

# ELLA GOOD & NICKI KENT – CV

[www.ellaandnicki.com](http://www.ellaandnicki.com)

Ella Good and Nicki Kent are artists who work collaboratively. They both studied at Dartington College of Arts where they each completed a BA (Hons) in Theatre in 2007, with respective minors in Visual Arts and Textual Practices. They live and work in Bristol, UK, where they also run artist-led space [The Milk Bar](#).

## ARTIST STATEMENT

Our work is cross-disciplinary and socially engaged - often involving participatory work within community settings. We ask audiences to contribute to process based art work, to ask questions and to collaborate with us to make unusual events happen. Our work aims to engage audiences outside of traditional arts institutions to create conversation and change around society itself - looking at how we, collectively, live.

Our work focuses around space science – as such we find many crossovers with other disciplines. We are always keen to begin new collaborations with researchers and scientific organisations as well as arts partners.

## SELECTED DOCUMENTATION

Ten-minute documentary ‘The Launches’ (2015) – [watch here](#)

Presentation at The Mars Society International conference, University of Washington - [watch here](#)

Interview on BBC News Points West - [watch here](#)

Education work as part of A Decade With Mars: [www.adecadewithmarskids.com](http://www.adecadewithmarskids.com)

Writings & photographic documentation of our work: [www.ellaandnicki.wordpress.com](http://www.ellaandnicki.wordpress.com)

## RECENT WORK

### **A Decade With Mars | 2014 – present**

A series of works over ten years. Framed by following the time-line of a real life manned Mars mission to reflect on what a proposal to leave Earth means, politically and socially. The following works are part of A Decade With Mars, exploring themes of time, community, sustainability and the future:

### **The World and Mars | August-September 2017** *Supported by Arts Council England, Edward Marshall Trust*

A film project working with a group of 8-10 year olds in Bristol, resulting in a short animated science fiction film about what it would be like to live on Mars.

### **Space For Trees | October 2016 – January 2017** *Supported by The Gane Trust, Hull City Council, ARC Stockton Arts Center, ICIA at the University of Bath, First Great Western, East Street Arts, ARISE, the Oppenheim John-Downes Memorial Trust.*

Before Yuri Gagarin left Earth and became the first human being in space in 1961, he planted a tree at his launch site. Since then many astronauts have continued this tradition – trees have been planted by astronauts from countries all over the world. Inspired by this tradition, we replicated the tree planting ceremony with schools and community groups around the UK, planting a series of commemorative trees, alongside a series of talks about the perspective leaving Earth gives to look after the planet we live on – in Hull, Bristol, Bath, Leeds and Stockton.

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**The Launches | March – June 2015** Supported by Hull City Council, Hull Truck Theatre, The Sir James Reckitt Charity, Shoreditch Town Hall, East Street Arts, Lancaster Arts City, Live at LICA, Bath and North East Somerset Council, ICIA at Bath University, and Arts Council England.

A series of weather balloon launches in public parks around the UK. The balloons reached heights of 100,000 feet with cameras attached to return footage of near space. Communities were invited to join a collective effort to get to space, creating a film and a shared community event. Lead up work in each city involved primary school workshops and talks for community groups: ranging from astronomy societies, rotary clubs, WI groups, coffee mornings, adults with disabilities, senior learning groups, as well as giving the same talk at arts venues – in Hull, Bristol, London, Leeds, Lancaster and Bath.

**The Launch Party | July – September 2014** Supported by Bristol Ferment, Live at LICA, and Arts Council England.

A period of research and development, during which we held a party for six of the Mars One applicants, held an open social space to discuss the project with the general public, and gave a talk at Live at LICA, Lancaster.

**A Decade With Mars film work | 2013 – ongoing**

We began A Decade With Mars by meeting and interviewing six people around the UK who applied to go on a one-way trip to Mars and never come back. Over ten years we are continuing to film the applicants lives – whether they go or not, to see what else happens in their lives and the world - whether any humans are on Mars in 2024.

**Total Eclipse of The Head | 2011 – present** Originally commissioned by Home Live Art.

A participatory work that takes place in a small touring caravan/mobile hair salon. Audiences can get their hair cut or styled by us, in a social space with an emphasis on conversation and alternative exchange. Touring since 2011, to many venues and events including;

- Glastonbury Festival, Latitude Festival
- The Barbican and The National Theatre
- Live art festivals: Forest Fringe, In Between Time, Buzzcut
- Many community focused events all over the UK – for example in Liverpool, Bristol, Kidderminster, the Lake District, Leeds and more.
- International events such as Bram Stoker Festival (Ireland) and Burning Man (Arizona USA).

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

**September 2016:** Presentation at Mars Society International Conference, University of Washington.

**April 2016:** Awarded Arts Council England International Development Funding, for research periods in Utah and Washington, working with scientific organisation The Mars Society.

**April 2016:** Documentary film screening of our work as part of Socially Engaged Practice: Now & Next (two day symposium at Radiant Space, Plymouth)

**March 2016:** Shortlisted for Edward Marshall Trust – Future Thinking and Thinking Futures Award

**March 2016:** Shortlisted for Climate Change in Residence: Future Scenarios (2016)

**July 2015:** Facilitated open space event at The Young Vic, London titled ‘*Socially Engaged Practice: What would happen if art was at the centre of civic life?*’

**July 2014:** Presented work as part of the New Directions Showcase for The National Rural Touring Network.

**Feb 2013:** Playing with Cities - residency at Bank Art studios in Yokohama, Japan, in conjunction with Tokyo Performing Arts Market and Forest Fringe.

**August 2012:** Three week residency exploring site specific and outdoor performance, working alongside Robert Wilson’s ‘*Walking*’, as part of Norfolk and Norwich festival.

**June 2009 – current:** Membership of Residence, a community of artists based in Bristol who act as a peer-to-peer support network for each other.

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