

J Kay Aplin

75 Stanmer Villas Brighton BN1 7HN
+44 (0)7803161313 kayaplin@gmail.com
www.kayaplin.com www.theceramichouse.co.uk

Blogs

In A Shetland Landscape 2015 www.a-n.co.uk/blogs/shetland-project-with-j-kay-aplin
UK-Denmark ceramics exchange project 2014 www.a-n.co.uk/link/KayAplin-Denmark
Create Play Contemplate commission 2010 www.a-n.co.uk/link/KayAplin-Shetland

Profile

I am a ceramic artist with over 20 years' experience creating site-specific work predominantly for the public realm. I have undertaken numerous commissions around the UK and internationally, producing a distinct range of art works that have stood the tests of weather and time. In recent years, I have been developing large-scale installation-based work for exhibitions, resulting from various residencies.

Since 2011, I have been curating international exhibitions of contemporary ceramics at **The Ceramic House**, my home and a living showcase of my work. In 2013 it was voted Best Open House (Brighton Festival) and its reputation as a specialist gallery showing excellence in ceramic art in a unique domestic context is growing year on year. www.theceramichouse.co.uk

Education

1992-95 BA (Hons) Public Art and Design, Chelsea College of Art, London
1989-90 Foundation course in art/design, Central Saint Martins College of Art

Curating

2015 DARK/LIGHT, black and white contemporary ceramics, The Ceramic House
2014 FANTASTIC TALES, Danish Contemporary Ceramics, The Ceramic House
2013 The Ceramic House 2013, featuring 21 international artists
2012 The Ceramic House 2012
2011 Public Art in a Private Place, The Ceramic House, featuring Brighton Festival HOUSE commission Base Sound::Sonic Gold, co-curated with sound artist Joseph Young

Selected Exhibitions

2016 In A Shetland Landscape, Shetland Museum and Archives, UK, in collaboration with sound artist Joseph Young
2015 DARK/LIGHT, The Ceramic House, Brighton, UK
2014 Elit-Tile Triennial, Dominican Republic
2014 Botanical Structures IV (solo show), Rønne Library, European Ceramic Context, Denmark
2014 AOH Open (Botanical Structures II), Regency Town House, Brighton, UK
2014 Fantastic Tales, The Ceramic House, Brighton, UK
2013 The Clay, Albrectsens Galleri, Copenhagen, Denmark
2013 The Ceramic House 2013, Brighton, UK
2012 Wicked Love, Red Red Shoes Contemporary Art Gallery, London, UK
2012 The Ceramic House 2012, Brighton, UK
2011 Twisted, Phoenix Brighton, UK
2011 Public Art in a Private Place, The Ceramic House, Brighton, UK
2010 Another Dimension, Brooke Gallery, Budleigh Salterton, UK

Public art Commissions

I specialise in architectural ceramics and my designs are situated in a variety of urban and rural locations, such as parks, gardens, playgrounds, hospitals, schools and town centres. My work involves collaborating with design teams, public bodies, architects, contractors and landscape architects, and leading consultation processes with communities. Clients include 10 local authorities, 3 NHS Trusts, 10 foundations, 15 festivals and approximately 40 schools.

- 2015 **Tilery Courtyard redevelopment, Stockton-on-Tees. Commissioner: Groundwork.**
Ceramic panels for gateways and sculptural seating for five courtyards in housing estate.
- 2014 **Amphill Heights, Bedfordshire. Commissioner: Central Bedfordshire Council**
Concrete/mosaic sculptural seating and interactive play sculptures for housing estate.
- 2010 **Canals for the Community, Stoke on Trent. Commissioner: British Waterways**
Create Play Contemplate, Olnafirth Primary School. Commissioner: Shetland Islands Council. Sculptural play structures for garden. Project blog: www.a-n.co.uk/link/KayAplin-Shetland
- 2008-9 **Llanbradach Follies, South Wales. Commissioner: Caerphilly County Borough Council.** Two 5m high towers with metal/concrete construction clad with stone and over 2000 handmade relief ceramic tiles. news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/8414464.stm
- 2007-9 **Cawdor Court, Bolton. Commissioner: Bolton at Home**
Designed landscaping and children's play area for housing estate. Mosaic/tarmac floorscapes, mosaic/concrete play structures, metalwork.
- 2007 **Gorebridge Community Development Trust, Midlothian.**
Concrete relief plaques for a new care centre.
- 2004-5 **Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership Trust. Commissioner: Willis Newson.**
Internally lit ceramic water feature and wall mounted relief panels for three external courtyards, Blackberry Hill Hospital, Bristol.
- 2003-4 **Gorseinon Regeneration Scheme, South Wales. Commissioner: Cwyaith Cymru.**
Ceramic sculpture and wall mounted reliefs for corridor regeneration between road and Penyrheol Secondary School, Gorseinon.
- 2003 **Lead artist, "Community Gateways". Commissioner: Caerphilly County Borough Council.** Ceramic sculptures/floorscapes for gateways into Bargoed Woodland Park.

Participatory Commissions (selected)

Community involvement is integral to my approach to public commissions. I have worked with groups of all ages and abilities and in recent years have been commissioned by **Historic Royal Palaces** to run several projects.

