

PROFESSOR NORMAN CHERRY *PhD, DA, MCSD, FRSA, CRODCP CF*

Norman Cherry has had a long and satisfying career, much of it spent combining the roles of educator, consultant, curator, and maker. His work has always been very much about materiality, the joy of the haptic process experienced through the exploration of materials and processes, very much informed by thorough historical, technical and visual research via the sheer sensuous experience of drawing.

As an occasional beachcomber, Norman finds joy in seeing uses for other people's detritus and often collect small bits of flotsam and jetsam. Covid-19 and the two lockdown periods focussed him very much on creating work which did not involve the purchase of new materials, especially precious metals, and out of this came the "felted" works which have utilised some of the beachcombing (mainly fragments of fishermen's nets) and household lint collected from his clothes dryer.

Most recently Norman has used other beachcombing to creating the fanciful Gift of the Sea: Pseudoeryngium Normanii for the Through the Garden Gate exhibition in Shanghai. The set of personal alarms for the touring exhibition Swords into Ploughshares: Knives into Jewels, of which he is a co-curator, utilises old domestic knives which have been repurposed as working personal alarms which can be blown into in order to emit a piercing shriek.

EDUCATION

Glasgow School of ArtDA
Birmingham City UniversityPhD

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

1976 Professional Member, Chartered Society of Designers

1993 Elected Professional Member, Visual Arts Scotland

1996 Fellow of The Royal Society of Arts

CAREER TO DATE

1970-1971 Assistant to Louis Osman, architect and goldsmith, Canons Ashby, Northants.

1971- Designer / goldsmith / jewellery artist, Kelso, Scotland

1974-1986 Proprietor, Woodmarket Gallery, Kelso, Scotland

1978-1984 Part-time Lecturer, Scottish College of Textiles, Galashiels

1983 Temporary Part-time Lecturer, Edinburgh College of Art, Scotland

1984-1985 Associate Lecturer, University of Northumbria, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

1985-1989 Principal Lecturer, Course Leader, BA (Hons) Three Dimensional Design, University of Northumbria, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

1989-1996 Principal Lecturer, Head of Division of Three Dimensional and Environmental Design, University of Northumbria, Newcastle-upon-Tyne

1996-2008 Professor, Head of School of Jewellery, Birmingham City University

2008-2011 Dean of Faculty of Art, Architecture and Design, University of Lincoln

2009-2015 Visiting Professor, Queensland College of Art & Design, Griffith University, Brisbane, Australia.
2011- 2014 Pro Vice Chancellor, Head of the College of Arts, University of Lincoln
2014- Independent Consultant, Curator, Artist, Writer, Birmingham
2014-2015 Interim Chair, Primary artists studios, Nottingham
2015- Visiting Professor, Nanjing University of the Arts, China
2018-2020 Special Consulting Professor, Shanghai Academy of Fine Art, Shanghai University

Exhibition Curation

1999 "Making Connections", see Group Exhibitions.
1999 "From the Centre to the Edge", Institute of Contemporary Art, Portland, Maine, USA, see Group Exhibitions.
2004 "exempli gratia", Group Exhibition, see Group Exhibitions.
2007-2008 "Masters and Protégés", an exhibition of British contemporary jewellery artist/educators and selected graduates, shown in Itami and Tokyo, Japan in March and April 2008. Grants to the value of £6500 towards this project were awarded by the Daiwa and Sasakawa Foundations.
2009- Curator of "Transplantation", an exhibition of British and Australian narrative jewellery touring Australia and Britain from February 2011 to August 2015. Funding worth £60k was awarded by Arts Council England.
2016 Co-curator of "The Other Mountain" touring exhibition of contemporary jewellery from China.
2017 Co-curator of "New Jewellery from China", Gallery Funaki, Melbourne, Radiant Pavilion Jewellery Biennial.
2023 Co-curator, "Through the Garden Gate", exhibition of jewellery on the theme of the garden by 40 UK, European, and Chinese artists.
2023-2026 Co-curator of "Swords into Ploughshares: Knives into Jewels", touring exhibition of repurposed knives by 34 UK and international artists around the theme of knife crime.

Solo Exhibitions

1990 Courtyard Gallery, Cheltenham
1992 Open Eye Gallery, Edinburgh

With Published Catalogue

1994 Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
1998 Roger Billcliffe Fine Art, Glasgow
2000 "Beyond the Wire", Galeri Hipotesi, Barcelona, Spain
2005 "The Space Within", Galeri Hipotesi, Barcelona, Spain
2007 "Deconstruction - Reconstruction", Galeri Shibuichi, Oporto, Portugal
2008 "Isomorphs", Galeri Hipotesi, Barcelona, Spain
2009 "Isomorphs - New Mutations", Alternatives Gallery for Contemporary Art, Rome, Italy
2010 "Morphism", Galeria Sztuki, Legnica, Poland

