McQueen goes back to his roots after glory of the Oscars

Some Oscar winners spend months submerged in champagne. Victorious directors may return to the studio to plan the “great American film” (David Sanderson writes). Others may disappear to an island retreat with a scowling lady. Britain’s 2014 winner, though, has returned to his other great talent — art — by opting to create an “elgance” projection filmed in the West End and used in a number of his films.

The artwork that Steve McQueen, below, who was garnished for his feature film 12 Years A Slave, has created is due to be shown for the first time in Tokyo this week. McQueen is then exhibiting the work, called Ashes, in London this autumn along with a series of pieces that he is committed to producing over the next few months.

Martine d’Anglejeau-Chattillon, from the Thomas Dane Gallery in the St James area of London, described it as “a very elegant work” and “a projection on a large scale”. It is something of a surprise that McQueen, the only Oscar-winning director who has also won the Turner Prize, is finding the time to produce more artwork. The BBC has commissioned him to develop a drama about the experiences of the black community in west London from the late 1960s, while he is working on the next American movie HBO on the story of a young African-American man who enters New York high society.

As the video installations that made McQueen’s name, two of his most famous works are Jarhead, a 1991 black and white short film, and Deadpup, a work shown in his winning Turner Prize show that restaged a Buster Keaton stunt. Ms d’Anglejeau-Chattillon said that Ashes was “very characteristic” of his previous installations.

http://www.thetimes.co.uk/tto/arts/film/article4069290.ece