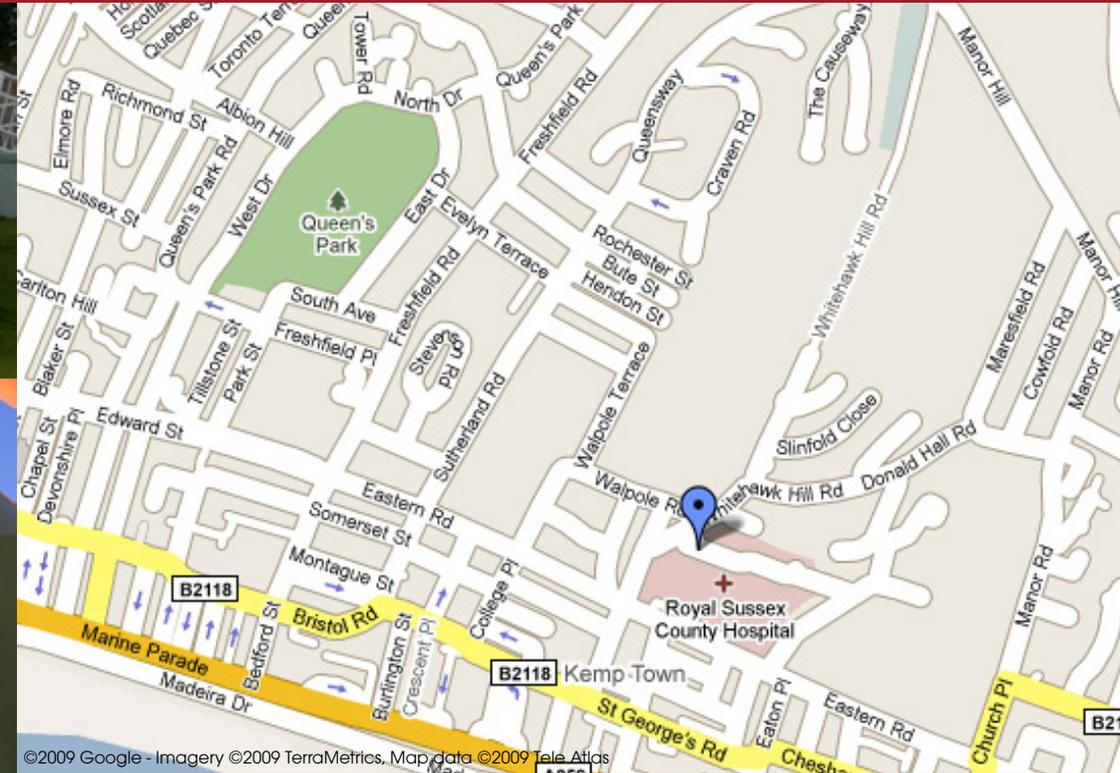


Buoys, Boy and Girl, Caustic Network, Oasis, Crumpleslide, Life Begins

Ally Wallace, Jon Mills, Jason Bruges, Walter Bailey, Walter Jack, George Cutts 2007 - 2009



Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital

Coloured aluminium, painted steel, projected light, carved oak, foam core with layers of fibreglass, stainless steel.

Art was integral to the capital commitment on the part of the developer Kajima and the Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals Trust as part of the new Royal Alexandra Children's Hospital project. Everyone involved recognised that artists and their work had a unique opportunity to make a creative contribution to a major hospital building scheme.

Two key external commissions are 'Buoys' and 'Boy and Girl'. 'Buoys' created by Ally Wallace are a series of brightly coloured aluminium columns that look like huge toy blocks, they are placed randomly outside of the new building, as if they are bobbing about on the sea. 'Boy and Girl' by Jon Mills is a painted steel sculptural drawing. The boy and girl stand together, holding hands, as friends or brother and sister, welcoming everyone in to the children's hospital. The latest addition to the outside artworks is Crumpleslide by Walter Jack, installed in 2009 it is made of a foam core with a smooth fibreglass finish; it is a bumpy slide that is the shape of a crumpled up piece of paper.

Inside the hospital are more commissions, accessible if you are a patient or visitor or by special permission. 'Caustic Network' designed by Jason Bruges is a magnificent interactive light projection that enhances the main entrance atrium wall. The projectors are linked to hidden sensors which respond to movement, so as people pass them, the ripples dance up the wall at different speeds, depending how you move. 'Life begins' is a stainless steel, highly polished, abstract sculpture by George Cutts. Situated on the first floor outside the children's assessment area it is intended for interacting with and playing on. Walter Bailey's burned and calved oak sculptures are situated in the calm, peaceful Oasis room. Bailey uses a chainsaw to transform tree trunks in to beautiful, delicate sculptures. The carved curves of the holes allow the light to pass through and the circular patterns give the sculptures a meditative feel. All the art pieces work together to create a confident and positive atmosphere for children, parents and staff.