

PRESS RELEASE - For immediate release

Jerwood Visual arts

Iona Rowland iona@parkerharris.co.uk
www.jerwoodvisualarts.org

Devon Guild

simon.williams@crafts.org.uk
anna.trussler@crafts.org.uk
www.crafts.org.uk

Rising stars in contemporary applied arts exhibit new works at Devon Guild of Craftsmen

Marcin Rusak/ Juli Bolaños-Durman/ Laura Youngson Coll/ Jessica Harrison/ Sam Bakewell

20 January – 11 March 2018

Devon Guild of Craftsmen, Bovey Tracey, Devon
TQ13 9AF



Marcin Rusak, Juli Bolaños-Durman, Laura Youngson Coll, Jessica Harrison and Sam Bakewell are exhibiting new works as part of the Jerwood Visual Arts touring programme at Devon Guild of Craftsmen, Bovey Tracey, Devon TQ13 9AF

The five were selected for the sixth Jerwood Makers Open and received an award of £7,500 at the end of 2016 to realise and make ambitious new projects.

The 2017 awardees, selected from 271 submissions, explored new materials and processes for this exhibition. These emerging artists worked to develop their current practice by moving into a variety of materials that include wood, glass, organic waste and vellum (calf skin used as a material for writing). Jerwood Makers Open, which seeks to support exceptional skill and imagination, offers a rare opportunity for early-career artists to freely develop creative ideas. The exhibition which opened at Jerwood Space in June 2017 and is now touring nationally, will give audiences the chance to engage with these pioneering artists at the start of their careers.

- Marcin Rusak is reflecting on consumer culture with an installation made from perishable objects. The product designer, who comes from a family of flower growers, will create several pieces using organic composites, such as waste flowers, shellac, beeswax and resin in different stages of decay. Playing with the processes of destruction, renewal and reconstruction, the work will stimulate questions about history and possible future scenarios. marcinrusak.com
- Juli Bolaños-Durman is exploring the journey of transformation which takes place as she converts ordinary objects into objets d'art. She will create a large-scale glass installation that will connect audiences with nature through intricate, flower-like individual pieces displayed in a 'canopy'. She is incorporating lighting

into her practice for the first time, creating an intimate atmosphere wherein the delicate sculptures are brought to life. julibd.com

- After originally training in sculpture, Laura Youngson Coll gained expertise in leatherwork, using this knowledge to create both fictitious and scientific depictions of the natural world in her sculptural work. For Jerwood Makers Open is experimenting with traditional bookbinding materials and techniques to create a series of pieces examining the cellular morphology of lymphoma, personally significant after the loss of her partner to lymphatic cancer. Laura is working with Bloodwise, a lymphoma and leukaemia charity, and a lymphoma specialist at Churchill Hospital, to turn complex scientific detail in clear depictions of cancerous cells. This microscopic perspective, familiar in her practice, will examine the reconciliation of scientific explanation with personal experience of illness. laurayoungsoncoll.co.uk
- Jessica Harrison is a sculptor who has experimented with a variety of materials and will use the opportunity to continue her engagement with ceramics. She is creating a new body of sculptural objects in porcelain and bone china that explores the notion of the collection as a physical grouping, and a framework that structures the viewer and their movements and sensory experiences. Working from the traditional idea of the collection this will focus on contemporary forms of collecting such as Pinterest. jessicaharrison.co.uk
- Breaking with his history in clay, Sam Bakewell will be using wood for the first time. He is using a chainsaw and chisel to carve a series of poly-chromed objects which will form enlarged abstracts with details referencing historic carving. These include water, fire, hair and animals, expanding on his interests in the philosophy and symbolism of the spiral as archetypal form. samuelbakewell.com

Over the past five editions the initiative has provided a significant platform for its selected artists, with many of the 24 recipients gaining further critical recognition following the exhibition at Jerwood Makers Open. 2012 recipient Will Shannon went on to win the PAD Prize that same year, and 2013 recipient Adam Buick has recently been granted a £25,000 Creative Wales Award in 2017. For three consecutive years Jerwood Makers Open artists were selected for the leading V&A ceramics residency: Keith Harrison in 2012, James Rigler in 2013, and both Matthew Raw and Nao Matsunaga in 2014. Silvia Weidenbach, 2012 recipient was announced as the first V&A Gilbert Collection Resident in 2017.

