Ruthin Craft Centre
The Centre for the Applied Arts

What’s on Spring 2017
MAKE

a celebration of craft

18 February – 23 April 2017
Gallery 1, 2 & 3
For the past two years the Paul Hamlyn Foundation has funded Ruthin Craft Centre’s *What is Craft?* project. The project looked at many aspects of Craft examining different ideas and approaches to making through Materials, Decoration, Process and Function. This engaged our audience in a creative dialogue.

This exhibition, of the work of over fifty applied artists, continues the conversation of what it is to *Make.*

above left – right: Claire Curneen, Adam Buick, Michael Ruh, Winter & Kurth, Louise Tucker, Beth Legg, Catrin Howell, Margit Hart.
below left – right: Mandy Coates, Suzanne Hodgson, Wallace Sewell, Adi Toch, Nick Ozanne, Simeon Jones.
overleaf left page top – bottom: Fritz Maierhofer, Jo Barker, Ronald Pennell, Claudia Lis.
overleaf right page left – right: Michael Brennand-Wood, Angus Ross, Walter Keeler.
Jane Adam
Jewellery

Marthe Armitage
Wallpaper

Gordon Baldwin
Ceramics

Nancy Baldwin
Ceramics

Jo Barker
Textiles

Lise Bech
Baskets

Michael Brennand-Wood
Textiles

Sara Brennan
Textiles

Adam Buick
Ceramics

Edmond Byrne
Glass

Sue Christian
Textiles

Mandy Coates
Baskets

Sebastian Cox
Furniture

Claire Curneen
Ceramics

Luke Eastop
Ceramics

Forest & Found
Wood & Textiles

Gill Galloway-Whitehead
Jewellery

Margit Hart
Jewellery

Suzanne Hodgson
Furniture

Catrin Howell
Ceramics

Emma Jeffs
Textiles

Simeon Jones
Bookbinding

Madoline Keeler
Ceramics

Walter Keeler
Ceramics

Eleanor Lakelin
Wood

Richard La Trobe-Bateman
Furniture

Beth Legg
Jewellery

Claudia Lis
Ceramics

Philip Lourie
Musical instruments

Fritz Maierhofer
Jewellery

Ptolemy Mann
Textiles

Lindean Mill
Glass

Alison Morton
Textiles

Mourne Textiles
Textiles

Nick Ozanne
Textiles

Jim Partridge & Liz Walmsley
Furniture

Ronald Pennell
Glass

Betty Pennell
Wood engravings

Angus Ross
Furniture

Tracey Rowledge
Bookbinding

Michael Ruh
Glass

Jono Smart
Ceramics

St. Jude’s
Wallpaper

Dionne Swift
Textiles

Angharad Thomas
Textiles

Laura Thomas
Textiles

Adi Toch
Silver/Metal

Matthew Tomalin
Metal

Louise Tucker
Lighting

Wallace Sewell
Textiles

Winter & Kurth
Furniture
**Talks, Events & Workshops:**

**MAKE Masterclasses**

- **Mandy Coates**
  1 day workshop: Make a willow fruit basket  
  Sunday 12 March  
  10.30am – 4.30pm  
  £55 includes light lunch  
  In this workshop with MAKE exhibitor Mandy Coates you will be making a round shallow fruit basket using traditional basket weaving techniques. Different varieties of fine willow rods will be used to give colour and contrast – creating a useful and beautiful gift for your table or as a Mother’s Day present.  
  *Suitable for all levels*

- **Michael Brennand-Wood**
  2 day workshop: ‘Grounds for Expression’  
  Saturday 25 & Sunday 26 March  
  10.30am – 4.30pm  
  £130 includes light lunch  
  A unique opportunity to work with this internationally renowned textile artist.  
  The purpose of this two-day workshop is to create a single, or series of, smaller bespoke personal grounds (backgrounds) that have, within their construction, qualities that aid and stimulate creativity.  
  *Suitable for intermediate / advanced level*

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**‘The Nature of Craft’ Afternoon Talks**

Saturday 1 April  
1.30pm – 4.00pm  
£5.00 Please call to book a place  
Guest Speakers on the day will include MAKE exhibitors:-  
- Edmond Byrne  
- Sebastian Cox  
- Angharad Thomas  

One of the definitions of the beginning of human existence is measured by when man first created and used tools. Our understanding of the nature and existence of early civilisations is from the study of artefacts. Crafted objects are at the very core of human existence. The MAKE exhibition aims to inspire our visitors to re-engage with fundamental instincts to create, use and admire hand created objects.  

