

Craft Scotland at Collect 2020





27 FEB—1 MAR 2020 Somerset House London PRESENTED BY CRAFTS COUNCIL

Show details

Thursday 27 February to Sunday 1 March 2020 Various opening times

Gallery W10, West Wing Somerset House, Strand, London WC2R ILA

Craft Scotland presents contemporary Scottish craft at Collect 2020, the International Art Fair for Modern Craft and Design.

Meet the eight Scotland-based makers working in silver & gold, wood, ceramics, weave and metal. Expect experimental techniques and innovative materials as the makers play with scale and perceptions of materiality.

Angus Ross Araminta Campbell Daniel Freyne Hamish Dobbie Jonathan Wade Mella Shaw Naomi Mcintosh Rhona McCallum

Cover image: Mella Shaw / Photography by Shannon Tofts

Introduction

by Helen Ritchie

Craft Scotland's curated showcase is a regular highlight at Collect, one of the key annual exhibitions of contemporary craft in the UK. Presenting some of the most imaginative objects created today in Scotland, the eight selected craftspeople display impressive knowledge and understanding of both materials and process, many of which have a long heritage, and are here used in new and unexpected ways.

The works are intriguing, not immediately obvious. They draw in the viewer and reward further looking, and, for those fortunate enough to experience them in the flesh, touch. Many disrupt or defy expectations: what should be angular is curved, what should fall is balanced, what should be heard is seen.

Although many objects in Craft Scotland's display have an element of ambiguity to them – edges blurred or boundaries broken – the rootedness of the skills, tradition and materials, the tactility of every piece, gives them a reassuringly solid presence. They help to bring us back from our own blurred edges that swim just beyond our reach and make solid a world that feels currently as if it is moving beneath our feet.

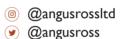
Read the full article at www.craftscotland.org/journal

Helen Ritchie is responsible for researching, interpreting and curating the modern Applied Arts collections at The Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge. She was the organising curator of exhibitions, *Things of Beauty Growing: British Studio Pottery,* in partnership with Yale Center for British Art, and Flux: Parian Ware at The Fitzwilliam Museum, in partnership with artist Matt Smith.

Angus Ross Aberfeldy

Angus Ross' practice is design-led, rich in narrative and often place and person specific. Concerned with structure, function and sustainability, Angus is part of a collective who own and manage a beautiful ancient bluebell woodland where he sources sustainable oak. Characterised by pure flowing lines, Angus' furniture combines the ancient art of steam-bending with contemporary technology and traditional woodwork. Angus is a licensee of the Scottish Working Woods label, and his clients include international private collectors, UK museums and public bodies. Angus is a V&A Dundee Design Champion.

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Photography by Susie Lowe

Araminta Campbell

Edinburgh

Bringing together inspiration from nature, carefully sourced natural fibres and meticulous craftsmanship, Araminta Campbell's work celebrates textiles that are rooted in people and place. With a background in fine art textiles, founder Araminta Birse-Stewart approaches design as an artist and the handwoven pieces are akin to her paintings with no two pieces ever the same, taking between one to four weeks to create. Handmade in Edinburgh using undyed alpaca fibres sourced from small British breeders, Araminta's Signature pieces are fully traceable and sustainably sourced with a beautiful natural colour palette.

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Daniel Freyne

Edinburgh

Daniel Freyne's work is a current representation of a timeless craft. His work is a homage to the foundations of blacksmithing, yet a distinct breakaway from the romanticised notion of what a Smith is and is not. His Playful Perceptions collection features hand-forged steel vessels that evoke a likeness to ceramics. The collection challenges our common understanding of this material. After undertaking an apprenticeship in Edinburgh, Daniel was a Journeyman in Europe and has a BFA in Metal Art from the University of Gothenburg.

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Hamish Dobbie

Glasgow

Hamish Dobbie designs and makes silver tableware inspired by the landscape and textures of Scotland. These include whiskey and gin tumblers, champagne flutes and related drinks objects. Hamish uses a variety of techniques to create these pieces including engraving, chasing, 3D printing and traditional metal forming processes. In 2013, he graduated in Silversmithing and Jewellery from the Glasgow School of Art. Hamish has a piece in The Pearson Silver Collection and was a finalist for the Perrier Jouët Art Salon Prize 2015.

