

22–24 March 2019 – Central Saint Martins, King's Cross

Menu

BUY TICKETS

All talks take place in the lecture theatre at Central Saint Martins, within the main event. Talks are included within your ticket price and seating is first come first served.

FRIDAY 22 MARCH

11.30-12.30

Tristram Hunt

Tony Ainsworth Memorial Lecture

From Stoke-on-Trent to South Kensington: A Journey Through Clay

Having made his own journey from the world capital of ceramics, Stoke-on-Trent, to become Director of a museum housing an encyclopedic collection of ceramics from around the world, Dr Tristram Hunt explores the history of pottery in Stoke and how it is represented in the V&A's collections. In this talk, Dr Hunt examines how the home of England's pottery industry has made its mark not only in South Kensington, but on the creative world as a whole.

Dr Tristram Hunt is the Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum. Prior to joining the V&A, Dr Hunt was Member of Parliament for Stoke-on-Trent Central and Shadow Secretary of State for Education.

1.00-2.00

Kate Malone

A Report of 2 Trips 2018

The First Indian Ceramic Triennale and The National Ceramics Competition for Southern Africa

Kate Malone was invited to demonstrate at the First Indian Triennale in Jaipur and decided the best way to do that would be to take some of her studio assistants along with her. She was also invited to judge the Southern African National Ceramics Biennale competition and to tour South Africa meeting their potters. Kate will outline 'the journey of stretching arms across the sea to share the pleasures of our beloved subject Ceramics'.

Kate Malone works on a spectrum of ceramic production – from egg cups to building facades. She had studios in London, Kent and Provence and works with 'a team of fabulous assistants' between the three.

2.30-3.30

Jon Wilson

Darwen Terracotta – Who Are We and What Can We Offer?

The talk will show how Darwen Terracotta is working with contemporary ceramicists to realise their ambitious ideas and how an increasing number of architects are utilising the myriad of ways that ceramics can be used for building facades. The company's handcrafted, traditional methods are combined with modern kiln-firing technology resulting in glazes that can be anything from matte to high-gloss, with either plain or very complex mottling and reactive layering, creating wonderful effects full of life and character. Add to this the very latest transfer technology and you have a product that is both traditional and cutting edge.

Jon Wilson is a Director at Darwen Terracotta based in Blackburn, Lancashire. When one of the UK's oldest and most highly respected terracotta companies, Shaws of Darwen, closed its architectural division to concentrate on their fireclay sink business, the opportunity arose for former employees to set up a new business and re-employ the very skilled craftspeople.

4.00-5.00

Grant Gibson with Alison Britton

Turning the Tables

In over a decade of working on Crafts magazine, former editor Grant Gibson met, wrote about, and occasionally argued with, scores of ceramists, covering a spectrum of work that ran from fine art to industry. In this talk, however, the tables are turned and he is interviewed by the brilliant ceramist Alison Britton.

Grant Gibson is a design, craft and architecture writer. He has been editor of Blueprint, deputy editor of FX, and acting executive editor of the RIBA Journal. More recently he has been editor of Crafts. His new podcast, Material Matters with Grant Gibson, was launched in February this year.

SATURDAY 23 MARCH

11.30-12.30

Duncan Hooson (Central Saint Martins, BA Ceramic Design), Georgia Jacobs (Central Saint Martins, Public), Nicole Van den Eijnde (Global Generation, Skip Garden), Gregg Ross (Central Saint Martins, M.Arch Architecture)

The Kiln House – A Community Kiln #1: A Place to Gather, a Place for Sharing and Learning

Following various events and local engagement activities under the title of *Ignition*, Global Generation and Central Saint Martins recognised the potential and the added benefits of building a semi-permanent outdoor kiln on the Skip Garden site. A new collaboration was formed between CSM BA Ceramic Design and MA Architecture to design and build its first community Kiln House. A place where CSM students and local community groups can work and learn together.

The Kiln House evolved from an initial relationship with Clayground Collective's Clay Cargo project, 2013 -15, and Global Generation's Skip Garden based in London's Kings Cross. Central Saint Martins' Local Encounters programme of creative and community engagement, part of CSM Public, is working with BA Ceramic Design and MA Architecture to develop practical clay projects.

1.00-2.00

Joanna Bird with Chris Kneale

Simply Discernment

Joanna Bird will give an overview of her early days making pots at Wenford Bridge Pottery to then running a successful Art Gallery. She will also discuss working with distinguished clients on commissions.

