

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS

This contemporary design course explores ceramics, metal, textiles, wood, print, resin and glass, teaching students the skills to produce 2D and 3D products. Graduates go on to work as designer-makers, or in fields such as product design, buying, marketing, merchandising or art direction for companies like Paul Smith, Burberry, Habitat, and Next.



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Welcome to our School of Art and Design's 2021 Showcase. As Dean of School, I am proud to present this work to you that evidences the creativity, intelligence, awareness and resilience of our class of 2021. A year where our graduates have faced extraordinary challenges in making their work. I am inspired daily at how our students have responded to these challenges and by depth of work produced. This demonstrates great hope for the future of our creative industries, as our graduates continue to meet these challenges head-on in their generation of new solutions and responses to a shifting global landscape. I wish them well as they start their next chapter and adventures wherever globally that may take them.

Michael Marsden
Executive Dean, School of Art & Design

ALESSANDRA CENTORBI

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS



Alessandra is a Latin American artist exploring the heritage of Pre-Columbian ceramics from the Andes region in South America. Her vessels portray the daily lives of people who live in The Andes, as well as the natural environment of the plateau. By mixing the ancient techniques of Andean ceramics and the technology of 3D clay printing, she creates unique vessels that tell a narrative about some of the problems that people in mountain regions face. One of them being food poverty, mostly due to the rise of popularity in products like the Quinoa, the golden grain of the Andes.



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ALICE BRAMHILL

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Alice Bramhill is an artist working predominantly in clay. Through abstract sculpture, Alice explores the relationships between things: people, environment and material objects.

Colour and playfulness are an integral part of her work.

Her degree work 'In the Garden of Motherhood' is a narrative on the connectedness between parent and child.



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AMY LIPSCOMBE

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS

The architecture of nature is constructed from countless natural forms, differing in colour, shape and size. Whilst we have an innate need to be connected to the natural world, we often take its beauty for granted. I have always been inspired by the many different elements found in nature, wanting to communicate the interesting forms and colours through my artwork. Currently inspired by various botanicals, carefully selected materials are used to create the detailed, hand-drawn pieces of art, which are then transformed into rich surface pattern designs. Featured on various interior products, including art prints, fabrics and wallpapers, these surface patterns keep us connected to the natural world. Using my skill to create artwork with a realistic quality is something I have always enjoyed and will continue to use when creating new surface pattern designs.



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BETH BENTON

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Beth Benton paints and draws whimsical human/cattle-skull hybrid characters. These figures are transferred onto sumptuous silks as prints and patterns, encompassing the presence and movement of life drawing alongside the stillness and calm of mortality from taxidermy studies. This project, entitled 'Life and Death' is a personal response to the unsettling events of Covid 19. 'Life and Death' incorporates a dense botanical wallpaper and silk upholstered chaise lounge backdrop, alongside three large unique paintings and contemporary cushions that compliment the tropical feel with flashes of hot pink, designed for high-end commercial interiors such as bars and restaurants. Beth passionately works with manual processes: drawing, painting and photography, and uses these designs to transform a range of surfaces such as wallpapers, upholstery textiles and soft furnishings.



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BIG MOUTH MONSTER

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I am a ceramic maker from China, with well developed skills and interested idea. Combined different materials with ceramic, such as metal, resin and wood. She likes using throwing machine to form the irregular shapes, also try different techniques. Through the development of press molding technique, my pieces are an exploration into shape and colour within ceramics. My works reflect the current Chinese market trends, bright strange shape makes her works more interesting and lovely. In 2016, I become a volunteer in Huangyao, which is a ceramic company in China. It held an activity to let more foreign children know about Chinese traditional culture, such as ceramics and tea arts. As a volunteer, I taught these children how to make tea with the Chinese traditional way. In the future, I would like to create more artworks and take them to participate in the competition, which will make my works more famous in the Chinese market.



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CAITLIN PRIMROSE

MARTIN

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS



I'm Caitlin Martin and my work is mainly textile based, but I also paint, draw and create collages. I am fascinated by nature's beauty and it's complicated, methodical ways of growing, surviving and dying. The ongoing cycles within nature keep me going, if I'm having a bad day, I know that it will get better and turn around. The weird and wonderful, chaotic and calm qualities of nature translate into my work a lot. I often create busy, peculiar and abstract works and like to leave the subject matter up to the onlooker. Another thing that inspires me and keeps me going is the wonderfulness of animals, seeing their individual personalities and charm. I am going to volunteer more often to help out animal rescue centres and other nature based work. These fulfilling experiences would definitely add to my future art projects. Therefore, my passion for now and the future is to live a happy, fulfilling life learning, helping and creating art for myself and others to spread joy and wonder.



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EMMA GRAHAM

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My creativity has always been influenced by natural forms and has stemmed from my personal love for the outdoors and the uplifting aura you feel when immersed in nature. Digital design has enabled my passion for surface print and textiles to bloom due to the rewarding nature of seeing my print designs come alive within the home. My final and most enjoyable project at university enabled me to explore the ability surface design has on improve wellbeing and creating uplifting, stress-free environments within the home. Using soothing colour theory and bold abstracted floral motifs, I created bespoke compositional print designs for my interior degree collection. My collection creating bold decorative statements within the home in which uplift the viewers mood, relieve stresses whilst also remaining functional. In the future I aim to continue uplifting people's home environments with my designs through working in the surface print industry.