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Jonathan Wade Glasgow

During a walk, Jonathan Wade was struck by unusual growing patterns on a tree's otherwise straight trunk. Since then growth, decay, accumulation and erosion in the natural world are of continuing fascination to him. Ceramic as a material has specific and unique expressive qualities, Jonathan's work investigates this. He explores the differing physical states, control and expression in making with ceramics – particularly the interaction between a clay 'body' and glaze. Jonathan has work in the permanent collections of V&A (London), British Museum (London) and other international institutions.

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Mella Shaw

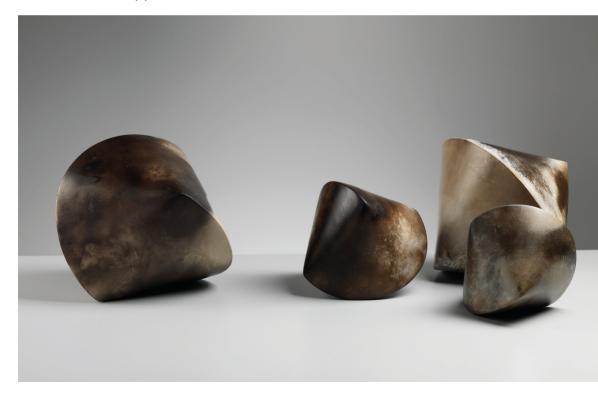
Edinburgh

Mella Shaw makes thought-provoking objects and site-specific installations around environmental themes of balance, tipping points, fragility and loss. With a background in anthropology, museums and the study of material culture Mella is drawn to the way objects can be imbued with shared cultural meaning. She combines traditional smoke-firing processes with highly regular and polished forms, creating otherworldly surface patinas - transforming pieces into mysterious, ambiguous and timeless objects. Mella holds a master's in Ceramics and Glass from the Royal College of Art (London) and is a visiting lecturer at Central Saint Martins (London).

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Photography by Shannon Tofts

Naomi Mcintosh

Crathie, Aberdeenshire

With a background in architecture and design, Naomi Mcintosh plays with scale and sense of space. Her jewellery, sculptural objects and installations use precise geometry to explore the relationship between the body and objects. Naomi's new collection explores place and the Cairngorms National Park through sound and materials. Using Oscillograms, she uses repetitious planes surfaces and lines, suggesting forms and capturing volumes. Working primarily with found wood, she combines a broad range of skills that include digital and hand processes, from laser cutting to wood turning. Naomi exhibits internationally, including at the Museum of Fine Art (Montreal), the Museum of Arts and Design (MAD) (New York) and she recently created a jewellery collection from paper for CODA Museum Netherlands.

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Rhona McCallum

Glasgow

Inspired by geology, ancient history and our changing landscapes, Rhona McCallum creates statement collections of silver and gold jewellery that combine rugged, natural textures with bold, sculptural forms. Forged and carved lines run through the pieces, accentuated by flashes of gold, referencing geological fractures and lines and layers in stone. Rhona's award-winning jewellery is made by hand using recycled silver and gold in her Glasgow studio and has been exhibited around the world, including the prestigious Goldsmiths' Fair (London) and the Museum of Arts and Design (MAD) (New York).

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Craft Scotland

Craft Scotland is the national development agency for craft. We put makers at the heart of all we do, championing diverse and high-quality contemporary craft. We help people learn about, appreciate and buy craft, promoting the contribution of craft to Scotland's cultural, economic and social well-being.

Through our exhibitions and events programmes, digital platforms and strategic partnerships, we provide leadership for the sector. We create opportunities for makers to develop their creative and business practice, and to exhibit and sell work in Scotland and beyond.

Scotland has a proud history of making and its skilled makers have a well-deserved international reputation. Makers are using traditional and cutting-edge techniques across a wide range of practices including; ceramics, glass, metalwork, textiles, basketry, furniture and jewellery. Their creativity supports Scotland's economy and its international reputation for innovation and entrepreneurship.

Craft Scotland is a registered charity supported by Creative Scotland. Scottish charity no. SC 039491.

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Thank you

Special thanks to partners, sponsors and supporters of the Craft Scotland showcase at Collect 2020.

Selection panel Emma Nicolson, Head of Exhibitions, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh Hugo Macdonald, Curator & Writer Jo Scott, Head of Programmes, Craft Scotland

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