The National Centre for Craft & Design

Guide
Dec 2018 — Mar 2019
In the beautiful setting of Navigation Wharf in Sleaford sits an old seed warehouse. But it’s not what you’d expect, for this converted warehouse is home to British craft and design. The National Centre for Craft & Design (NCCD) is the largest venue in England entirely dedicated to the exhibition, celebration and promotion of local, national and international craft and design.

We showcase an ever-changing programme of world-class exhibitions, creative activities, events, talks, clubs, masterclasses, workshops, symposiums, short courses and festivals.

This year we merged our activities with artsNK to offer a NEW multi-arts programme at NCCD and across North Kesteven. Look out for our NEW programme of dance, music, performance and arts projects!

NCCD is also home to Design-Nation, a leading portfolio and network that supports the very best and most diverse British-based contemporary craft and design.

This used to be a seed warehouse. It still is...

NCCD is free and open to everyone from 10am to 5pm* every day except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year’s Day.

*NCCD is open 10am to 4pm on Bank Holidays.
Cover Image: Beauty Tricks, Pinkie Maclure
Photo: Courtesy the artist
Welcome

Our programme this winter includes a season of glass at The National Centre for Craft & Design, as we welcome two major exhibitions, Art of Glass and Colour & Form, which showcase some of the finest glass artists currently working in Britain.

Art of Glass is curated in collaboration with National Museums Scotland and brings together works from some of the nation's most innovative glass artists working in the medium. In our Roof Gallery, our partner organisation Design-Nation presents Colour & Form, a selling exhibition of their designer-makers who specialise in glass. Rounding off our season of glass is Glassuminmass, an exhibition which displays the works of a local community group who have designed and made a series of glass lanterns inspired by the Spires & Steeples Arts & Heritage Trail between Sleaford and Lincoln.

In the lead up to Christmas we celebrate our 7th annual Gifted Contemporary Christmas Market. This year, our cosy festive market hosts a variety of specially selected craft stalls and a mini food festival with live music & entertainment, workshops, demonstrations and creative activities. Save the date, Saturday 8 and Sunday 9 December!

As we move into 2019, we shift our focus to textiles. We’re delighted to display an incredible touring exhibition, Ctrl/Shift, from The 62 Group of Textile Artists. The New Year also sees us welcome back Jilly Edwards. After featuring in our tapestry exhibition Here & Now, in 2016, Edwards returns with a solo exhibition: Glimpses and Memories. Weaver Majeda Clarke and graphic designer Lucy Grainge form our annual showcase of bright new talent, as the joint winners of New Designers One Year In 2018, selected by Design-Nation.

There’s so much to see and take part in this season — we look forward to welcoming you soon.

Art of Glass presents the outstanding work of leading glass artists in Britain today. Over the last 50 years, Britain has had a significant impact on how glass is perceived as an art form. Both national and international artists have based themselves here, drawn to the teaching and world-renowned facilities the UK offers. The National Centre for Craft & Design and National Museums Scotland have worked in partnership to bring Art of Glass to fruition and to examine the diverse work of established and emerging glass artists working in Britain today.
This exhibition features work by some of the most innovative and exciting designer/makers working in craft and design practice today. All exhibitors are selected members of Design-Nation producing works for trade, retail and commission.

A true celebration of colour and form, this exhibition showcases a range of techniques and features a variety of functional and decorative works in glass. All works are for sale making this exhibition the perfect Christmas shopping destination!

As a leading network for the support and development of craft and design practice, Design-Nation is committed to nurturing and developing emerging talent to established and internationally known artists and designers.

In 2010, a community group was brought together at NCCD to design and create three large glass lanterns inspired by the churches along the Spires & Steeples Arts and Heritage Trail between Lincoln and Sleaford. Glassumimass is derived from the medium (glass) plus the words ‘illumination’ and ‘mass’, in reference to the churches which inspired them.

The lanterns are made using kiln formed and stained glass techniques and ironwork custom-made by blacksmith Ian Caudwell from Billinghay Forge.

Glassumimass is a creative glass project initiated by artsNK and led by Marion Sander. www.facebook.com/Glassumimass
The creative tension between accomplished skill, experimentation and the development of new ideas provides the starting point for the latest exhibition from The 62 Group of Textile Artists. Taking shifts and changes as its theme; the exhibition is particularly centered on artists whose practice is or has transformed, especially towards expressions of innovation in textile art. These shifts include the introduction of new materials and techniques and the impact of innovative and contemporary themes and ideas.