Specifically, she will detail curating *Marking the Line*, a national touring exhibition of ceramics and architecture which was funded by Arts Council England. Joanna will also outline how and why she created her charity and the films she is passionate about making.

Joanna Bird has established her reputation over the past 25 years. She studied under Michael Cardew originally, since then her career has encompassed curating, commissioning, writing and establishing the Joanna Bird Foundation. Chris Kneale is Trustee of the Joanna Bird Foundation and previously Director of Martin Speed, a provider of art storage, transport and installation based in London.

2.30-3.30

Neil Brownsword

Obsolescence and Renewal: People, Place and Ceramic Histories

Obsolescence and Renewal reflects upon the ceramic manufacturing histories of Stoke-on-Trent. Through a research process which involves film, the installation of remnants from ceramic production and industrial archaeology, Brownsword explores a critique of globalization and its impact on people, place and traditional industry. It examines in particular the complex knowledge systems within ceramic manufacture, and raises questions surrounding the value of inter-generational skill displaced in recent years by advanced technology and policies of outsourcing.

Neil Brownsword holds professorial positions at Staffordshire University and University of Bergen. His work is represented in collections internationally including the V&A and Korea Ceramic Foundation. In 2015 he was awarded the Grand Prize at the Gyeonggi International Ceramic Biennale, South Korea.

4.00-5.00

Mella Shaw

Balance and Resilience: Embracing a Second Career as a Ceramic Artist

Mella Shaw's talk will focus on her practice as a ceramic artist addressing reoccurring themes of balance, tipping points and thresholds and will do so in the context of coming to clay as a second career. Shaw will address the different ways she researches and finds inspiration to fuel her practice, as well as outlining the importance of building professional resilience into a portfolio career.

With a background in anthropology, documentary film and exhibition

management, Mella Shaw retrained in ceramics at the RCA and now exhibits widely nationally and internationally as part of a portfolio career.

SUNDAY 24 MARCH

11.30-12.30

Preston Fitzgerald

The Young Masters Ceramics Prize: Artists, Judges and Curators

The Young Masters Maylis Grand Ceramics Prize was developed to celebrate excellence in contemporary ceramics. This renowned Prize is awarded in recognition of the ways contemporary artists embrace the ceramic arts of the past. Preston Fitzgerald will moderate a discussion of the Prize with previous winners, Matt Smith and Lucille Lewin, alongside judge Daniella Wells and founder Cynthia Corbett of The Cynthia Corbett Gallery.

Preston Fitzgerald is an independent curator of ceramic exhibitions. He is a judge and curator of The Young Masters Maylis Grand Ceramics Prize.

1.00-2.00

Collective Matter

Building Communities: Legacy of the Tate Exchange

Since their formation Collective Matter have facilitated various community clay workshops and built a public-facing ceramic studio alongside Turner Prize winning arts-architecture group Assemble. This talk will discuss their development and experiences from their inaugural collective project for Tate Exchange through to their latest venture, *The Potting Shed*, considering how these projects have established and continue to grow community networks, in the context of the changing learning environment within arts education.

Collective Matter, was co-founded by RCA graduates Eva Masterman, Mary O'Malley and Katie Spragg in 2016, to explore clay as a tool for cross-disciplinary practice, creative communication and social change.

2.30-3.30

Kim Norton and Jane Cairns

Haptic/Tacit

Kim Norton and Jane Cairns from artist-led group haptic/tacit will discuss their practices and the importance working collectively has had on the development of their ideas and opportunities to exhibit.

Haptic/Tacit has an ever-changing roster of exhibitions and events, involving invited artists, makers and writers. The group formed in 2012 after meeting on the Crafts Council's Hothouse development programme. Other members include Grant Aston and Kimberley Chandler.

3.45-5.00

A film exploring the life, work and philosophy of celebrated potter Richard Batterham

“This fine documentary is a deep dive into one man’s world of making, and the philosophy behind a life in pottery. The sense of accumulation – of time, of clay, of conviction – is palpable in every shot. We also hear from the magnificent David Attenborough and master chef Nigel Slater (who begins every day with his Batterham breakfast bowl). Their voices remind us that often, the most meaningful things in life are rooted in the everyday, indeed, in the dirt beneath our feet.” – Glenn Adamson, Senior Research Scholar, Yale Centre of British Art.

A film produced by the Joanna Bird Foundation

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