

ANNUAL REVIEW

April 2014 - March 2015



MAKING CONNECTIONS, CREATING OPPORTUNITIES



2014/15 has been a significant year for Craft Scotland. Not only did we see many new projects spring to life, we also reached a milestone in securing three-year funding through Creative

Scotland. Being included in their portfolio of regularly funded organisations is a significant leap forward as it allows us to plan further ahead to achieve our aims and objectives.

Our vision is to make Scotland a place where craft is valued as culturally significant, essential to our economy and integral to our communities. We strive to achieve this by creating more opportunities for makers and engaging with audiences here at home and abroad. With makers at the heart of everything we do, we hope that our programme will continue to inspire and get more people excited about craft in Scotland.

This Annual Review is also an opportunity to say thanks. The achievements that we celebrate here would not have happened without the support from Creative Scotland and the many partners and venues we have worked with.

I would also like to pay tribute to my fellow board members and to the team. Under the leadership of Fiona Logue, who we were delighted to permanently appoint as Director in July 2014, the staff have worked hard to make this an extraordinary year.

Jacquie Edwards, Chair



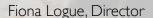
Throughout the last year we delivered almost 50 events, ranging from exhibitions and workshops to roadshows and Meet Your Maker demonstrations. We created

and promoted hundreds of opportunities for the maker community in Scotland. By doing so we extended our reach and had the privilege of working with over 150 talented makers, many of them for the first time.

But it's probably the memories behind these figures that made this year so remarkable. Numbers can't capture the excitement of seeing the first two Scottish-based makers progressing through the Injection programme. And there's no way of quantifying the positive feel and potential that was unlocked by the participants of our community engagement project with Artlink Central and Historic Scotland at Stirling Castle.

I can't talk about the impact of our programme without thanking our ever growing audiences. Among them not only longstanding collectors and first-time craft buyers, but people of all ages and backgrounds who come to our events, experience making first hand and discover the stories and skills behind the work.

The successes of the last twelve months have given me a real sense of what's possible for the future and I look forward to seeing what we can achieve together in the coming year.





What was said

Tweets

Just been perusing the @craftscotland site, brilliant info source, it's opened up a whole new world to me #craft #scotland

Great work on show at @craftscotland #CSSummerShow definitely worth adding it to your #EdinburghFestival to do list

Playing with fire in Alistair Dearie's Raku workshop. Great conference when you can get hands on! #csconf

End of Craft Scotland conference. Very thought provoking weekend and have lots to think about

Conference

"It was a pleasure to find the subject of craft business so squarely on the agenda for the 2014 Craft Scotland Conference, I found it really refreshing! The conference was a relaxed, open and friendly environment to learn more about each other's studio practices."

Kathryn Mitchell

New York Go & See Trip

This trip was absolutely invaluable to me and my business. You put so much hard work in and it really didn't go unnoticed. There's no way start-up companies like mine could have afforded to go and have this experience so early on. I've learnt a huge amount and the outcome of the trip has been really positive."

Gabrielle Schoenenberger, Braw Scotland

Meet Your Maker

"It was so good to have a few days out of the solitude of my workshop to engage with people."

Sue Wilkinson, maker

"It was a great weekend and I don't think it could have gone any better, we would definitely consider applying to be a part of Meet Your Maker next year."

Craft SCOTLAND MEETYOUR MAKER

Shaureen Lammie, Education and Outreach Officer, Borders Textile Towerhouse

Meet Your Maker has been a fantastic spark for the Burgh Hall to engage with local makers over the past two years. It has now become embedded within the Burgh

Hall planning and thinking processes with volunteers and staff looking for future makers to engage and showcase their work through this event. We use it as an encouragement for those less confident to take a chance on presenting their work; we use it to put the contemporary and traditional together facilitating unpredictable collaborations; and we seek to continue our relationship with recent graduates by providing them with unique opportunities in our venue."

Jenny Hunter, Arts and Heritage Programme Coordinator, Dunoon Burgh Hall

SOFA Chicago

Exhibiting at SOFA is the time to dig deep and make the strong, confident work.