Our guest speakers on the day will share their experiences as a maker; will talk us through the nature of craft within their practice and its relation to everyday living.
What is Craft? and MAKE

To celebrate the conclusion of our 2 year What is Craft? programme, along with the opening of our new MAKE exhibition in our 3 main galleries, we have curated an exhibition in our What is Craft? interactive studio space, documenting the journey of our 2 year audience development and resource legacy, funded by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

During our journey we have found a variety of ways of involving a whole range of new audiences in the work of the Centre, which all started with the basic question of:-

What is Craft?
Who does it?
Why do they do it?
Why does it matter?

CPD Days:

In collaboration with EDAU – The Arts and Education Network, North Wales, we will be offering two Continuing Professional Development training days for Primary and secondary teachers in North Wales at Ruthin Craft Centre, based on developments and research from our What is Craft? project.

The CPD day will offer teachers creative tools and support to develop their own learning practices. An opportunity to work directly with artists-makers and other art educators to look at new ways of engaging with artwork, introduce new creative ideas to extend classroom practice, resources and the opportunity to network and share expertise with other teachers.

CPD for Primary teachers – Subject Art and Design ‘Taste of Craft’
Wednesday 15 March

If you would like further information please contact Sioned Phillips, Education Officer by e-mail Sioned.phillips@denbighshire.gov.uk or tel 01824 704774

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This new exhibition is a visual celebration of all the activities, events and community projects that have taken place during the project. The exhibition also includes a documentary film with interviews from people involved in the project, produced by Idle Fire Productions.

As an addition to the exhibition, there will be a new set of hands on activities for the ‘Get Involved’ space, based on the exhibition MAKE. Artists Eleri Jones and Nerys Jones have devised and designed a series of new craft activities based on the 4 themes of the exhibition – Wearing, Eating, Relaxing and Contemplating; linking courtyard activities with our main gallery exhibitions. Come and have a go!

Get involved!

The activities will include:

Wearing: Make your own pin brooch inspired by Gill Galloway-Whitehead landscape jewellery pieces, etching in to specially coated paper to create texture and then further surface pattern through the use of mark-making.

Eating: Design and create your own cutlery in our miniature kitchen section. Decorate a selection of wooden spoons, forks, knives etc with your own illustrations or wrap in wool and other textile materials to create a unique cutlery set.

Relaxing: Weaving through time as a way to unwind and relax from everyday life. Come and help us ‘Warp and Weft’ through our very own Craft Centre looms.

Contemplating: Inspired by St. Jude’s and Marthe Armitage Wallpaper in the gallery exhibition, help create an enormous decorative wallpaper with printed blocks and stencils.

There are lots of MAKE activities in February half-term, family drop-ins, craft clubs, etc.

For our full activity programme please visit our website and download the pdf, or pick-up our printed leaflet.
Welcome to our new project Making Connections. We want you to join us on a Craft journey starting with Ceramics during 2017.

At the heart of this project is the idea of Making Connections between our different courtyard areas and activity spaces; and between the courtyard and the galleries / exhibitions. Another opportunity for you to ‘Get Involved’ in all that we do here at Ruthin Craft Centre.

This project is made possible by funding from the Arts Council of Wales.

During 2017 we will be exploring Ceramics over three different seasons:-

January – April:
• Season 1: Thrown / Functional

May – August:
• Season 2: Figurative / Sculptural

September – December:
• Season 3: Surface / Decoration

Making Connections Easter Activity
As part of Making Connections, over the Easter period we have programmed a mini festival celebrating the art of clay. The two weeks will include a mixture of clay activities and events led by North Wales ceramic artists for all ages to enjoy and get involved with.