- 2012 **Kensington Palace. Jubilee Plates project. Commissioner: HRP**
Creating artwork for **Jubilee – A View from the Crowd** exhibition
- 2011 **Common Sounds – Touching the Void. Commissioner: Fruit for the Apocalypse**
Queen's HEAD of Commonwealth exhibition, Commonwealth Institute
Kensington Palace. Royal Wedding Commemorative project. Commissioner: HRP
Ceramic doves for **Enchanted Palace** exhibition in Kensington Palace and presented to Prince William and Kate Middleton for their wedding.
Kensington Palace. Blue and White China project. Commissioner: HRP
Tea service project inspired by Queen Mary II's porcelain collection.
- 2009-11 **Hampton Court Palace. Tudor Plaques for palace gardens. Commissioner: HRP**
Ceramic bosses based on Tudor symbolism.
- 2009 **St Michael's School, Herefordshire. Commissioner: Creative Partnerships**
Ceramic relief for playground.
- 2008 **Wellingborough Artist in residence, Northamptonshire. Commissioner: Northamptonshire County Council** Wall-based mosaic frieze.

- 2003 **Clissold Leisure Centre, Stoke Newington, London. Commissioner: Creative Partnerships** Ceramic relief and mosaic installations.
- 2001 **Wooden Spoon House, London. Commissioner: Community Health South London NHS Trust.** Ceramic/mosaic panels for building façade.
- 2001 **Teviot Community Centre, Poplar, London. Commissioner: Magic Me** Architectural glass panels in community café.

Private Commissions

- 2016 Botanical Structures wall relief for private garden, **London**
- 2016 Decorative ceramic gateway for private home, **Devon, UK**
- 2015 Bespoke tiled kitchen, private home, **Berlin, Germany**
- 2015 Ceramic feature entranceway for private house, **El Llanu, Asturias, Spain**
- 2015 Botanical Structures panels for private conservatory, **Devon, UK**
- 2014 Bespoke tiled kitchen, private home, **Brighton, UK**
- 2013 Botanical Structures wall relief for private conservatory, **Brighton, UK**
- 2012 Ceramic feature fireplace surround for private home, **Devon, UK**
- 2012 Ceramic wall relief for private garden, **Lewes, UK**

Grants and Awards

- 2014 a-n New Collaborations bursary to research Shetland ceramics and sound exhibition
- 2014 Grants for the Arts, ACE, Contemporary Ceramics Exchange Denmark/Brighton
- 2013 Best Artists Open House Award, Brighton Festival
- 2004 Leonardo EC award, La Escuela des Artes Aplicadas y Oficios, Pamplona, Spain
- 2003 Baring Foundation grant
- Pool of London Partnership grant
- 2002 Cross River Partnership grant
- Paul Hamlyn Foundation grant
- Westminster City Arts Council "Arts in the Community Award"
- 2000 Southwark Council Millennium Grant
- Westminster City Arts Council "Arts in the Community Award"
- 1997 Princes Trust Grant for residency in Copenhagen
- 1994 EC Erasmus award, Barcelona University

Employment

- 2014 **Ceramics tutor, Charleston Trust, UK**
Teaching press-moulding, transfer printing to adults
- 2010-14 **Ceramics tutor, Phoenix Brighton, UK**
Teaching press-moulding, mosaic, transfer printing to adults
- 2006-7 **Quiche, Guatemala. Artcorps artist in residence with Riecken Foundation**
ArtCorps places professional artists with Central American organizations to creatively communicate social messages through art. Residency in library for nine months implementing projects, workshops and training, locally, nationally and internationally.
- 2002 **Art animateur, City of London Festival**
Coordinated education/outreach work. Facilitated workshops and collaborated with cross-disciplinary artists for event at St Paul's Cathedral.
- 2001-2 **Education Animateur, Stoke Newington Festival**
Devised multi-faceted arts projects. Facilitated workshops, managed literary event. Commissioned artists, coordinated training scheme, produced publications and website.
- 1997-99 **Lavuk Youth Club / Laerkevej Day Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark**
Implemented visual arts programmes for people with disabilities. Facilitated workshops, training and curated exhibitions. Established cultural exchange with Shandong Institute, China, culminating in an international touring exhibition.

Residencies

- 2015 WASPS residency at Scalloway Booth, Shetland with sound artist Joseph Young researching In A Shetland Landscape, a sound and ceramics collaboration
2014 Guldagergaard, Denmark, making work for UK and Danish exhibitions
2013 Guldagergaard, Denmark, researching and designing new work

Publications, magazines and articles (selected)

- 2015 Mr Partner, Japan
Homes and Gardens, UK
Ceramic Review, UK
Art in Brighton 2015
2014 Bornholms Tidende, Denmark
Pretty Nostalgic
Ceramic Review, UK
Crafts Magazine, UK
Absolute Magazine, UK
Latest Magazine, UK
Glazed Expressions, TACS magazine, UK
Arterritory, online
Culture 24, online
Culture Nordic, online
2013 BBC Homes and Antiques, UK
Sussex Life, UK
Sussex Society, UK
A Magazine, Sydney, Australia
2012 Etc Magazine, UK
Ceramic Review, UK
Crafts Magazine, UK
The Argus Magazine, UK
Arty Magazine, UK
2011 Viva Lewes
2009 BBC feature
ITV news feature
Arts Wales
News Wales
Walesonline
Caerphilly Observer
2009 Bolton at Home
2008 Wellingborough Artist in residence
2006 Artcorps, Guatemala
2003 Community Gateways, Bargoed