



MEDIA RELEASE:

Scottish makers announce their arrival at London Craft Week with immersive experiences at The Caledonian Club

In a significant boost for craft in Scotland Craft Scotland is delighted to announce the presentation of two of Scotland's most celebrated designers for their inaugural showcase at London Craft Week. Following the success of Craft Scotland's presence at London Design Festival 2016, demand for Scottish craft in London and in an international context has paved the way for this showcase. Sharing their innovative contemporary practices will be internationally renowned furniture designer Angus Ross and mixed media designer/maker Jennifer Gray providing an in-depth close-up explanation of the techniques and processes that help make their work so unique. Described as a slice of Scotland in London, members club The Caledonian opens its doors to design enthusiasts on Wednesday 3 May (invited guests) and Thursday 4 May (public event) to provide the perfect backdrop to this insider's look at Scottish contemporary craft makers' practices.

The third edition of London Craft Week will continue to showcase exceptional craftsmanship from around the world through a journey-of-discovery programme of over 200 events across London, featuring hidden workshops and unknown makers alongside celebrated masters, famous studios, galleries, shops and luxury brands. The aim being to experience the magic of true creativity, see what real quality means, meet some of the world's most respected makers and artists and even have a try.

Craft Scotland Director, Fiona Logue said; 'Drawing from its rich heritage, Scotland cultivates a spirit of innovation and excellence within its makers and encourages each one to develop a strong unique voice. Craft Scotland is delighted to be able to showcase two of these voices at The Caledonian Club for London Craft Week. Visitors will get a real insight into the processes of two master makers at work. Jennifer Gray and Angus Ross reflect the diversity of contemporary craft in Scotland and how traditional practice has been adopted in new and imaginative ways.'

'Our growing presence in London reflects Craft Scotland's strategic focus for 2017 – 2021 recognising both the potential of London as a market for quality contemporary Scottish Craft and its position as a gateway to an international audience.'

Table Top Utopia with Jennifer Gray

Designer Jennifer Gray has created a playful range of tessellating Surface Tiles and Condiment Sets with both aesthetics and function in mind. Her techniques move in and out of the digital and the handmade, leaving the viewer uncertain how each work was produced. Come along and learn more about Jennifer's design process and the range of techniques behind her contemporary pieces. Watch as she reveals the modelling, moulding and making processes she used to make her Surface Tiles and Condiments Sets. She will demonstrate the methods she has developed to mimic stone surfaces through mixing pigments into jesmonite.

Making Connections, Creating Opportunities

Craft Scotland, 15 Coburg Street, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 6ET

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Eco-Luxe Furniture with Angus Ross

Angus Ross is an award-winning designer and has been at the forefront of British craft furniture for over twenty years. He creates exquisitely handcrafted furniture using sustainably-managed Scottish wood, from the ancient woodland he co-owns. Angus carefully selects, fells and mills only a few trees each year. This wood is used green for steam-bending, Angus is an acknowledged master of this traditional Scottish skill.

Come along and hear Angus talk about the design process behind his popular Unstable Stool. He'll guide you through all the production stages of his materials (oak) and demonstrating the techniques involved.

Helena Ward, Creative Industries Manager at Creative Scotland said: "This is a great opportunity for two of our designers, not just to showcase their beautiful and functional objects, but to give the audience an understanding of their contemporary practice, inspired by provenance and tradition."

Listings Information:

Craft Scotland at The Caledonian Club during London Craft Week

11am-1pm / Thursday 4 May / Free, Drop-in

The Caledonian Club, 9 Halkin St, Belgravia, London SW1X 7DR

<http://www.londoncraftweek.com/events/craft-scotland-at-caledonian-club>

For further information, images and interview requests please contact Owen O'Leary on 07815992658 or email owen@ohreally.co.uk

Hi-res images available to download here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/c16mppfc7j98ze7/AAATUuIInRLqTnOGtUaAkawNa?dl=0>

Connect with Craft Scotland online at: www.craftscotland.org

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/craftscotland>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/craftscotland>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/craftscotland/>

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Notes to Editors

Craft Scotland

Craft Scotland is the national agency for craft. We work to unite, inspire and champion craft through creating opportunities for makers in Scotland to practice, exhibit, sell and promote their craft and for audiences to see, purchase and learn about craft. We lobby for craft as an essential and integral part of our cultural, economic and social life and work in partnership with other like-minded agencies. We are a central point of information about craft in Scotland and identify and create new activities to build awareness and understanding of craft. We are a charity supported by Creative Scotland. www.craftscotland.org

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London Craft Week 3–7 May 2017