Ctrl/Shift comprises over 30 artworks by 25 artists with the concept developed in partnership with the 62 Group and independent curator Liz Cooper.

An exhibition from The 62 Group of Textile Artists, produced in partnership with Midlands Art Centre Birmingham.

Jilly Edwards' tapestries use combinations of cotton, wool and linen yarns. She is particularly known for her upbeat use of yellow. Jilly says while her surroundings are the starting point for her work, 'It's more the thoughts and memories that these places evoke, not the initial representation but my response.'

The tapestries in the exhibition are particularly inspired by glimpses and memories of journeys from Exeter to Edinburgh and to East Anglia, through diverse terrain and especially the colours of the oilseed rape.

'My work is about the surface, its depth, its construction, the quiet, crisp whites, the dense warm yellow, sensuous dark soil with lozenge shaped stone walls with bright yellow lichen patches. The spaces are important, as are the gaps between.'
Our sister organisation Design-Nation partners each year with New Designers and The Design Trust to select the winners of the One Year In feature at New Designers. In 2018 these impressive emerging talents were graphic designer Lucy Grainge, whose work is shaped by her experience of living with dyslexia as both educational resource and support for others; and Majeda Clarke, a weaver who combines dual heritage aspects of her family to create textiles showing both Bengali and Welsh influences.

Originally commissioned by The Collection, Lincoln, Woolly Spires was a county-wide project managed by artsNK. It took its inspiration from the fact that many of Lincolnshire’s churches were funded by wealthy landowners who made their fortune, literally, on the backs of the county’s iconic breed of sheep, the Lincoln Long Wool.

Over 8 years, artsNK brought together community groups across Lincolnshire to create amazingly detailed, knitted versions of their local churches displayed as scaled down models, using the wool of the Lincoln Long Wool sheep.
Join us for a special advent weekend of quality craft, seasonal food & drink, entertainment, lots of family friendly activities, workshops and demonstrations.

CONTEMPORARY CHRISTMAS MARKET
Sat 8 & Sun 9 Dec 2018
10am–4pm
Free entry, everyone welcome

Gifted

Education Offer
Calling all schools, colleges and universities!

We offer education packages linked to the themes of our exhibitions to inspire a creative learning experience at NCCD. Take part in a ‘Tour & Draw’ or learn new skills in an artist-led workshop! We can tailor your visit to meet specific curriculum needs and we support students to achieve Bronze, Silver and Gold Arts Award.

Tour & Draw
Join NCCD’s visitor experience team for a tour and draw session of the exhibition. £2 per head for 1.5-hour session, up to 30 pupils all KS

Workshops
Each season we offer special educational workshops linked to our Main Gallery exhibition. We like to tailor these to the requirements of the group we are working with. If you would like to discuss a workshop opportunity relating to Art of Glass or Ctrl/Shift please contact us on the details below to discuss our offers. Prices vary, max 30 pupils

To book one of our education offers, please call 01529 308 710 or email learning@nccd.org.uk
Or visit nccd.org.uk/education
Workshops & Courses

Life Drawing with Martyn Blundell
Sat 1 Dec, 12 Jan, 2 Feb, 2 Mar, 10am–3pm
These popular classes are suitable for all abilities and you’ll learn a variety of drawing techniques, allowing you to develop your own artistic practice.
£30, 16yrs+, please book, paper provided, please bring your own drawing implements

Mosaic Workshop
Fri 25 Jan, 10am–3pm
Join Janet Schooley, for a mosaic workshop inspired by Cogglesford Mill and the new artworks recently commissioned as part of Heritage open days.
Free, 16yrs+, please book

Silversmithing Saturdays with Andrew Poole
Sat 26 Jan*, 23 Feb, 23 Mar, 10am–4pm
You’ll learn specialist silversmithing techniques including soldering, sawing, hammering, joining, polishing and finishing. Work on your own project or tasks set by the tutor.
£35, 18yrs+, please book, basic materials included, silver available to purchase on the day, *experienced participants only
Seasonal Workshops

Textiles

White Rabbits or Mad March Hares!
Fri 14 Dec, 10am–12.30pm
Create your very own glass Christmas Trees. Learn cutting skills and the processes required to make a 3D tree as well as 2D trees, which can be hung as decorations.
£45, 14yrs+, please book, all materials included, suitable for all abilities