One of the most important aspects of

being selected is that it will push your work onto another level, the prestige and exposure will force new, exciting dimensions to be realised This will in turn elevate your practice and

be realised. This will in turn elevate your practice and benefit your reputation for years to come."

Lara Scobie

London Go & See Trip

"An invaluable experience for any maker considering doing a trade show."







Projects

Meet Your Maker

We extended our celebration of craft making from one weekend to a year-round campaign. We partnered with 15 different venues who offered Meet Your Maker events as part of their own annual programme - altogether the events engaged over 4000 visitors in craft making.

Craft Tourism

Our tourism project is further gathering momentum – a telling result has been the increased interest in craft tourism from organisations such as VisitScotland, National Trust for Scotland and Tourism Intelligence. We also received requests from travel journalists and from independent tourism businesses in the UK and overseas. More than 90 makers took part in our *How to work with the Travel Trade* workshops.

Summer Shows London and Edinburgh

We returned to White Stuff in Edinburgh for our second Summer Show after a ten day run at Craft Central in London in June. Over 30 makers showed their work and many pieces of craft found new homes: the sales value for both shows tallied up to around £20,000.

The Edinburgh Festivals

Our Summer Show this year formed part of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, the world's biggest art festival. Just along the road from our temporary home at White Stuff on George Street, we presented four events at the Edinburgh International Book Festival, connecting even more festival visitors with craft through workshops and talks. A highlight was the Bloomin' Rubbish event with Frances Priest, which saw children create a garden of colourful blooms from plastic lids recycled on-site.

SOFA Chicago

In November we headed back to Chicago's exposition for Sculpture, Objects, Functional Art and Design. For our third year we presented a stunning collection of work by eleven makers. As well as bringing new makers to the American market, we were especially proud to spot the work of previous exhibitors with Craft Scotland - now presented through their new US galleries.



Images from top, clockwise: Meet Your Maker, SOFA Chicago, Bloomin' Rubbish, Summer Show Edinburgh

Training/CPD

By partnering with the Crafts Council in England we were able to offer eight makers in Scotland places on their prestigious Injection and Hothouse programmes. Injection is the Crafts Council's business development scheme for mid-career and established craft practices; Hothouse is a professional development programme for emerging makers.

Craft Scotland TV

In May we launched craftscotland.tv – a dedicated site to host our archive of craft films and a platform to publish new content. Together with Summerhall TV we travelled the country, visited makers in their studios and produced more than 20 new films.

National Trust for Scotland

We initiated a new pilot project to create a Craft Scotland Collection for the National Trust for Scotland. Nine makers were commissioned to develop bespoke products inspired by the Trust's properties (due to be launched in their retail outlets in June 2015).

Conference

Over 100 delegates joined us in the lovely surroundings of the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh in September for two days of talks, discussions and workshops, curated by Katy West.

Green Crafts Initiative

We launched The Green Crafts Initiative (GCI), a new project run with Creative Carbon Scotland to celebrate and encourage more environmentally sustainable practices in Scotland. As a member of the Green Arts Initiative, Craft Scotland is committed to reducing its own carbon footprint and engaging the wider sector in the debate on environmental matters.

World Crafts Council Summit

Weaver James Donald visited Dongyang, China, after receiving funding to represent Scotland at the World Crafts Council Summit. As well as making plenty of contacts, James came back with the Bronze Award in the Aileen International Crafts Competition for excellent design and exquisite craftsmanship.

Go & See Trips

A new venture for Craft Scotland this year, we were able to take eighteen makers on two Go & See trips to explore trade shows in the UK (CRAFT in London) and the US (NY NOW in New York).



Images from top, clockwise: Conference, NY NOW, SOFA Chicago, Conference workshop

Tales in the Making

Craft Scotland commissioned a series of collaborations between makers and storytellers, all culminating in performances at The Scottish Storytelling Centre in December. Three makers (metalsmith Bryony Knox, glass artist Laura Reid and textile maker Sarah Reay) paired up with a storyteller each to develop a performance, using their craft to bring an extra dimension to the storytelling.

