

J Kay Aplin

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Blogs

Made in Korea 2016-17 www.a-n.co.uk/blogs/made-in-korea

In A Shetland Landscape 2015 <http://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

Unravelling Shetland public art 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

My current project **Made In Korea** is the most ambitious project to date at The Ceramic House. Following an ACE funded research trip to Korea, an exchange project between Korea and the UK involves an exhibition for 15 Korean ceramists at The Ceramic House, touring to Sladmore Contemporary, and a residency programme for Korean ceramists to create work for British Ceramics Biennial together with a new installation of my work inspired by my experience of visiting Korea. Echoes platform will provide geo-locative sound to accompany the exhibitions involving Korean and UK based sound artists. The final part of the project involves an exhibition of my work and performances by UK and Korean sound artists At Mullae Art Factory, Seoul.

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

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, housing estates 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.

2016 **Land off Bedford Road public art commission, Houghton Regis.** Commissioner: Taylor Wimpey. Currently in development.

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 Care Home.** 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 (HRP)** 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

- 2017 Ceramic fireplace surround, **London, UK**
- 2016 Relief tile panels for kitchen, **Copenhagen, Denmark**
- 2016 Botanical Structures wall relief for private garden, **London, UK**
- 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, **Brighton, UK**
- 2012 Ceramic wall relief for private garden, **Lewes, UK**

Curating

- 2017 Made in Korea, The Ceramic House, transferring to Sladmore Contemporary
- 2016 In A Shetland Landscape (touring version), In Camera Gallery, Guildhall Museum, Rochester, Dover Arts Development Project Space
- 2016 Landscape : Islands International Residency Exhibition, collaborations by two pairs of ceramic and sound artists, Phoenix Brighton, Brighton Digital Festival
- 2016 Landscape : Islands, an exploration into ceramics and sound, The Ceramic House
- 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

Solo Exhibitions

- 2017 Mullae Arts Factory, Seoul, South Korea
- 2017 British Ceramic Biennial, Stoke-on-Trent, UK
- 2017 Charleston, Sussex, UK
- 2016 In A Shetland Landscape, Shetland Museum and Archives, UK, in collaboration with sound artist Joseph Young, touring to In Camera Gallery Brighton, Guildhall Museum Rochester, Dover Arts Development Space, UK
- 2014 Botanical Structures IV, European Ceramic Context, Bornholm, Denmark
- 2010 Another Dimension, Brooke Gallery, Budleigh Salterton, UK

Group Exhibitions

- 2017 Made in Korea, The Ceramic House, touring to Sladmore Contemporary, London
- 2016 Landscape : Islands, an exploration into ceramics and sound, The Ceramic House
- 2015 DARK/LIGHT, The Ceramic House, Brighton, UK
- 2014 Elit-Tile Triennial, Dominican Republic
- 2014 AOH Open (Botanical Structures II), Regency Town House, Brighton, UK
- 2014 Fantastic Tales – Contemporary Danish Ceramics, The Ceramic House, Brighton, UK
- 2013 The Clay, Albrechtsens 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

Grants and Awards

- 2017 Grants for the Arts, Arts Council England, Made in Korea in collaboration with sound artist J Young

2016	Artists International Development Fund, Arts Council England, Made in Korea research trip to Korea
2016	Grants for the Arts, ACE, Landscape Islands in collaboration with sound artist J Young
2014	a-n New Collaborations bursary to research In A Shetland Landscape
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-present	Ceramics tutor, Charleston Trust, UK Teaching ceramic and mosaic techniques
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)

2017	Ceramics Monthly, USA Coast Magazine, UK Ceramic Review, UK Made in Korea catalogue, Sladmore Contemporary, UK Sussex Life, UK Crafts Magazine, UK
2016	Landscape : Islands catalogue, The Ceramic House, UK

2015	Crafts Magazine, UK Mr Partner, Japan Homes and Gardens, UK Ceramic Review, UK
2014	Art in Brighton 2015 Bornholms Tidende, Denmark Fantastic Tales catalogue, The Ceramic House, UK Pretty Nostalgic, UK 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
2012	A Magazine, Sydney, Australia 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