From 3 - 7 May 2017, the third edition of London Craft Week takes up residence in the capital. This annual event showcases the very best international and British creativity and craftsmanship through a 'beyond luxury' journey-of-discovery. The curated programme brings together over 230 events from all corners of the globe fusing making, design, fashion, art, luxury, food, culture and shopping. An accessible and immersive cultural experience, London Craft Week's visitors can eat, drink and view performances, meet artists, designers, makers and engineers, get a glimpse behind-the-scenes of famous brands and landmark buildings, see familiar products deconstructed, learn how things are made and even have a go themselves. London Craft Week, as a small private not-for-profit organisation, supported by our founding partner Vacheron Constantin and sponsors Grosvenor, Mulberry and St James's London. For further information please visit: www.londoncraftweek.com or follow London Craft Week on Instagram [@londoncraftweek](https://www.instagram.com/londoncraftweek), Twitter [@Londoncraftweek](https://twitter.com/Londoncraftweek) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/londoncraftweek)

Creative Scotland

Creative Scotland is the public body that supports the arts, screen and creative industries across all parts of Scotland on behalf of everyone who lives, works or visits here. We enable people and organisations to work in and experience the arts, screen and creative industries in Scotland by helping others to develop great ideas and bring them to life. We distribute funding provided by the Scottish Government and the National Lottery. For further information about Creative Scotland please visit www.creativescotland.com. Follow us [@creativescots](https://www.facebook.com/creativescots) and www.facebook.com/CreativeScotland

The Caledonian Club

Described as a little bit of Scotland in the heart of London, The Caledonian Club was founded in 1891. This private Members' Club is situated in the grand & beautiful surroundings of Belgravia, adjacent to Hyde Park Corner & a short walk from Victoria Station. Craft Scotland is thrilled to host this exciting event in partnership with The Caledonian Club.

Jennifer Gray

www.jennifergray.co.uk

Jennifer Gray is designer/maker who works in a range of materials using techniques which move in and out of the handmade, and the digital. Since graduating from the Royal College of Art in London her work has been sold and exhibited nationally and internationally at design festivals and art fairs and she also works collaboratively with Design Historians, Archaeologists and Museums to explore how design and making processes can be used to better understand historical objects, places and people.

Jennifer also works a lecturer in the Design School of Edinburgh College of Art and is a cofounder of the Making Enhanced design research collective.

Table Top Utopia

Designer Jennifer Gray has created playful ranges of tessellating Surface Tiles and

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Condiment Sets with both aesthetics and function in mind. Each set is cast in Jesmonite, and includes brass inlaid surface tiles, 3D pinch pot condiment holders, solid brass grinding spheres for salt and pepper, olive picks, olive pick holders, and decorative pyramids that create a functional 'landscape' for the surface of a dinner table. Available in two ranges, Utopia (white, grey) and Abigail (pink, green, grey), the tiles can be used individually as coasters or in clustered formations to act as surface protectors for hot dishes.

Angus Ross

www.angusross.co.uk

Angus Ross is an award winning international designer and maker with a loyal client base across the globe. Nominated for numerous awards and exhibited internationally he has been hailed as one of the leading lights in British furniture making.

Angus Ross uses native British hardwoods and are proud that most of their oak is sourced from Old Castle Wood a few miles downstream from the workshop. Angus Ross are co-owners of this beautiful broadleaf mixed woodland which has a very high bio-diversity and amenity value. The woodland is predominately oak planted over a hundred years ago and then rather neglected so became over-crowded. They carefully select and fell a few trees each year in order to improve the surrounding trees. They then mill on-site and take the tree through all processes to prepare for fine furniture making.

Steam-bending

Angus Ross' supply of local green (undried) wood led to a deep exploration of the ancient art of steam-bending. Saturating the wood with steam allows Angus and his team to simultaneously season the wood and achieve their iconic flowing shapes.

Steam-bending was used for centuries in Scotland to make barrels and fishing boats. Angus Ross and his **team are acknowledged masters of the technique achieving new precision, complexity and scale. Their steam-bent furniture has been nominated four times for the UK TRADA Wood Awards** for furniture: *Tay Bench, Spring Benches, Y desk and Unstable Stool.*

Further Scottish Designers and Makers at London Craft Week

- Scotland Redesigned: <http://www.londoncraftweek.com/events/scotland-office-hosts-celebration-of-paisley>

- Tom Pigeon: <http://www.londoncraftweek.com/events/tom-pigeon-collection-at-fritz-hansen#sthash.UN2rXhQi.dpbs>

- Method Studio: <http://www.londoncraftweek.com/events/from-concept-to-creation-magic-of-bespoke-with-struthers-london-method-studio-economist-1843>

- Goldsmiths Silver of the Stars: <http://www.londoncraftweek.com/events/inspired-goldsmiths%E2%80%99-centre#sthash.nAteaZMF.dpbs>

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