculptors, physiology, Brian Eno, the climate crisis, coffee, Magdalena Abakanowicz, sleep, the microbiome, death, butterflies, chaos, Kathleen Jamie, faces, myopia, Chopin

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## **Legends for images**

The Barton Wizard Chris Little MA Fine Art

Inspired by "Sentry" by John Baldwin and "The Hollow Men" by T S Eliot  
"...Our dried voices, when  
We whisper together  
Are quiet and meaningless  
As wind in dry grass..."

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Methane Chris Little MA Fine Art

A regular tetrahedron - fundamental building block in physics and chemistry  
Methane, CH<sub>4</sub>, follows this pattern  
- a crucial greenhouse gas produced during the decay of living matter

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Degrees of Freedom Chris Little MA Fine Art

Inspired by a photo from Andy Goldsworthy's Studio  
A statistical concept concerning variation within systems  
Chance and choices

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A Waste of Wood Chris Little MA Fine Art

An ironic title

Dead wood is all waste - decay is part of the natural carbon cycle in an ecosystem.

“Art doesn’t last, life doesn’t last, it doesn’t matter” Eva Hesse

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Disentangled Chris Little MA Fine Art

“Simplicity is complexity resolved” Constantine Brancusi

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Worn, Ripped, Twisted and Hung Chris Little MA Fine Art

The title refers to the violent processes involved in the fashioning of rag-rope and the construction of this soft sculpture

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Video:

This is the way the world ends Chris Little MA Fine Art