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| **Alena Katikova** |
| **Jonah Newton** |
| Jonah Newton is a local artist from a science background.The concept of this piece grew from considering our modern ‘technological’ world – the ease of access to electronic devices, and the ease of their use which comes so readily to the modern generation. This posed the question ‘To what extent can the understanding of our world be attributed to ‘nature’ and to ‘nurture’?’ Eg: what is inherent – and what must be learned? The belief is that – for survival – these two functions must operate hand-in-hand. And so, here – in this piece, there is a symbolic representation of the result of technology impacting upon the natural world – and vice-versa.When viewing this piece imagine yourself in the distant future – you are walking in a bounteous garden – the trees and bushes enclose you in a warm green cocoon. And then you see it – an abandoned computer, from a bygone age – its remaining wires finding root in the grass. This moss-covered metal box now provides a home for host of insects, arachnids. But then you look more closely and observe that each of these creatures is both biologic and electronic.... the offspring of both ‘nature’ and ‘nurture’. For this composition, the flowers and long grasses are made out of electric wire sheath and computer fuses. The lawn, from wire scouring pads. The insects and arachnids are all created from electronic components (diodes, LEDs, capacitors, resistors, switches and micro-chips).The ‘soundscape’ was constructed from the original recordings of everyday noises. These were then digitised and subsequently filtered and manipulated to reflect the busy buzzing futuristic world of the electronic mini-beasts.  |   |
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