For our full activity programme please visit our website and download the pdf, or pick-up our printed leaflet.
As part of this project we have a new Collect & Reward scheme. Pick up a Collect & Reward Card and collect stamps by:

Joining in with our Learning programme and Activities for all ages each season;

Discovering the answers to the questions set each season (you will have to ‘hunt & find’ them throughout the galleries, exhibitions and spaces here on site)

Once you have that season’s total you can claim your free reward – a limited edition collector’s Pin Badge (only 100 per season).

At the end of the year, those of you who have claimed one (or all) of the 3 seasons rewards, will be invited to become one of Ruthin Craft Centre’s Ambassadors for Craft – with an invitation to a special event to celebrate and mark this achievement.

This Season’s Challenges are:

‘Hunt & Find’ the answers to the 3 questions below (as a guide look out for the symbols to be found around the site):

- In the MAKE exhibition in the Galleries a husband and wife team have created which functional object we all use every day at home?

- In the Film Projection on show in the Studio 5 Making Connections space – in which past Exhibition is this season’s Symbol hidden?

- In Café R – which functional ceramic piece is to be found on display?

Also, join in with any 2 of our many activities for all ages this season (January – April)

There are lots of activities this February half-term and Easter – you will need to give the name and date of a minimum of 2 activities you took part in.
Sketchbook and portfolio development workshops:

For young people aged 14–16 (studying GCSE Art and Design) with Kevin Furlong from Chester College
Tuesday 11 April
11.00am – 4.00pm
£13.00 Please call to book a place – spaces are limited

This Portfolio session will offer you an opportunity to experience a very brief taste of life studying art and design at university or college. During the session you will be introduced to some creative approaches to stimulate your imagination and direct your art and design thinking by investigating visual research techniques.

You will also have an opportunity to talk about your portfolio and how you might confidently present your work at a college, apprenticeship or university interview.

Please bring your portfolio work, working sketch books, completed sketch books and your favourite pen or pencil.

Lunch will not be provided on the day, please bring a packed lunch with you.

For young people aged 16–18 (studying AS/A level Art and Design) with Nigel Hurlstone from Manchester School of Art
Wednesday 12 April
11.00am – 4.00pm
£13.00 Please call to book a place – spaces are limited

This sketchbook and portfolio workshop will be delivered in two parts.

Part one will interrogate what a ‘sketchbook’ can physically be, how it might be utilised and why it is central to the development of your own individual art and design practice. Emphasis will be placed on ‘re-inventing’ the sketchbook as a place in which recording, mapping out ideas and speculating about ‘what might happen next,’ becomes embedded in your practice and artwork.

Part two will focus on helping you to analyse what information is held in your sketchbooks and how to extract this in a meaningful way within the context of a portfolio. The ordering, formatting, editing and extraction from sketchbooks will be examined in order to demonstrate how ideas can move from the pages of a sketchbook to inform more developed work within your portfolio.

The workshop will be a ‘hands-on’ practical session that will involve working with an existing sketchbook and creating or extending an existing portfolio. Therefore, please bring your portfolio work, working sketchbooks and completed sketchbooks with you on the day.

Lunch will not be provided on the day, please bring a packed lunch with you.
Talk and Demonstrations with Ceramicist Eddie Curtis North Wales Potters event (NWP) Sunday 7 May 10.30am – 4.00pm (1hr break for lunch) £15.00 for NWP members £25 for non-members To book a place, please call 01492 572575 or email – NWP Bev Bell-Hughes – bevandterry@googlemail.com

Throughout the 2 day’s Janet will demonstrate, using examples of work in progress, the way an idea can be developed. She will also describe and demonstrate the simple hand sewing techniques to be used.

