



## Meet our new artist Natasha!



The latest artist to join the Modern Art Distillery family is 19-year-old Natasha Whalley from Kent. Natasha is currently in her first year at the University of Bristol, studying Engineering Mathematics.

Her artwork, titled *The Spirit of Music* (above), appears on the label of our now award-winning (see below!) London Dry Gin, which will be produced as a limited edition Festival Special 2024 to be launched at Pub in the Park, Marlow, and on sale throughout the summer at M.A.D's other festivals and shows.

Natasha has had a passion for art since she was 13. She says: "I found drawing to be one of the only times I could sit and process my thoughts. I continued with art during school and found such enjoyment in oil painting."

She studied the work of the Dutch Masters for A level Art and would often try to use their techniques in her own portraits. "My A level covered two main topics – the first, an analysis of oppression within extremist religion, and the other looking at the ephemeral nature of people due to illnesses like dementia."

It resulted in her gaining full marks for her A level Art (see images below) and going on to win an award for the Most Promising Young Artist in Dover, Deal and Sandwich.



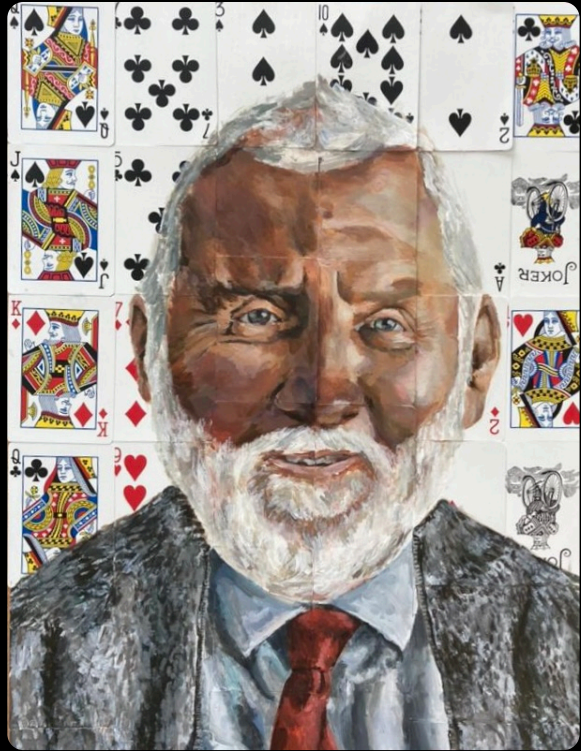
Though she is now studying a science subject, Natasha believes her artwork is improved by her analytical perspective and allows her to understand more deeply not only the techniques she uses in her work but also to find the most focused way to display the meaning of her pieces.

“I find art brings me comfort as it gives me moments away from my otherwise STEM-based work,” she says.

“I would love to continue with my art and maybe one day have a career doing oil portraits.” Natasha works in oils, acrylics and watercolour - her mixed media artwork for Modern Art Distillery captures the festival atmosphere at events like Pub in the Park and the Foodies Festivals which bring together well-known singers and bands with celebrity chefs and food experts for a culinary and musical experience.

To see more of Natasha's work visit her on Instagram [@natashaWhalley\\_art](#) - and look out for another artist and label artwork we'll be unveiling in June!





## M.A.D warms up for summer



We're hoping for some sunny days ahead as we go back on the road heading for festivals and shows across the south and south west from now until October. Here's where we'll be this summer:

- May 16-19: Pub in the Park, Marlow
- May 25-27: Blenheim Palace Food Festival

- May 30 - June 1: Royal Bath & West Show, Shepton Mallet
- June 7-9: Foodies Festival, Bath
- June 14-16: Royal Three Counties Show, Malvern
- June 22-23: Axe Vale Show, Axminster
- June 28-30: Pub in the Park, Chiswick
- July 12-14: Pub in the Park, Reigate
- July 27: Mid-Devon Show, Tiverton
- August 1: Honiton Show
- August 18: Mid-Somerset Show, Shepton Mallet
- August 22: Melplash Show, Bridport
- September 6-8: Pub in the Park, St Albans
- September 14: Frome Agricultural & Cheese Show
- October 26-27: Dartmouth Food Festival

Come and say hello if you're nearby - and don't forget, even if you can't visit one of our shows you can still buy M.A.D spirits and art prints from our online shop! For regular updates on our summer schedule and other news follow us on Instagram @modernartdistillery.

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## We're on a winning streak



Modern Art Distillery's range of spirits has been impressing the judges at some top international competitions recently!

M.A.D's Watermelon & Thyme Vodka won a gold medal and our Strawberry & Honey Spiced Rum earned a silver medal at the prestigious London Spirits Competition in early May.

The competition is based on quality, value and packaging of the spirits and is judged by a panel of leading buyers and experts - it's considered the ultimate seal of approval in the global spirits industry.

We were also thrilled to learn that our [London Dry Gin](#) has won the Contemporary category in [The Gin Guide Awards](#). Paul Jackson, founder and editor of The Gin Guide and head judge of the awards, said: "The quality and diversity of gins has been absolutely remarkable.

"Being a winner in The Gin Guide Awards has become one of the most revered achievements in the industry and a long list of previous winners have used their success to take their businesses to the next level."



To top it all, we've just won the [South West Rural StartUp Award](#) and will be going forward to the national finals on September 12, and we're waiting to find out if we have won the Gift of the Year 2024 in the award's contemporary category next week.

None of our wins would be achieved without the support of all the people we work with and of our customers - a big shout-out to all of you!

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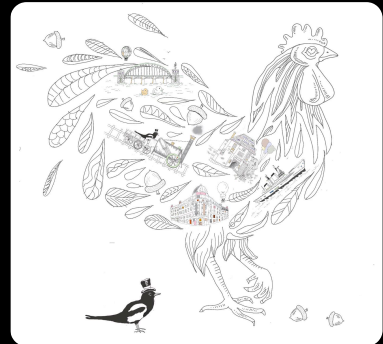
## Artist update: Emma Taylor





Bath artist Emma Taylor, who designed M.A.D's London Dry Gin 'City' bottle label with Jason Dorley-Brown, has been working at the Hotel Indigo in Newcastle creating a series of murals as part of a £2m refurbishment.

The murals were based around some quirky and eccentric historical stories related to Newcastle (see below). Each one was drawn free-hand using graffiti and Posca pens with 24 murals completed in just four days! See more of Emma's work on Instagram [@emmataylorbathartist](https://www.instagram.com/emmataylorbathartist)





# Beautiful bottles

We believe our bottles are beautiful inside and out - and that once you've enjoyed the spirits you can still have pleasure from an empty bottle by repurposing it, whether with lights, candles or bottle top planters!

What ideas do you have? Follow us on Instagram @modernartdistillery and tell us what you'd put in your empty M.A.D bottle - a free A4 print (worth £15) will wing its way to those who come up with the best ideas!

## Modern Art Distillery

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