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HANNAH QUIGLEY

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Hannah Quigley is a ceramicist who explores taking forms and patterns from nature to create a tableware collection that are both functional and beautiful. Rocks from beaches in Wales provided Marbled and textural influence within the collection. Through the development of the collection Hannah has created a unique way of working to create marbled and rocky one-off pieces. Each piece differs from the last as the process called Agateware which is the marbling of two or more-coloured clays. This process captures the uniqueness of nature as nothing is ever identical.

Lockdown has allowed Hannah to spend and focus her time on her ceramics and allowed her to own her own pottery studio here in Nottingham, This gives great opportunities to develop and push her work further, Hannah has collaborated with brands such as Glass & Wick who are a luxurious interior fragrance and lifestyle accessories company by creating wax burners exclusively for them.



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HOLLY SLATER

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS



Holly Slater is a Manchester based, interdisciplinary artist and designer exploring concepts through surface print design, graphics and textiles. She produces garments and prints stemming from personal experiences and the current climate. Her work acts as a tool in which to consider their being more to an object or idea than what first meets the eye.



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JIAXI XU

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS

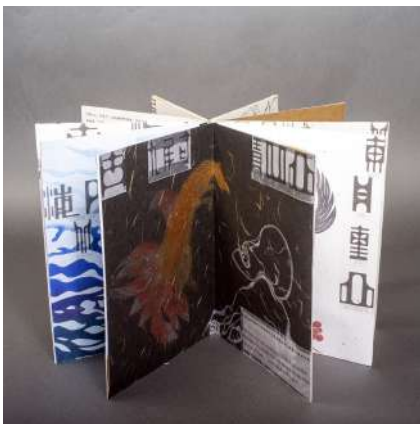


I am a Chinese student that is going to graduate from BA Decorative Arts at NTU. I've been studied art since A-Level. I am good at many craft areas, especially bookbinding, printmaking and watercolour. I have also experienced other craft area and learnt a lot of techniques and skills of working. I've been working for a Leather art workshop in Shan Dong, China. I have learnt some useful leather making skills. Not only techniques, I have also learnt how to set up and design the experience lessons for people in different level which can help with my own workshop in the future. Further study is my plan for the next step, I will be studying art management in the UK from September 2021.



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KATIE SMITH

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS

Designer-maker Katie Smith creates ceramic vessels that portray narratives through both form and illustration. Her work focuses on reflecting experiences and events through ceramics, using texture and surface decoration to tell stories, while also making pieces that people are drawn to touch. Employing various methods and techniques to achieve a textural finish, Smith focuses on creating hand-built forms and maximalist surfaces. She embraces the textural quality of clay, utilising various decorative techniques to enhance the quality of the ceramic itself. Smith draws influence from the world around her as well as historical objects to create her thought provoking works. Her forms are often traditional in shape but modern in style, as she attempts to update conventional ceramic structures, adding contemporary elements to established shapes. Her graduate collection 'The People's Pandemic' explores the Coronavirus pandemic, looking at how different groups of people have been impacted.



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KIESHA GIBSON

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I have always been inspired by natural forms and the world around me. After attending life drawing classes during my time at university, I realised that the female form was the most beautiful form in nature. Each body is unique and one-of-a-kind. I found myself inspired by the soft curves, asymmetry, and “imperfections”. I feel passionate about producing work that celebrates the female form and challenges conventional beauty ideals, whilst starting a conversation about these issues. I hope that my work will inspire people to love and appreciate their own bodies.

Blue is the colour of the sky and the sea, representing depth and freedom, the colour of confidence and inspiration. Brilliant blue provokes feelings of happiness and excitement. My ceramics are aimed at showcasing these ideas in relation to women and their bodies. We should all feel confident and free, whilst being happy with our bodies.



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LAUREN BARNETT

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS



Lauren Barnett is a jewellery designer maker who aims to raise awareness of climate change by combining recycled materials with traditional metal smithing skills. During her final year, she has developed a collection of interactive organic forms focused around the phenomenon of coral bleaching, a process whereby coral loses its colour as a stress response to environmental changes. Lauren's work aims to capture people's attention and spark a conversation about our consumer behaviours. Her pieces use a range of decorative finishes including both lead free enamel and UV powders to echo corals natural fluorescent abilities. Lauren prioritises making in both an ethical and sustainable way to provide potential customers with a unique, handcrafted alternative to the readily available fast fashion jewellery. After university, she plans to set up her own workshop to continue exploring and developing her final year theme.