Jerwood Makers Open is a biennial opportunity encouraging ambitious and/or radical proposals from UK-based makers and collaborators within 10 years of beginning their practice. Launched in 2010, it focuses on makers and making, supporting work in a diverse range of materials and progressive practices including, but not limited to: glass, metal, wood, paper, textiles, ceramics, furniture and jewellery. Five artists are selected through a national open call and each receive £7,500 to create new works for a national touring exhibition.

The artists were selected by an independent panel comprising Deirdre Figueiredo MBE, Director, *Craftspace*, alongside Skinder Hundal, CEO/Director, *New Art Exchange*; Geoffrey Mann, artist and Programme Director, Glass at Edinburgh College of Art; Clare Twomey, artist, and Sarah Williams, Head of Programme, Jerwood Visual Arts.

Sarah Williams comments: *“Jerwood Makers Open provides a platform for artists to develop ambitious new work outside of conventional commissioning structures and an opportunity for makers to push their ideas further with financial and curatorial support. Through the selection process we reviewed a high number of proposals and the five selected makers have exceptional ideas. We look forward to supporting the development of the work over the coming months.”*

Clare Twomey comments: *“Jerwood Makers Open 2017 artists are a testament to the evolving role of making in creative practice. This group of artists are intrepid in their endeavour to explore ideas through material relationships. Our contemporary context of making will be seen through a generation of makers who are interested in material exploration and the rendering of dialogues through and with the collaboration of materials, it’s a very exciting selection.”*

More tour information can be found at www.jerwoodvisualarts.org or by following @JerwoodJVA on Twitter (#JMO17).

- Ends -

Exhibition Information

Title: Jerwood Makers Open
 Exhibition dates: 20 January – 11 March
 Address: Devon Guild of Craftsmen, Bovey Tracey, Devon TQ13 9AF
 Opening Times: 7 days a week 10am -5.30pm
 Admission: Free
 Website: www.crafts.org.uk

Captions

Marcin Rusak, *Perishable Vase I and II (Decaying)*, 2015 (Image courtesy of the artist)
 Juli Bolaños-Durman, *Ode to Intución Series*, 2015 (Image courtesy of the artist, credit Shannon Tofts)
 Laura Youngson Coll, *Haeckel 1*, 2014 (Image courtesy of the artist)
 Jessica Harrison, *Royal Doulton Figurine Happy Anniversary*, 2016 (Image courtesy of the artist)
 Sam Bakewell, *Reader (close up)*, 2015 (Image courtesy of the artist)

Notes to editors

About Jerwood Makers Open:

Launched in 2010, Jerwood Makers Open creates a space in which to recognise and promote the significance of making practice and process within contemporary visual arts. It offers skillful makers at the early stages of their careers an opportunity to develop their creative ideas independently of specific commissioning structures, and with substantial curatorial support. To date the initiative has invested funds totaling £217,500 to support 29 major new commissions. Selected artists by year are:

2011: Farah Bandoowkwa, Emmanuel Boos, Heike Brachlow and Keith Harrison
 2012: Nao Matsunaga, James Rigler, William Shannon, Louis Thompson and Silvia Weidenbach
 2013: Maisie Broadhead, Linda Brothwell, Adam Buick, Nahoko Kojima, Roanna Wells
 2014: Hitomi Hosono, Matthew Raw, Revital Cohen and Tuur Van Balen, Shelley James and FleaFollyArchitects
 2015: Zachary Eastwood-Bloom, Malene Hartmann Rasmussen, Jasleen Kaur, Ian McIntyre and Silo Studio

Jerwood Makers Open is part of Jerwood Visual Arts, a national programme supporting visual arts practice, through which Jerwood Charitable Foundation works with early career artists to commission and present new work. Artist opportunities run throughout the year alongside a programme of related exhibitions, events and commissioned writing taking place online, in London and across the UK. www.jerwoodvisualarts.org