Craft Curators' Network

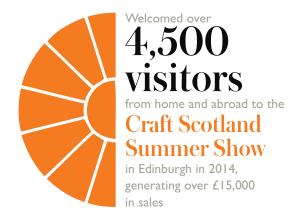
The Craft Curators' Network is a new initiative established to bring together curators, managers and influencers to develop a shared vision and strategy for craft in Scotland. The group will address education and innovation, work to raise the profile for the sector and establish a buyers' network.

Making an impact



3 performances

at The Scottish Storytelling Centre – bringing together makers and storytellers in a new project commissioned by Craft Scotland





15 venues hosted free-to-attend Meet Your Maker

events across the country and throughout the year, involving over **40 makers.** Nine of the venues were new to the programme



sponsored on the Crafts Council's prestigious **Injection programme** - the first time makers from Scotland have had access to the programme





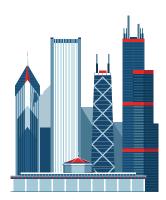




user-generated events and opportunities uploaded to craftscotland.org







3 makers

represented by US galleries at **SOFA Chicago** 2014, after exhibiting with
Craft Scotland the previous year



18 makers

supported through **Go & See** trips to **CRAFT London** and **NY NOW** in New York



5 roadshows

delivered at the start of 2015, covering Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dumfries & Galloway, Dundee and Inverness

TATATATAT

9 makers commissioned

for the inaugural **National Trust for Scotland** collection, generating a total order value of £38,000



III delegates

at the Craft Scotland Conference 2014 at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh





What's next

Our programme for 2015/16 is set to bring many new opportunities for makers and inspire audiences both here in Scotland and beyond.

We will increase the professional development opportunities we offer to makers. In addition to continuing to fund places on the Crafts Council's Injection and Hothouse programmes, we are partnering with Emergents on their Growing in Confidence programme, which will combine online training with live events.

This year we will invite the sector to gather in Glasgow on 2 October 2015 for a one day conference, curated by Dawn Youll.

Meet Your Maker, our programme of events to connect craft makers with the public, will continue to grow with many new venues lined up from Shetland to the Borders.

Our Summer Show will take centre stage again in the heart of Edinburgh in August and September sees us partnering with Etsy and various organisations from around the UK to present craft from Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales and England as part of London Design Festival. In November we are taking eleven exceptional makers to SOFA Chicago, our fourth showcase at this important international expo.

We will present The Craft Gallery at Scotland's Trade Fair in January 2016, a dedicated section for the handmade, making it easier for buyers to find highquality craft from Scotland.

To keep in the loop with our full programme, visit our website, connect with us on social media and sign up to our monthly newsletters.

the team at Craft Scotland

Website & Contact details

- 15 Coburg Street, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 6ET +44(0)131 466 3870
- → hello@craftscotland.org www.craftscotland.org

Making Connections, Creating Opportunities

Staff:

Fiona Logue, Director | Gill Ramsay, Bookkeeper | Jenni Colquhoun, Online Assistant | Jo Scott, Project Manager | Julia Ossenbruegge, Online Marketing Manager | Natasha McLaughlin, Project Assistant | Sheena Kitchin, Craft Tourism Manager

Jacquie Edwards, Chair | Catherine Holden (joined March 2015) | Craig Chatwin | Deirdre Robertson | Ginnie Atkinson | Mary Michel

We thank the following board members who retired in 2014/15:Annie Woodford, Caroli

Notman and lain McFadden.

Craft Scotland is a company limited by guarantee. Registered in Scotland no. SC270245. Registered Scottish Charity no. SC039491.









Trusts

Programme/Venue Partners and Supporters

Artlink Central Crafts Council UK

Meet Your Maker Venues

Borders Textile Towerhouse Cambo Estate Culzean Castle & Country Park Dunoon Burgh Hall
Glasgow School of Art Shop
Holmwood House National Museum of Scotland Stirling Castle (Historic Scotland) Tenement House The Barony Centre The Haining Touched by Scotland Tweeddale Museum & Gallery



SCOT AND.



Representative on the World Crafts Council Europe.

We are also members of Culture Counts (www.culturecounts.scot) and Arts & Business Scotland (www.aandbscotland.org.uk)