Kiln Carving Glass
Sat 12 Jan, 10.30am–4pm
Designing shapes and patterns to form the glass, explore ways to create depth in glass and different light changes. Get inspired by artworks in our glass exhibitions, create your own designs or use the templates provided.
£75, 14yrs+, please book, all materials included, suitable for all abilities

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£75, 14yrs+, please book, all materials included, suitable for all abilities

Introduction to Glass Casting
Sat 19 and Sun 20 Jan, 10.30am–3.30pm
Lincolnshire-based glass artist Liz Pearson leads this relaxed two-day workshop exploring different casting methods for producing glass artworks. Participants will learn how to create surface texture in glass using casting and slumping techniques.
£125, 18yrs+, please book, all materials and equipment included, suitable for all abilities

Disrupting Printed Cloth
Sat 30 Mar, 10.30am–4pm
Inspired by the stitched handkerchiefs in Ctrl/Shift, work with textiles tutor Jane McKeating to experiment with hand stitch and embroidery to create new details on printed cloth. Personalise something treasured and give it a whole new meaning.
£45, 18yrs+, please book, materials included, bring your own special cloth if preferred, or work with fabric supplied by the tutor

Image: Handkerchief, Jane McKeating

Glass

Fused Glass Christmas Trees
Fri 14 Dec, 10am–12.30pm
Create your very own glass Christmas Trees. Learn cutting skills and the processes required to make a 3D tree as well as 2D trees, which can be hung as decorations.
£45, 14yrs+, please book, all materials included, suitable for all abilities

Fused Glass Christmas Decorations
Fri 14 Dec, 1.30–4pm
Make your own festive decorations using glass fusing decorative techniques. Design your own or follow some great patterns ready for you to create.
£45, 14yrs+, please book, all materials included, suitable for all abilities

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Family Workshops

Tots Tuesdays!
Every Tue, 10am–12 noon*
Children are our special guests on Tuesday mornings. Come and have a go at activities inspired by our exhibitions without worrying about how much noise and mess is made!
Free, drop-in session
*Except during Main Gallery changeovers

Exhibition Activity Zone
Every day, 10am–5pm*
Drop into our Main Gallery anytime and enjoy free family-friendly fun activities linked to our exhibitions programme.
Free, drop-in
*Except during Main Gallery changeovers

February Half-Term Family Workshop
Tue 19 Feb, 10am–2pm
Create your very own artworks inspired by the artists in Ctrl/Shift in our popular half-term family workshop!
Free (Suggested donation £1 per child), drop-in session

Artists, Designers & Makers

Portfolio Reviews
Fri 7 Dec, 11 Jan, 8 Feb, 8 Mar, 1–5pm
Book a 45-minute one-to-one session with one of our resident craft and design experts from Design-Nation.
Free, 18yrs+, please book

Diversity Training: Tackling Inclusivity for the Hidden and Hard to Reach in the Arts
Fri 14 Dec 10am–2pm
This course is designed for artists and practitioners, who interact with the general public, to better understand diversity and support it in their work.
Delivered by Annamarie Burgess in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council and The People’s Partnership; funded by ACE.
£10, lunch included, please book
Dance at NCCD

Dance at NCCD (artsNK) deliver high quality dance classes and projects to schools and groups of all ages at venues and events across Lincolnshire. If you’re interested in finding out more about our dance outreach programme, please contact dance@nccd.org.uk

For more information or to book a class, visit www.nccd.org.uk or email dance@nccd.org.uk

Local Groups

Friendship Hub
Thu 17 Jan, 21 Feb, 21 Mar, 1–3pm
These creative activity sessions are open to everyone, including those feeling isolated or living with conditions such as Parkinson’s or Dementia and their carers. Free, drop-in session, refreshments provided, suitable for all abilities

Unplugged / Hub Writers
Every first Tue of the month, 6.30–9pm
NCCD is brought to life every first Tuesday of the month with a potent mix of local musicians and writers. Free, everyone welcome

The Nettles Volunteer Group
A local voluntary group that meets monthly to maintain The Nettles, a natural outdoor space situated along the river Slea next to Sleaford Leisure Centre, is on the lookout for more volunteers. For more details please visit: www.facebook.com/NettlesVolunteerGroup/

MosArt
Are you interested in learning or developing skills in mosaic art? MosArt are currently working on various public art projects around Sleaford. The group meets fortnightly on a Saturday at NCCD. For more information please contact lucy.lumb@lincsinspire.com

