

Boscastle sculptor Carole Vincent wins major award

The British Precast ‘Creativity in Concrete’ Award 2007 has been won by Carole Vincent, sculptor, painter, teacher and concrete technologist based at Boscastle in North Cornwall. This new Annual Award is presented to an individual who has enhanced the image of concrete through excellence in precast concrete technology, product design, communications, architecture or engineering.

Carole received the award from actor and adventurer Brian Blessed accompanied by British Precast Chief Executive Martin Clarke at the November award ceremony at London’s Marriott Hotel , Grosvenor Square.

Carole Vincent operates the UK’s smallest precast concrete production line and for many years has produced the most stunning concrete sculptures with a masterly artistic eye. The engraved crystal glass award is supplemented by the gift of her very own website.

Martin Clarke comments: “ We are delighted that Carole is the first recipient of the Creativity in Concrete award – her work has been most inspiring over the years to all in the concrete industry as well as to the many local communities who enjoy looking at her sculptures.”

Two hi-res photos of the presentation party are available

**To contact Carole Vincent please pass requests to Martin Clarke
martin.clarke@britishprecast.org or call 07850 278494**

Further background information:

Carole Vincent was born in Crediton, Devon, the daughter of a builder. From the age of nine she made concrete blocks in the family precast works – little thinking where it would lead. After training at the Bath Academy of Art, she settled in Boscastle, North Cornwall, where she has lived and worked ever since, as sculptor, painter and teacher.

Half Acre – Carole’s home and studio – is a cottage built of local slate, overlooking the village. She bought it in 1967, and since then has extended and enlarged it to provide studio space for her own work, and for the summer holiday classes that she has run since 1971. It is the smallest precast works in the UK.

Carole Vincent is an artist working in concrete. Her large-scale commissions have included *The Sundial* in Plymouth City Centre, *The Pedestrians* in Devon, *Quartet* in Glasgow, *Colloquy* in Singapore, *Les Jongleurs* in Jersey, *The Red Carpet* in Edinburgh, *The Bude Light 2000* in Cornwall, *The Blue Circle Garden* at the RHS Chelsea Flower Show in 2001 and, most recently, *La Citadelle* in Jersey.

Painter as well as sculptor, Carole Vincent has explored the use of natural colour and texture in concrete for sculpture. Her work with pigments has achieved remarkable success, opening

new doors to architects, engineers and planners. She likes to work to commission for specific environments, which may range from public spaces to individual buildings and gardens. Her work has helped to free colour concrete to be a visual material with its own character. The highly polished surfaces reveal texture, form and colour with all the time-proven assets of concrete – flexibility, strength, durability and resistance to vandalism and graffiti.

Few artists have so successfully exploited concrete's ability to be free-form shapes, and none has infused it with such a dazzling spectrum of brilliant colours. Carole Vincent's sculptures range from small, personal pieces to large public commissions, including environmental and garden designs, in which plants and sculptures are integrated to form a harmonious whole.

Carol Vincent is supported by many in the concrete industry. In 2000, she was made a Fellow of The Concrete Society. Blue Circle Industries (now Lafarge) sponsored her show garden at Chelsea in 2001. The Concrete Centre has used her expertise in courses at The Royal College of Art. The British Cement Association has promoted her work for many years and in 2005, sponsored a major retrospective exhibition, *Concrete Works*, in the Jubilee Gallery at the Devon Guild of Craftsmen in Bovey Tracey.

For many years Carole has produced the awards for both British Precast and Concrete Society. As such it is entirely appropriate that she receives the inaugural **British Precast Creativity in Concrete** award.

Commissions and Public Work

- 1982** *Reunion*
Commission: Miss A.M.Shaw
- 1984** *One and All*
Commission: W.E. Chivers Ltd for Old Vicarage Place, St Austell, Cornwall
- 1985** *The Family*
Location: The Surgery, Boscastle, Cornwall
- 1988** *The Armada Dial*
Commission: Plymouth City Council, for the city centre
- 1989** *The Devon Pedestrians*
Commission: Devon County Council, for Exeter, Plymouth, Torquay and Barnstaple
- 1990-91** *Quartet*
Commission: Marina Rainey for Oldhay, Launceston, Cornwall and InterCity for The Royal Scottish Academy of Music & Drama
- 1993** *The Peacock Bowl* at Chelsea Flower Show
- 1993** *The Buskers*
Commission: Safeway Stores for Cage Yard, Reigate, Surrey
- 1994** *Colloquy Two*
Commission: Ssany Yong Cement Ltd, for its offices in Singapore
- 1995** *Colloquy Two 3/5* for David Bows
- 1996** *Les Jongleurs*
Commission: Jersey Public Sculpture Trust, St Helier, Jersey
- 1997** *Atlantis*
Commission: private client, Jersey
- 1998-99** *The Red Carpet*

2000 Commission: The Edinburgh Festival Society for The Hub, Highland Tolbooth
The Bude Light 2000

2001 Commission: Bude-Stratton Town Council, for The Castle, Bude, Cornwall
The Blue Circle Garden

2003-04 Sponsor: Blue Circle Industries plc, Location: RHS Chelsea Flower Show
Concrete Jungle
Proposal for RHS Chelsea Flower Show