

Jane Adam

Jane Adam's jewellery explores female sensuality, both in the nature of the forms themselves and in the way they feel when worn. Her most profound relationship as a maker is with the wearer of her jewellery.

Adam works with her materials, both precious metals and anodised aluminium, pushing them to find out what they will do. She sets out conditions so that materials behave in a certain way, applying techniques of texturing and forming, exploring and exploiting their particular properties. This approach gives her work an organic quality, which relates to natural forms and to the way they change and grow.

Adam has worked with anodised aluminium for thirty five years. With this everyday material, she creates pieces where soft marks in subtle colours exist on a shimmery, iridescent surface. Her original processes of dyeing, mark-making, texturing and forming have inspired many other jewellers. She delights in the weight and substance of these pieces and the inherent beauty of the metals.

Education

MA Metalwork and Jewellery, Royal College of Art, London, 1982
BA (Hons) 3D Design, Manchester Polytechnic, 1978

Selected Exhibitions

The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh, 1999
'Jane Adam Jewellery', Ruthin Craft Centre, Wales & British tour, 1999
Arai Gallery, Tokyo, Japan, 2000
Noroeste, Santiago de Compostela, Spain, 2001

The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh, 2004
Patina Gallery, Santa Fe, USA, 2006
The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh Contemporary Applied Arts
(showcase), 2009
Electrum Gallery, London (showcase) Gallery CAJ, Kyoto, Japan,
2010
'Jane Adam - Beyond the Surface', The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh,
2013
'Jane Adam- Duality', The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh, 2018
'Never the Same River', Bluecoat Display Centre, Liverpool, 2019
'Never the Same River', Ruthin Craft Centre, Ruthin, Denbighshire,
2020
Collect 2025 with CAA, Somerset House, 2025

Selected Awards

RCA Major Travelling Scholarship (to India), 1985
RCA Allen Lane Penguin Book Prize, 1985
Crafts Council Setting Up Grant, 1985
Visual Production Award, Greater London Arts, 1991
Research awards, University of Central England, 1997
Shortlisted for Jerwood Prize for Applied Arts (Jewellery), 2000
ACJ Origin Prize, 2010