Pottery Club
Fortnightly on Wed, 1.30–3.30pm
Participants can learn a range of hand crafted ceramic techniques and design and create their own pottery pieces. This local pottery club is suitable for beginners as well as more experienced ceramic enthusiasts. £5/£3.50 concessions, to book contact lucy.lumb@lincsinspire.com

Dance for Parkinson’s
Mon 11am–12 noon (Term time only)
NCCD’s Dance for Parkinson’s is a weekly movement class focussing on posture, strength, co-ordination and balance in a relaxed, fun and creative environment. Suitable for people living with Parkinson’s along with their family and carers. Free, please book, refreshments provided, suitable for all abilities
Shop

Find something you love and love something you find in our curated shop of handmade contemporary craft, art supplies, magazines and books.

Our experienced team is on hand to help you choose something special and can also help you commission bespoke items.

Eat

Our café serves a locally produced seasonal menu of good homemade food and is a great place to meet up with friends and family or hold a business meeting.

Open 10am–4pm daily

Hot food is served from 10am–3pm

Come along and enjoy a game of Scrabble every Thu & Sun from 2–4pm.

Shop Demonstrations

Come and meet the makers behind some of our beautiful shop products and learn more about their influences and techniques.

All demonstrations are free, drop-in sessions

Laura Mabbutt
Sat 19 Jan, 11am–3pm
Felt artist Laura Mabbutt will be showcasing new work and methods developed during her MA study.

Lucy Elisabeth
Sat 9 Feb, 11am–3pm
Watch Lucy create some of her wonderful three-dimensional sculptural illustrations using wire.

Karen Atherley
Sat 16 Mar, 11am–3pm
Karen will be showing how she decorates her beautifully colourful ceramics.
Visit Us

How to find us: NCCD is located in the centre of Sleaford on Navigation Wharf. We are accessible from all major transport routes.

By Car: The A15 and A17 routes pass directly through Sleaford linking to the A1 within 20 minutes. If you are travelling by car, please use NG34 7DW for sat navs and follow the brown signs which are displayed on all approaches to the town. Eastgate car park is directly adjacent to NCCD. Parking Charges: Mon–Sat first hour free then £1.50 for 1–3 hours and £3.50 all day. Sunday and bank holidays are free. Disabled spaces are available.

By Train: We are a 5-minute walk from Sleaford train station.

By Bus: Sleaford is locally serviced by Centrebus and Stagecoach. National Express coaches service Sleaford from other major locations.

Contact us

The National Centre for Craft & Design
Navigation Wharf, Carre Street
Sleaford, Lincolnshire NG34 7TW
+44 (0) 1529 308710
info@nccd.org.uk
www.nccd.org.uk

Opening times

We are open from 10am to 5pm* every day except Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day. *NCCD closes at 4pm on bank holidays.

Admission

Admission to NCCD is free. Charges apply for some workshops and events. We accept all major credit and debit cards, cheques and cash.

Group and Educational visits

We warmly welcome everyone to explore NCCD and can offer accessible tours of our exhibitions that are tailored to meet the needs of individuals and groups.

We also offer an education programme to extend the national curriculum offering tours, talks and practical workshops to stimulate, challenge and build confidence amongst children, young people, teachers and educators.

If you would like to plan a group or educational visit to NCCD, please contact learning@nccd.org.uk

Support Us

Access to our exhibitions and special events is FREE and open to everyone. NCCD must raise funds to keep these free and to deliver its internationally-renowned programme of great craft and design.

There are lots of ways to support NCCD be it through donations, sponsorships or volunteer time.

If you would like to support NCCD, please get in touch with info@nccd.org.uk

We are extremely grateful to all our supporters.

Accessibility

We endeavour to be fully accessible but please ask a member of staff if you require assistance. NCCD is wheelchair and buggy friendly. The building and facilities are fully accessible on all levels and there is lift access to upper floors. Mobility buggies are available on request.

Facilities

Riverside Café, toilets, accessible toilets and baby changing.

LOV

We are a Lincolnshire One Venue. LOV is a network of arts venues across Lincolnshire, which are working together to bring the county's residents the very best in arts and culture and to create a range of exciting activities and events for and by young people.

Mailing list

Sign up on our website to join our free mailing list and be the first to hear about our exhibitions, activities and news.
The National Centre for Craft & Design is managed and funded by North Kesteven District Council and is a National Portfolio Organisation of Arts Council England. The Centre is operated by Lincs Inspire Limited who works to develop and deliver high quality arts, cultural and leisure services across the district of North Kesteven and beyond.