



KEiBA²⁰⁰⁹

KENT EXCELLENCE IN BUSINESS AWARDS

Best Business from the Creative Industries FINALIST

Meltdowns



Meltdowns's Stacey Keeler, left, artist, education development and studio manager, with directors Sarah Craske and Stephen Melton

Creative work in bronze has made Meltdowns a talked-about centre of contemporary arts.

Run by international artists for artists, students and anyone interested in the creative process, it offers affordable studio space and promotes the arts to schools, colleges and the wider public.

A fine arts foundry serves artists and clients across the world. Its bronze casting courses, supported by the Worshipful Company of Founders, are widely admired.

Meltdowns commissioned research into the relevance of bronze casting in contemporary art practice, and published a paper on the subject.

It received a seal of approval for its work when it was asked to cast the Comedy

Award for the BAFTA awards in Los Angeles.

The business wants to further develop its understanding of the casting process in an historical context, working with Bronze Age archaeology in Thanet.

Meltdowns offers annual workplaces for artists leaving schools and colleges. "We believe that Kent has a lot to offer recent graduates and would like to help promote the growing arts community and encourage greater retention of creative graduates in the area.

"By offering attractive opportunities such as residencies, professional development programmes and effective training, we provide graduates with some of the necessary skills and knowledge required to progress."

Meltdowns

Location: Ramsgate

Business sector:
Creative industries

Key product/services:
Commissions/education/
fine arts foundry/studios/
workshop and project space/
opportunities for artists

Number of employees: 3

Established: March 2004

corporate responsibility as well as a passion for the county they have

'Receiving such a wide variety of applications was a real pleasure, but it did make judging them extremely difficult.'

made their home. Despite this tall order, the many entries were not only of a very high standard, but from the most diverse creative fields imaginable: fine art, TV, film, advertising, graphic design, marketing, music, theatre, digital media and web design were all represented.

Receiving such a wide variety of applications was a real pleasure, but

it did make judging them extremely difficult. In the end, we picked our winners because they managed to inspire us not only with their passion and the innovative ways in which they managed to mix creativity with business acumen, but also with their strong commitment to raising the profile of Kent's creative industries as a whole.



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