

Helen Beard

Helen Beard studied Ceramics at Edinburgh College of Art and continued her training under the supervision of Edmund de Waal. He taught her to throw on the wheel and introduced her to porcelain; she is still using the same clay today.

She now works from her busy Clerkenwell studio where she makes, draws, designs and sometimes teaches. A love of the local area inspires much of her work. There are all sorts of characters who crop up again and again on her pots, from swimmers at Ironmonger Row baths to market traders at Smithfield market.

Beard likes to come up with new ideas for each of her shows, varying the themes around different places that have struck a chord with her. By grouping her pots together she tells a story - creating whimsical scenes that capture the insignificant yet precious moments that make up our daily lives.

Her one of a kind ceramics, individually thrown on the wheel and hand painted, are made for exhibitions and commissions. She often collaborates with private clients, luxury retailers, galleries and museums; for example recent commissions include designing and making a bespoke range of porcelain for Fortnum and Mason and The National Gallery.

Education

Apprenticeship with Studio Potter, Edmund de Waal

1st class BA Design and Applied Arts: Ceramics, Edinburgh College of Art

Distinction B-tec Foundation Studies in Art and Design, Liverpool Art School (IJMU)

Awards

Crafted Mentee, Arts & Business and Walpole initiative sponsored by American Express - 2009

Evening Standard, Homes and Property Award for Best Domestic Design - 2007

UK Trade and Investment Award for Export, finalist - 2006

Crafts Council Development Award - 2005

Winston Churchill Memorial Trust Travel Fellowship: awarded for international study of ceramics - 2003

Sidney Myer International Ceramic Awards, short-listed (Australia) - 2002

Andrew Grant Bequest, awarded scholarship for post graduate studies, Edinburgh College of Art - 2001

Helen A. Rose bequest for distinctive work, Edinburgh College of Art - 2001

Selected Exhibitions

Ceramic Art London - 2015

Origin, London -, 2010

Fortnum and Mason, London - 2009

SOFA New York - 2009

Collect, London - 2008

Selected Publications

Making and Drawing' Kyra Cane, A & C Black Publishers Ltd - 2012

Selected Collections

2008 Brighton and Hove Museum

Edinburgh Museum and galleries, Scotland

2006 London Southwark Council (Permanent Collection)

Broughton Gallery Biggar, Scotland

2003 Donna Karan New York

Egg London

2002 Wigglesworth Architects London

2001 Betty Davies Scottish Fashion International Edinburgh