The Jerwood Charitable Foundation is dedicated to imaginative and responsible revenue funding of the arts, supporting artists to develop and grow at important stages in their careers. The aim of its funding is to allow artists and arts organisations to thrive; to continue to develop their skills, imagination and creativity with integrity. It works across art forms, from dance and theatre to literature, music and the visual arts. For more information visit: www.jerwoodcharitablefoundation.org

About the Jerwood Makers Open artists:

Sam Bakewell

Sam Bakewell (b. 1983 in Yeovil, Somerset) predominately works with clay but has also used other materials in the past such as glass, wood, leather and plaster in varying methods and using historic references. Based in London, he has been working at Edmund de Waal Studios since 2012 and is part of Studio Manifold (an artist group that includes 2015 Jerwood Makers Open awardees Ian McIntyre and Zachary Eastwood-Bloom as well as 2014 artist Matthew Raw). He won the 2015 British Ceramics Biennial AWARD and is confirmed to show a new piece of work at the 2017 edition. His work has been shown in group exhibitions at Corvi-Mora, Marsden Woo Gallery and National Museum of Wales. Sam graduated from the Royal College of Art, London, in 2011 and Cardiff Metropolitan University in 2005.

Marcin Rusak

Marcin Rusak (b. 1987 in Warsaw, Poland) is a multidisciplinary designer and artist who runs his own design studio. In 2015 he had his first solo show at the Contemporary Applied Arts gallery in London and recently exhibited at the group shows 'What is Luxury?' at the V&A, London, and 'handiCRAFT: Traditional Skills in the Digital Age' at MAK Vienna, Austria, as well as the shows Design Miami Basel and Decorex. Marcin has been awarded the Perrier-Jouët Arts Salon prize 2016 for emerging artists continuing in the tradition of Art Nouveau. The London-based Polish designer has a MA in Design Products at Royal College of Art, a BA in European Studies at University of Warsaw, and has taken the course Man and Living at Eindhoven Design Academy, Netherlands.

Laura Youngson Coll

Laura Youngson Coll (b. 1978 in Co. Durham) has worked for 13 years with leather and vellum specialist Rooks Books whilst developing her practice as maker in fine art. Since 2012 Laura has been focusing on her own sculptural work, integrating her extensive knowledge and skills in leatherwork. She won the Perrier-Jouët Arts Salon Award in 2014 and has shown at Collect and at National Trust properties Biddulph Grange Gardens and Barrington Court. The London-based artist has a MA Sculpture at the Royal College of Art, 2004, and a BA in Sculpture at the Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art at the University of Dundee, 2001.

Juli Bolaños-Durman

Living in Scotland, Juli Bolaños-Durman (b. 1984 in Costa Rica) originally trained in graphic design and worked in mixed media, predominantly in glass repurposing found objects and transforming them into precious artefacts that tell a story. She was winner of the Elle Decoration British Design Awards 2015 and was awarded an Exceptional Talent (Promise) Visa which was endorsed by Arts Council England. Her work has been exhibited internationally including at COLLECT, Dovecot Studios and London Design Festival. She studied Graphic Design at San Jose University in Costa Rica, 2006, and subsequently studied in Venice, New York and Edinburgh, completing an MFA in Glass at the University of Edinburgh in 2013.

Jessica Harrison

Jessica Harrison (b 1982 in St Bees, Cumbria) works with a wide variety of materials from marble to paint and digital collage, but most recently she has been working exclusively with ceramics. Her practice explores the mechanics of perception and a fallibility of observation through an examination of the interaction between the visual and the tactile. The Edinburgh-based artist has had solo exhibitions at Galerie LJ in Paris, Jupiter Artland in Edinburgh and Jealous Gallery in London. Just in 2016 her work was also shown at La Maison Rouge in Paris, Keramiemuseum Princessehof in Leeuwarden and Royal Scottish Academy in Edinburgh. She moved to Scotland to study sculpture at Edinburgh College of Art in 2000, going on to do an MFA before completing a practice-led PhD in sculpture in 2013, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council.