2011 "Transformations", China Academy of Art, Hangzhou, China

Selected Group Exhibitions

- 1973 "Eight Scottish Jewellers", Scottish Crafts Centre, Edinburgh
1983 Goldsmiths' Fair, Goldsmiths' Hall, London
1984 " " "
1984 Society of North American Goldsmiths' Conference Platinum Design
Finalists, New York
1985 "Dazzle", Manchester, Edinburgh, Bath, London
1986 " " "
1987 " " "
1988 " " "
1987 "Jewellery in Precious Metals", Design Council, London
1989 "Los Britanicos", Espai Positura, Barcelona
1991 "Timepieces", Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh

With Published Catalogue

- 1971 "Scottish Crafts", Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh Festival
1977 "Important Scottish Silver 1953-1977", Huntly House Museum, Edinburgh
1976 "Loot", Goldsmiths' Hall, London
1977 " " "
1978 " " "
1979 " " "
1980 " " "
1993 Scottish Artists and Artist Craftsmen Annual Exhibition, Royal Scottish
Academy, Edinburgh
1994 " " "
1995 " " "
1996 " " "
1997 " " "
1998 Best of the British, Facère Gallery, Seattle, USA, in conjunction with Lesley
Craze Gallery, London
1999 "Making Connections", Sammas Galerii, Tallinn, Estonia
1999 "Making Connections", Shanghai Library, Shanghai, China
1999 "From the Centre to the Edge", Institute of Contemporary Art, Portland,
Maine, USA
2000 "Diverse Routes", Electrum Gallery, London
2001 "Beyond Materials", Silkaporn University, Bangkok, Thailand
2002 "B1 3PA", Metallum Galleri, Stockholm, Sweden
2004 "exempli gratia", Facère Gallery, Seattle, USA
2005 "Praxis", Appalachian Craft Center, Smithville, Tennessee, USA
2011 Visual Arts Scotland Annual Exhibition, Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh
2012 " " " " " " " " " " "
2012 "Material Value", Teesside University, Middlesbrough
2012-13 "Domestic Renewal" a re-examination of the domestic table setting,
curated by Dr Rohan Nicol, ANU, Canberra.

- 2012-2013 "Unexpected Pleasures", Melbourne, National Gallery Victoria, Melbourne and Design Museum, London
- 2012-2014 "Made in the Middle", invited artist, national touring exhibition
- 2012-2014 "Transplantation", international touring exhibition
- 2013 "Stories and Symbols", Facere Jewelry Art Gallery, Seattle, USA
- 2014 "Thirty Years", Lesley Craze Gallery, London
- 2018 Annual Festival of Silver, Galeria Sztuki, Legnica, Poland
- 2020 Annual Exhibition, Visual Arts Scotland, online.
- 2021 "Cold Sweat", Museu Sao Roque, Lisbon

Public Collections

- 1971 King's Own Scottish Borderers
- 1984 Dundee Museum and Art Gallery
- 1987 Borders Regional Council
- 1992 Scottish Crafts Collection, National Museums of Scotland
- 1992 Tennessee Technological University
- 2000 Contemporary Jewellery Collection, National Museums of Scotland
- 2002 Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery
- 2008 British Museum
- 2011 Galeria Sztuki, Legnica, Poland
- 2012 Museum of Nanjing University of the Arts
- 2015 Mint Museum, Charlotte, North Carolina, USA
- 2018 Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences, Sydney, Australia

Selected Commissions

- 1973 Silver table centerpiece: King's Own Scottish Borders Regiment.
- 1974 Set of twelve silver candleholders and snuffer: Corporation of the City of Dundee.
- 1977 Silver chalice and paten: St Mary's Bishophill Junior, York
- 1977 Silver chalice and paten: Archbishop Holgate's Grammar School, York
- 1984 Enamelled silver badge of office: Royal College of General Practitioners, Scotland.
- 1997 Silver freedom casket for Sir Simon Rattle: City of Birmingham.
- 1998 Enamelled silver badge of office: Association of Town and Country Planning Officers.
- 2006 Silver crozier, pectoral cross, and episcopal ring: Bishop of Lynn, later Rochester.
- 2009 Silver and rosewood processional staves: University of Lincoln
- 2009 Silver Chancellor's Medal: University of Lincoln

HONOURS AND AWARDS

- 1971 Crafts Consultative Committee (Scotland) setting up grant
- 1972 Saltire Society John Noble Craft Award

- 1983 Sir Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship to study with Profs
Arline Fisch and Mary Lee Hu in USA
- 1983 Grand Prize, Society of North American Goldsmiths Platinum
Design Competition
- 1984 1st Prize, Jewellery, Incorporation of Goldsmiths of the City of
Edinburgh National Design Competition
- 1993 Betty Davies Award for Jewellery, Scottish Artists and Artist
Craftsmen
- 2001 Comendador (Commander) de Real Ordinem de Dom Carlos
Primera, Portugal
- 2003 Applied Arts Award, Visual Arts Scotland