The output is an exhibition consisting of a series of drawings, including an outdoor three-dimensional site-specific drawing. It was a collaboration between Cumberland and artist, Michael James Walker. The tasks were shared equally according to individual strengths.

Research process

Sited in Plaça Porta de Santa Catalina, the drawing responded to the typography of the square and referenced the history of its public use. Central to the project is an investigation into the nature of serial bodies of work, the complex relationships between repetition, reproduction and difference and its manifestations as expanded drawing practice.

Research insights

An outdoor three-dimensional site-responsive drawing was developed revealing the artist’s interaction with a distinct place in Spain. It was created during a limited and specific period of time when her practices were synthesised with the work of others, demonstrating a responsive approach to particular site constraints. The exhibited drawings inhabit carefully chosen spaces and in so doing create a visual dialogue with the surrounding surfaces, drawing attention to the very particular sense of place where the works have been sited. The materiality of the work and its relationship to place is important and the viewer gains a greater insight into the work by viewing it in situ. Visually the artist’s works can look very different; though the repetitive processes or forms suggest a familiar connection, whilst the temperature, texture and shape of the site become apparent and human in its scale.

Dissemination

The project was disseminated at ABA ART LAB, Palma de Mallorca, as part of the Nit del’Art 15 programme. It was the first external installation to be included in this event.
Manual v. 2.0: Dibuix per La Placa Portade Santa Catalina

(A drawing for Placa Porta de Santa Catalina)

Kelly Cumberland

Contextual Information
1. Proposal

A three dimensional drawing responding to the topography of the square which also subtly references the history of its public use.

The first collaboration combining Kelly Cumberland’s microbiological structures and dissected drawings with Michael James Walker’s work in geometric abstraction, colour and systems, to create a new site specific installation.

Using industrial straps to create a graphic support structure, containing organic laser cut paper spheres enveloping hard acrylic support armitures.

Respecting the environment of the square, there will be no impact on trees or structures.

In addition, a series of drawings will accompany the site specific installation in ABA Art Lab.
2. Preparatory Drawings

Straps / Laser-cut paper / Plexiglas rods
3. Materials

'Ratchet Straps' will form the 'net' using the trees and lighting as support structures.

These support structures will be protected from any damage using wooden wedges and 'wear sleeves.'

Molecular spheres made from laser-cut paper and Plexiglas armatures. Incidental detail using removable coloured tape.
4. Biography

Kelly Cumberland


Examing the change and removal, growth and deterioration of the life and nature of a virus, installations and objects demonstrate how something seemingly delicate and insubstantial can overwhelm its environment, whilst dissected drawings represent the paradoxical fragility and strength of microbiological structures. Continuous addition and removal, (re)production and reduction result in a coherent body of structural variations. Working in sequence the components initially appear identical, however, the process ensures each work is unique, retaining the possibility for expansion and modification.

Michael James Walker


Working independently and with Martyn Hill, as collaborative duo WalkerHill, Michael James Walker's work operates between painting, sculpture and architecture and drawing. Constructions, assemblages, reliefs, models and drawings reference the 'incomplete' project of Modernism, employing a form of non-representative, ‘lo-fi’ geometric abstraction which utilises basic systems and materials to produce deceptively simple, hand-crafted, multiple units. Playful, provisional colour experiments are executed with considered intuition, where the material qualities effect our perception as much as the hue. The process is a mapping of physical activity where the outcome is one of many possibilities. No ideals, no absolutes; provisional, not temporary; precise but not specific.
Kelly Cumberland & Michael James Walker
'A Drawing for Plaça Porta de Santa Catalina'
Aba Art Lab - La Nit de l'Art 2015

5. La Nit de l'Art 2013

Images from Kelly Cumberland and Michael James Walker - 'Manual v1.0'
Sant Feliu 2, La Nit de l'Art 2013.