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LEXI DYER

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I am a metalsmith specialising in metal sculpture and decorative lighting. Throughout my work I aim to create unique and luxurious pieces, transforming scrap copper boilers and pipes into contemporary designs. Initial inspirations for form development came from cocoons that I saw when visiting Botanical Gardens. I aim to transform and bring new life to scrap materials encouraging people to reuse and appreciate the beauty all around us, looking after the earth's natural resources as opposed to buying new. The additional plant installation shows plants protruding and bursting from copper pipes. Each being on an individual stem allowing this to be moved and rearranged, acting as a sustainable alternative to throw away flowers. This gives not only new life but immortality to each leaf. I plan to continue with this project after graduation, continuing to explore where scrap metal will take me and aim towards working on a larger scale.



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LYDIA KINZETT

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS



My name is Lydia Kinzett and I will be a Decorative Arts graduate specialising in ceramics. I have always had an interest in human nature, what we do and how we look doing it. This has greatly inspired my graduate collection where I have focused on what the average person got up to in the past year during the pandemic. Whilst representing a broad range of diverse characters, I also feel it is important to tell the everyday stories and celebrate what makes us human, this is what helps us to connect with one another especially in a time where we have all felt so isolated. In the future, I would like to continue to further explore the ceramic medium, illustration and character design.



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LYDIA SMITH

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My name is Lydia Smith and i specialise in jewellery making and metalwork. I produce wearable statement jewellery made predominantly with copper inspired by the growth of barnacles and limpets on the surface of marine bivalve molluscs. I draw inspiration from the natural world, in particular the vast array of colours and textures found within it, with my main areas of inspiration being marine life, fungi and insects. The pieces I make are designed to move with the wearers body adding a kinetic, interactive element to the pieces playing with both movement and sound. Each of my pieces are designed to play with a variety of textures to add a tactile element to the jewellery inviting the wearer to further interact with the piece. In the future i plan to expand my collection inspired by marine bivalve molluscs and develop my jewellery making skills experimenting with precious metals and gemstones.



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MONIQUE CAMERON

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS



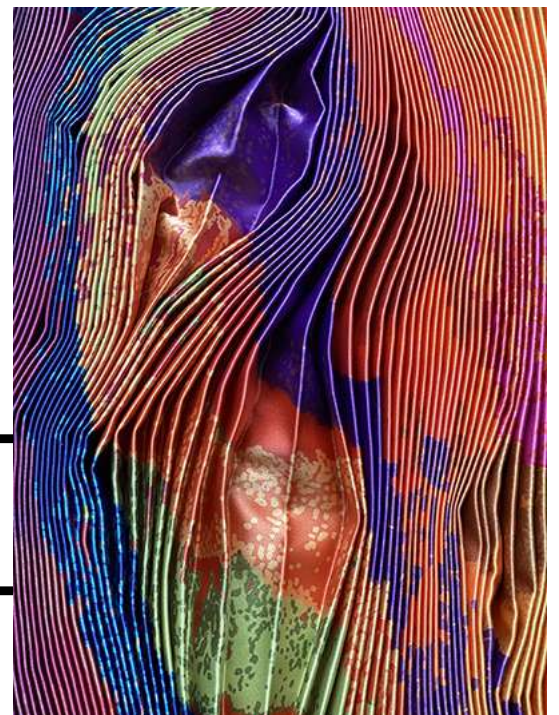
I am a Contemporary Installation Artist that specialises in surface print and fabric manipulation. I use these techniques to create bespoke artwork installations combining lighting and a myriad of mixed media. The majority of my work is strongly influenced by nature, with my most recent work being inspired by the folds, shapes and textures found within the natural world of Mushrooms, combined with the connotations and illicit experiences associated with experience individuals can encounter when ingested. It is said that the effects of eating certain fungi with psychedelic properties can create mind-altering and euphoric sensations. The collection 'Between Mushrooms and Madness' is designed to evoke the viewer into a mind-expanding experience of texture and colour, by combining traditional pleating, luxury textures and LED lighting, to recreate both an abstracted physical reality of the Mushrooms, and the psychedelic mind-altering reality created ingesting them.



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NAOMI WALTON

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS



Naomi's work is inspired by current environmental issues with a focus on endangered creatures and a loss of biodiversity in the wild. Her detailed sculptures are a representation of the beauty and fragility of the natural world, they have a sense of ghostliness to them like skeletons; a picture of a creature that once existed but is no more. These ceramic sculptures are raw fired to 1100 degrees Celsius, making them solid and permanent, unlike the creatures they depict. They are a cry for change to save our planet and all the creatures that inhabit it.



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SOPHIE ROGER

BA (H) DECORATIVE ARTS



Nottingham-based ceramicist Sophie Roger designs and handcrafts sculptural lighting and homewares. Her practice centres around the ancient Japanese carving method of Kurinuki, and adaptations on the technique, personal to Sophie's work, has enabled her to create large-scale sculptural yet functional pieces. Sophie's practice is heavily material driven, with instinctual making and organic materials at its core. Drawing influence from geological and natural features, she looks to design products that maintain elegance and simplicity, whilst demonstrating a level of skill and complexity with scale. The process allows Sophie to handcraft bespoke pieces that are different every time, for the home, contemporary craft, and contemporary design markets.



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