About the Jerwood Makers Open selection panel:

Deirdre Figueiredo MBE

Deirdre Figueiredo is Director of *Craftspace* which works in partnership with makers and artists, audiences, venues and a diverse range of organisations to push boundaries and perceptions around contemporary crafts practice, touring productions and audience development.

Deirdre has selected for numerous awards and open exhibitions including the International Festival of Glass Biennial, the Crafts Council's Sparkplug awards, Crafts Council's Origin the London craft fair and the Oriel Davies Gallery open exhibition. She is Co-Secretariat for CraftNet, the national crafts leadership network. She is also Chair of Create in Ireland, a board member of Punch and Axis and a Trustee of The Crafts Study Centre, Farnham.

craftspace.co.uk

Skinder Hundal

Skinder Hundal is CEO/Director of New Art Exchange and has been in post since launching in September 2008. He has successfully led the organisation through a significant period of growth and development, achieving a strong reputation for creating and producing high quality art, bringing international standard culturally diverse art to Hyson Green in Nottingham, the UK and globally.

Hundal has supported, featured and commissioned artists such as John Akomfrah, Zarina Bhimji, Hetain Patel, Zineb Sedira, Mahtab Hussain, Yara El Sherbini, Rashid Rana, Elizabeth Price, Christian Marclay to name a few.

He specialises in creative production, business planning & strategic development, place making, regeneration, marketing & communications, artist development, festival production, broadcasting, audience and product development. He is Executive Producer for EM17Venice and also for Nottingham Mela Arts Festival. He recently retired as chair of Darbar, Europe's largest Indian Classical music festival, and is currently a member of Arts Council England, Midland's Area Board and a trustee at Primary Artist Studios. www.nae.org.uk

Geoffrey Mann

Geoffrey Mann Studio, founded in 2005, is based in Edinburgh, UK. Artist Geoffrey Mann graduated from the Royal College of Art Ceramics & Glass department in 2005 and is the current Programme Director of Glass at Edinburgh College of Art.

Mann has exhibited in National and International venues including MoMA New York, V&A London and the Museum of Art & Design New York. In 2008, Mann was awarded the World Craft Council prize for glass and in 2009 exhibited in Jerwood Contemporary Makers.

Mann's works are included in National and International collections including MoMA New York, MAD New York, Craft Council England and Corning Museum of Glass. www.geoffreymann.com

Clare Twomey

Clare Twomey is a British artist and Reader of Ceramic Research at the University of Westminster who works with clay in large-scale installations, sculpture and site-specific works. Over the past 15 years she has exhibited at the Victoria and Albert Museum, Tate, Crafts Council, Museum of Modern Art Kyoto Japan, the Eden Project and the Royal Academy of Arts. Within these works Twomey has maintained her concerns with materials, craft practice and historic and social context.

Twomey is actively involved in critical research in the area of material focused and collaborative craft practice, including writing, curating and making. She has developed work which expands the field's knowledge of larger scale installation works. www.claretwomey.com

Sarah Williams

Sarah Williams is Head of Programme for [Jerwood Visual Arts](http://www.jerwoodvisualarts.com) where she is responsible for developing and delivering the programme nationally. She has worked as a curator, lecturer and writer and was recently a contributor to the book 'Postdigital Artisans' which profiles 60 contemporary artists and designers working in the post-digital era. She has been a selector for numerous awards and commissions, including 'Vestlandsutstillingen' Norway and Jerwood/FVU Awards.



Devon Guild of Craftsmen is a FREE admission contemporary crafts venue with a friendly café, two galleries and large shop in a beautiful riverside setting in the moorland fringe town of Bovey Tracey in Devon. Our gallery exhibitions inspire, delight and provoke thought, with three spaces showing the best in contemporary craft from the UK and beyond. All our Jubilee Gallery exhibitions have free activities which are especially popular with families and our long-established scheme *Freehand* places artists and makers directly in schools and communities. The Devon Guild is a registered charity.

Find out more at www.crafts.org.uk

Relevant hashtags for exhibition tour: **@JerwoodJVA** **#JMO17**

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