



## Local artist exhibits her record of the building of the Children's Hospital

Local artist Sarah Moncrieff has been exhibiting her record of the construction of the Children's Hospital in the main corridor at the JR.

Sarah explained, "I am interested in what constitutes one's surroundings and daily visual experience. For some this is a pleasant thing whilst for others it is arguably not. The challenge for me is to find the other sides or less well known areas of a city and give them as much emphasis and credibility as the familiar, popular and attractive areas, of which, of course, Oxford has many. I find the drabness and neutrality of mundane buildings appealing. The building site has a unique harshness and complexity and the challenge for me therefore is to make something special from the dull and brutal components of modern day life.

"The building site at the John Radcliffe interested me from two perspectives. In the first place I was aware that staff, patients and visitors viewed the site on a daily basis. It is a huge site and changes daily but I wonder if those changes are acknowledged either consciously or subconsciously by the passers by. I wanted to show a snapshot of the site at a particular moment in time, an expression in paint of the effect that it had on me.

"In the second place the complexity of the site posed an enormous challenge from an artistic point of view. I had to go through a process of editing the information before me. Bold shapes, colours and line appeal to me and I liked extracting from the chaotic scene

some sense of order. There were vast areas of concrete cross-sectioned by lines of scaffolding and other building paraphernalia from which I had to make my selection. I fought with colour, form and texture to achieve a balance between the solid and the delicate."

Sarah, who lives and works in Oxford, worked as a solicitor for ten years before studying Art, and recently graduated from De Montfort University with a degree in Fine Art. She has had several solo shows and will be included in an exhibition of urban landscape work to be held by Ashcroft Modern Art in Cirencester later this year.

Sarah also paints smaller landscape and seascape paintings which she sells through various galleries. Further details of Sarah's work are available on her website [sarahmoncrieff.co.uk](http://sarahmoncrieff.co.uk).