Suitable for intermediate level

Petals and Claws: 1 day clay modelling workshop with ceramicist Liz Ellis Sunday 18 June 10.30am – 4.30pm £50 light lunch included. Please call to book a place

During this one day workshop you’ll create your own figurative sculpture of an owl / bird in porcelain paper clay. Liz will guide you through the process of the hand building method and discuss the different options for decorating the finished piece.
At the end of the day the pieces will be taken to be fired and returned to the gallery for collection at a later date.

Suitable for all levels

Making Connections: May half-term activity inspired by the Petals and Claws exhibition (The Owl Service by Alan Garner) Family drop-in workshop, suitable for all ages Thursday 1 June 10.30am – 12.30pm or 1.30pm – 3.30pm FREE no need to book

The exhibition Petals and Claws celebrates two stories in which owls play an important role – The Owl Service by Alan Garner and the story of Blodeuwedd in the Mabinogion.

Join artist Liz Ellis in a clay modelling workshop and make your own owl / bird. Your owl will then be taken away to be fired and returned to Ruthin Craft Centre for you to pick up at a later date. Your owl / bird may then be painted to your own design at home.
FORGE

29 April – 16 July
Gallery 1

Contemporary forged metal design is an emerging, innovative international discipline. This exhibition, curated by Delyth Done, represents a paradigm shift from the traditional discourse of the blacksmith and breaks new ground by synthesising and articulating the practice of creative and conceptual working with forged metal. Fifteen international metal artists whose practice has been identified as having a significant impact present their work. They represent a new wave of contemporary artists who have developed an innovative, design-led practice.

Newfoundland:
Romilly Saumarez Smith & Verdi Yahooda

29 April – 16 July
Gallery 2

An exhibition of works by jeweller Romilly Saumarez Smith and artist Verdi Yahooda. Each of the pieces have at their core Roman, Anglo-Saxon or Medieval metalwork, dropped or discarded hundreds of years ago. These scraps of ancient lives have been transformed by Romilly into wearable art – contemporary jewellery; while renowned artist Verdi, a long standing friend and artistic collaborator of Romilly, has made some exceptional photographic prints of the original metal finds.
TERRY BELL-HUGHES

29 April – 16 July
Gallery 3

Terry Bell-Hughes was born in Abergele and is a graduate of the seminal Harrow Ceramics course, where he was taught by Victor Margie and Mick Casson. Returning to north Wales in 1978 he set up a studio with his wife Bev Bell-Hughes in Llandudno Junction. One of Wales’ most celebrated potters his work is in many prestigious collections, including Amgueddfa Cymru: National Museum Wales, The Royal Museum of Scotland, Ulster Museum and the Crafts Council in London. For this exhibition Terry has produced an exciting body of new work.

DON’T MISS!
Talk and Demonstrations with Terry Bell-Hughes
Sunday 25 June, 11.30am – 3.30pm
(1 hour break for lunch)
£5.00 lunch not included. Please call to book a place
Visit our Retail Gallery

Offering contemporary work for sale from some of the country’s leading makers. Browse and purchase from a broad selection of jewellery, ceramics, glass, metalwork, textiles, books, stationery and unique gifts.

Collectorplan, the Arts Council of Wales’ interest free credit scheme, is available on most purchases throughout the galleries.

On-Site Artist Studio:
Come and visit the on-site studio today to see beautiful textiles and fabrics by Cefyn Burgess.
www.cefynburgess.co.uk

Café R Restaurant:
Visit Café R Restaurant today! The perfect place to take time to relax and enjoy a freshly brewed coffee or cup of tea – with food prepared and served by our local team of friendly staff.

Open daily 10.00am – 5.00pm
• Free on-site parking.
• Coaches welcome.
To book a table call 01824 708099

Visiting Information

With three galleries showing the best in national and international contemporary applied art, on-site makers studio, café and retail gallery – visit Ruthin Craft Centre.

Ruthin Craft Centre, The Centre for the Applied Arts
Park Road, Ruthin, Denbighshire LL15 1BB
Tel: +44 (0)1824 704774. Open daily 10.00am – 5.30pm

FREE Admission FREE On-site parking