



2024: a M.A.D year ahead!



Welcome to our first newsletter of 2024 – and what a busy year it promises to be for Modern Art Distillery! We're already planning our schedule of summer fairs and festivals that will take us up and down the country - here are just some of the events we'll be attending:

- March 23-24: [Bath & West Food & Drink Festival](#)
- May 11-12: [Mapperton Food & Drink Market](#)
- May 16-19: [Pub in the Park, Marlow](#)
- May 25-27: [Blenheim Palace Food Festival](#)
- Jun 7-9: [Foodies Festival, Bath](#)

- June 22-23: [Axe Vale Show](#)
- June 28-30 : [Pub in the Park, Chiswick](#)
- July 12-14: [Pub in the Park, Reigate](#)
- July 27: [Mid-Devon Show](#)
- August 18: [Mid-Somerset Show](#)
- August 22: [Melplash Show](#)
- September 6-8: [Pub in the Park, St Alban's](#)

We'll keep you updated as more dates are confirmed - and we hope you'll come and visit us if you're nearby!

Truly, madly, deeply...



If you're looking for something different to give your loved one on Valentine's Day, go M.A.D with a bottle of our spirits and an art print!

We're offering a discount for all Valentine's Day sales – just add in the code HEART24 when you check out from the [M.A.D shop](#).



There's a wide choice, from our flavoured gin, rum & vodka to London Dry Gin, all guaranteed to bring the spirit of romance to your day.

Choose from Blueberry & Bergamot Gin, Strawberry & Honey Spiced Rum and Watermelon & Thyme Vodka or London Dry Gin with a hint of sumac.



You can buy all our spirits at our online shop - the flavoured gin, rum and vodka come in 70cl bottles, while our London Dry is available in 70cl, 10cl and 5cl bottles.

And be sure to visit our [Art Shop](#) for A3 and A4 prints of all our artworks available now, plus an A2 size available for pre-order.

The gift that keeps on giving



Modern Art Distillery has been shortlisted for the prestigious 2024 Gift of the Year Award. We're among 11 companies who have been selected for the Contemporary Gift category - "funky, design-led gifts with a quirky modern feel".

Judging to select the finalists will take place from February 4-7 at the Gift Show in Birmingham to be followed by an awards ceremony in London in May. Among those involved is Sara Davies from BBC's *Dragon's Den* series.

The Gift of the Year awards are highly respected industry accolades, aimed at recognising the best new products, talent and inspiration in the gift industry each year, and are judged by over 100 industry professionals who are all looking for the best new products to market.

Artist update: Yasmin Davidson



Yasmin Davidson (left) will be exhibiting at Taigh Chearsabhagh Arts Centre on her home island of North Uist from February 3 - April 26.

Her show is called *Dùthchas: Through the Artist's Lens*. The project is based on the film documentary *Dùthchas* - the word Dùthchas roughly means 'home and place' in Scottish Gaelic.

Archived films from 1960s and 1970s Berneray were carefully restored for the documentary, produced by Andy Mackinnon who also spoke to locals about their childhood, their perceptions of home and what it means to them.

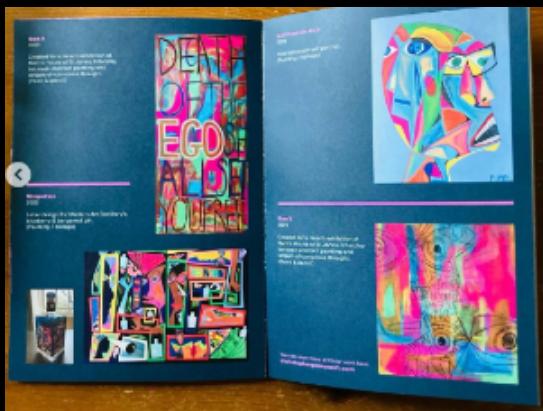
Says Yasmin: "As an artist living on Berneray, I have been inspired to create a body of work reflecting my connection to the island. Watching *Dùthchas* challenged my perception of home and what it means to have a deep connection to a place. I decided to create a series of stills from the 8mm films.

"I wanted to capture the film's quality and light. In my works, I try to show light behind the image and the movement the film often displays. The paintings are colourful; my colour palette has injected a new life into the stills and has brought the images back into the 20th century.

"Watching *Dùthchas* is a magical experience. The film transports you back to a time when life was simple, people looked out for each other, and everyone was connected on a personal level. It reminds you to detach from modern technology and tune yourself with your natural surroundings. Home, to me, is a grounding feeling, a deep-rooted connection. *Dùthchas* is a perfect reminder of that feeling."

Image: *Duncan and his Tractor* by Yasmin Davidson. (c) The artist. Follow Yasmin on Instagram @yasmin9499.

Artist update: Chris Pompa



Chris Pompa has been busy painting and creating, and has just had a piece written about his work in a new Welsh culture magazine, Cwilt. He has also been commissioned to do a large-scale painting for Secret Garden Cafe in Bute Park, Cardiff, to be displayed on the exterior walls of the Secret Garden.

Top from l-r, *Modern Life is a Vortex of Distraction*; *Two Cats & a Cheese Plant in the Twilight*; *Uh Oh I'm in a Pot Again*, all by Chris Pompa. (c) The artist. Above, Chris's work featured in *Cwilt* magazine. Follow Chris on Instagram @chrispompaart.

Artist update: Emma Taylor & Jason Dorley-Brown



Emma Taylor and Jason Dorley-Brown are working on a series of new Jet Pictures images which will be released in the spring. They have also recently completed a private commission for a family, creating a playful image of their previous house and family members which will be a lasting memory of their childhood home.

Emma has undertaken a mural at the Delta Marriott Hotel in Bristol and is about to embark on a series of art workshops for The Stroke Association and Bath Carers.

Above: A section of Emma's mural for the Delta Marriott Hotel. (c) The artist. Follow Emma and Jason on Instagram @emmataylorbathartist and @jasondorleybrown.

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