



September 16<sup>th</sup> 2010

### **New artwork installed at The Oxford Science Park**

A major new sculpture has been installed in the Sadler Building at The Oxford Science Park.

FRACTION (9:8) is a permanent, site specific, work conceived by Conrad Shawcross for the Sadler Building.

Suspended from the ceiling and over 14 metres in length, FRACTION (9:8) continues the artist's investigation into the mathematics of music and harmony. Taking the chord of The Second, which has a 9:8 ratio, the artist has created a huge three-dimensional representation of this chord as it falls towards silence.

In 2008 the developers of The Oxford Science Park, advised by Modus Operandi Art Consultants, launched a competition for artists to create an artwork to be installed in the Sadler Building. Conrad Shawcross won the competition and was commissioned by The Oxford Science Park joint venture partners, Prudential and Magdalen College, Oxford.

Charles Young of Magdalen College commented:

"The standard of entries for the competition was very high and we felt that the proposal submitted by Conrad Shawcross was clearly the most impressive. He responded creatively both to the space within the Sadler Building and to the wider environment of the Science Park.

"For many years developers have been encouraged to enrich commercial property developments with public works of art. We are delighted to be able to continue this practice and bring a spectacular new work of art to a unique site in Oxford".

Since winning the commission, Shawcross has also been appointed the artist in residence at the Science Museum in London. He is represented by Victoria Miro Gallery, London.

The Sadler building contains The Oxford Science Park brasserie bar and restaurant and visitors are welcome to view the sculpture on weekdays between 8.30am and 3.00pm.

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(Notes on following pages)



**Photograph caption:**

'Fraction (9:8)' the new artwork installed at The Oxford Science Park. Created by Conrad Shawcross, it combines elements of music, mathematics and art.



### **Conrad Shawcross**

Conrad Shawcross (b. 1977, London) studied at the Ruskin School of Art in Oxford and the Slade School of Fine Art in London. He has had solo exhibitions at Jenaer Kunstverein, Germany (2008), The New Art Gallery, Walsall and The Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool (2005), and the National Maritime Museum (2004). His work has also been exhibited internationally at institutions including Musée d'art Contemporain, Lyon (2008), Art Basel | 39 (2008), La Chapelle de L'Ecole National Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de Paris (2008), The Saatchi Gallery (2004) and Manifesta 5, San Sebastian, Spain (2004). He became Artist-in-Residence at the Science Museum from September 2009 as part of its ongoing centenary programme.

**The Oxford Science Park** aims to attract science-based companies of all kinds, whether start-up businesses or research and development divisions of multinational companies. More than half a million square feet of office and laboratory space has been completed to date. Occupiers include Sharp Laboratories, Nominet, Becton Dickinson (BD), Oxford Nanopore and Oxford BioMedica. The flexible approach to building and letting has created an environment capable of growing, developing and adapting to meet tenants' ever-changing demands.

The developers of The Oxford Science Park are Magdalen College, Oxford and PRUPIM (Prudential Property Investment Managers Ltd). For further information see <http://www.oxfordsp.com>

**Modus Operandi:** is a leading independent agency for commissioning art in relation to architecture and the public realm.

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