

CHISENHALE

CÉLINE CONDORELLI INTERVIEWED BY PUPILS FROM LAURISTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pupils from Lauriston Primary School visited the *How to Work Together* exhibition by Céline Condorelli at Chisenhale Gallery. They devised a series of questions after viewing the show, which were then answered by the artist.

How did you come up with the idea for the exhibition?

I didn't come up with it in one go, there were lots of things that I was interested in when I started thinking about it. Some of these stayed, like working with friendship, furniture, making layers, and some didn't – like at some point I was really into the idea of making cases and boxes, which I might still do one day!

How does the grey blanket keep its shape? Why is it stiff? And why does it cover the chair?

It's made out of concrete! I also thought when I started working with this material that it was the weirdest thing, something that looks soft and is not at all. It is covering the bench, like furniture is sometimes covered before going on a long holiday to make sure it doesn't get too dusty.

What is the meaning of the curtain? How did you make it so thin, why is there a silver section of it, and why is it so big?

The curtain works like any curtains in your house: I use it to separate inside from outside, day from dark... I always think curtains are such beautiful things especially when they move – and I wanted to take it out of the house. I made it with a company that makes special effects, I couldn't have made it myself like that. The silver section is where I decided to make it longer, as it was going to be half the length at the beginning. It is really big because the gallery is big, and I wanted to create a space within the space.

What link does the wall piece have with friendship? How did you get the pictures on to the wall?

It was made with different friends over a period of time. Just like the billboards and adverts you see all over London, it's pasted with billboard paste.

How did you make the ladder stay up, and why did you make it?

All the bits are attached to each other, and in this way rest on each other (like friends resting their heads on each other's shoulders). I made it to be able to get up and look out of the window.

How did you make the chair? And how did you make it glow in the dark?

It is bent plywood, and painted with GLOW paint (like propellers on airplanes).

What is the link between the plant piece and your friend Amalia Pica?

My friend Amalia has the very special power to make things speak – like a puppeteer, but with objects and things that don't normally say anything. So I made this as a way of speaking with her, through two things that don't normally speak together actually growing together; something alive and something not alive, climbing and growing on each other.

You've done really amazing work; will you be making more?

Thanks! I will, hopefully lots... I am now making something with tyres.