

CHARLIE FOXTROT

An artwork by Julian Bull



July 2015

‘Charlie Foxtrot’ an artwork by Julian Bull

Late in 2014, a call went out from the artist on to Cystic Fibrosis (CF) patients, families and staff at Ward 26 Heartlands Hospital Birmingham, to come up with a number of two word phrases starting with C and F which give an alternative viewpoint of their experience of CF.

Cystic Fibrosis is the most common genetically inherited disease, and affects multiple body systems and in particular the lungs. As it is a lifelong and life threatening condition, the effect on patients, families and medical staff is significant and complex.

The objectives of this piece are to explore this complex world through the series of CF phrases suggested which are mix of the funny, poignant, and insightful, all proposed by those that are intimately involved.

65 phrases were chosen and each one cut into a sheet of copper for posterity and backlit so as to illuminate, both literally and metaphorically, the experience of those in the outpatients waiting room of the specialist CF unit at Ward 26, where the piece is displayed.

Copper was chosen as it is both attractive and also antiseptic. 65 CF phrases were chosen in acknowledgement of the ‘65 Roses’ theme, a CF fundraising initiative set up in the 1960’s after a boy with cystic fibrosis overheard his mother discussing his condition and unable to understand her words thought she was talking about ‘sixty five roses’.

Text phrases by Joanne Barrett, Catherine Brown, Jane Bull, Julian Bull, Lynn Busfield, Zoe Dallow, Lynne East, David Honeybourne, Allison Kennie, Jodie Law, E.Mackenzie, Michelle, Ed Nash, Claire Roden, David Stableforth, Jo Whitehouse, and Anonymous.

Dimensions 187cm x 87cm x 6.5cm

Copper, Perspex, Plywood, LED lighting

This artwork was commissioned by the Trustees of Birmingham Heartlands Adult CF Centre

Can Fight
Coughing Furiously
Chasing Freedom
Caring First
Craving Futures
Centre Friendly
Continually Frustrating
Conquering Fate
Comfort Foods
Coping Factor
Children`s Futures
Carers Frustrated
Chronically Fabulous
Club Fingers
Carpark Fees
Careful Friends

Cost Frightful
Crippling Fatigue
Commitment Forever
Complications Frequent
Cherished Friendships
Creon First
Courage Falters
Chest Fixed
Coming First
Consultant Found
Cold Fever
Compression Force
Care Fruitful
Chesty Fight
Consider Family
Creates Fear

Cystic

Close Friends
Calm Fear
Contact Forbidden
Clearance Fatigue
Constipated Feeling
Cure Future
Calorific Food
Caring Family
Cipro Feet
Clinic Full
Contemplating Futures
Chocolate Fudge
Caring Force
Constant Fight
Changing Faces
Cramming Food

Fibrosis

Charity Fundraising
Constant Frustration
Cultivate Faith
CO2 Falling
Curry Fan
Canula Failure
Carefully Fixing
Conquer Fear
Control Feelings
Compassionate Friends
Crap Feeling
Cute Faces
Creates Friction
Compulsive Food
Confidence Falling
Continue Fighting