



## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **CARBON FIBRE ARTIST DEBUTS AT SPACE**

For the first time renowned sculptor Alastair Gibson will showcase his Formula One motor racing inspired carbon fibre sculptures in his home town, at **space** in Brackley, from 31st July to 1st August 2009.

Visitors are invited to **space** to view the exhibition – Carbon Art One Year On – on Saturday 1st August from 10am to 6pm. The works include a variety of aquatic inspired pieces and follow a number of commissions that the 45 year old South African-born artist has already produced.

Peter Rawlinson, owner of **space**, said: “We are delighted to have such a prominent artist offer his work for viewing and purchase at **space**. His use of carbon fibre in this way is truly remarkable.”

Today, Alastair’s early works grace the tables and mantelpieces of a number of high profile motor racing personalities and this success has led him to move full-time into the art world. Prior to his move Gibson was Chief Mechanic for the Honda Racing F1 Team, always at the sharp end with a demanding role which included being the ‘Lollipop’ man for the pitstops, one of the most high-pressured tasks in an F1 race weekend.

Gibson left the high adrenalin world of Formula One two years ago after more than ten years in the pits and paddocks of race circuits around the world working with top race teams, to pursue his passion of creating beautiful carbon fibre art. Drawing inspiration from this glamorous sport and incorporating the high tech materials into his designs, his fish exhibits are detailed with parts from the grand prix cars of Formula One race-winning drivers, Jenson Button and Rubens Barrichello.

Gibson hasn't regretted leaving Formula One behind, saying, "I hope many art lovers will enjoy the medium of carbon fibre sculpture, which is little known at the moment, but I'm sure will become increasingly popular as this unique textile becomes more prevalent in our environment.

"Most of my work has been based on marine life, but with the time to be more creative and develop all the ideas that I have, as well as the freedom to explore some of the new, innovative materials that are used in Formula One, I hope to evolve my work with new subjects and themes. It's a major change for me, but I'm enjoying every minute of it."

For further information on **space** or to use the venue please contact Peter Rawlinson on telephone 07590046469 or email [peter@space-brackley.co.uk](mailto:peter@space-brackley.co.uk) . Located on the south side of Market Place in the centre of Brackley, **space** offers a cost effective, creative and flexible venue that attracts visitors in and around Oxford, Buckingham, Milton Keynes, Leamington Spa, Banbury, Bicester, and Northampton.

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#### **Notes to editors**

Gibson was born in Johannesburg, South Africa and studied as a balance engineer before moving to the UK to fulfil a boyhood dream of working in motor racing. He progressed from working as a mechanic at Van Dieman on Formula Ford cars through to being Chief Mechanic at the Honda F1 Racing Team until Spring last year. During his time in motorsport he has worked with many top-name drivers including Jenson Button, Jacques Villeneuve, Jean Alesi and Kenny Brack. His sculptures were debuted in 2002 at a Lucky Strike sponsored Tribe Art exhibition at The Boiler House in London.

**For space media enquiries please contact:** Harriet Subramanian, City & Stone Communications, Tel: 07949626375 Email: [harriet@cityandstone.co.uk](mailto:harriet@cityandstone.co.uk)

**For information on Alastair Gibson and high-resolution photographs contact:** Alison Hill,  
ID PR & Marketing Ltd, Tel:+44 (0)1327 856060, Mob: +44 (0)7710 306588