

# J Kay Aplin

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## Memberships

**IAC** (International Academy of Ceramics), **CPA** (Craft Potters Association), **A-N**

## Profile

I am a ceramic artist with 27 years' experience creating site-specific work predominantly for the public realm. 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 my award-winning project The Ceramic House, my home and living showcase of my work, pop-up gallery, artist's residency and venue for events. [www.theceramichouse.co.uk](http://www.theceramichouse.co.uk)

My cross disciplinary collaboration with sound artist Joseph Young has been developing since 2011 and has become a focus of The Ceramic House projects in addition to our own exhibition installations. Recent projects include *Fire and Water*, presented at Collect, Saatchi Gallery and *Interbeing*, a cultural our most ambitious project to date, a cultural exchange between China and the UK which took place throughout 2021 involving multiple exhibitions, residencies and multi-media outcomes.

## 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

## Solo Exhibitions

2022 Kaolin, Stockholm, Sweden  
2022 Agua de Borines, Asturias, Spain  
2019 Fire & Water, Festival of High Temperatures, Wroclaw, Poland  
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, touring to In Camera Gallery Brighton, Guildhall Museum Rochester, Dover Arts Development Space, UK  
2014 Botanical Structures IV, European Ceramic Context, Bornholm, Denmark

## Group Exhibitions

2022 Peripheries, The Ceramic House  
2021 Emptiness is Form, The Ceramic House  
2020 JOY, The Ceramic House  
2019 Triennale of Kogei, Kanazawa, Japan  
2019 Young Masters Maylis Grand Ceramics Prize 2019, La Galleria, London  
2019 WFAIR exhibition, The Apple House Gallery, Guldagergaard, Denmark  
2019 Collect Open, Crafts Council, Saatchi Gallery, London  
2019 The Chocolate House, Brighton  
2018 The Shoe Box Show, The Apple House Gallery, Guldagergaard, Denmark  
2018 Kohila Woodfiring Symposium Exhibition, Estonia

2018	Art & Plant Show, Royal Horticultural Society, London
2018	Artrooms Contemporary Art Fair, Melia White House, London
2017	Made in Korea, The Ceramic House, touring to Sladmore Contemporary, London
2016	Grow London, Hampstead Heath, 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, Regency Town House, Brighton, UK
2014	Fantastic Tales – Contemporary Danish Ceramics, The Ceramic House, Brighton, UK
2013	The Clay, Albrectsens Galleri, Copenhagen, Denmark
2011	Twisted, Phoenix Brighton, UK

## Residencies

2019	WFAIR guest artist, Guldagergaard, Denmark
2018	XVIII Kohila Symposium, Estonia
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

## Curating

2023-24	Edges, a project involving 3 nations: Estonia, Ireland and the UK
2022	Peripheries, The Ceramic House, a residency and exhibition for Estonian ceramists and Irish sound artists
2021	<i>Interbeing</i> , involving: The Ceramic House, Shanghai Academy of Fine Arts, Powell-Cotton Museum, Park 19 Art Space (Guangzhou), London Chinese Community Centre, Chiddingstone Castle, Karin Weber Gallery (Hong Kong)
2020	<i>JOY</i> , The Ceramic House
2017	<i>Made in Korea</i> , The Ceramic House, transferring to Sladmore Contemporary
2016	<i>In A Shetland Landscape</i> (touring version), In Camera Gallery, Guildhall Museum, Rochester, Dover Arts Development Project Space
2016	<i>Landscape : Islands</i> International Residency Exhibition, Phoenix Brighton, Brighton Digital Festival
2016	<i>Landscape : Islands</i> , an exploration into ceramics and sound, The Ceramic House
2015	<i>DARK/LIGHT</i> - Black and White Contemporary Ceramics, The Ceramic House
2014	<i>FANTASTIC TALES</i> - Danish Contemporary Ceramics, The Ceramic House
2013	The Ceramic House 2013
2012	The Ceramic House 2012
2011	<i>Public Art in a Private Place</i> , The Ceramic House, featuring Brighton Festival HOUSE commission Base Sound::Sonic Gold

## 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 15 schools.

2022-23	Bidwell West public art commission, Houghton Regis. Commissioner: Isaac Mercer.
2016-21	Regent's Place public art commission, Houghton Regis. Commissioner: Taylor Wimpey.
2015	Tilery Courtyard redevelopment, Stockton-on-Tees. Commissioner: Groundwork.
2014	Amphill Heights, Bedfordshire. Commissioner: Central Bedfordshire Council

- 2010 Canals for the Community, Stoke on Trent. Commissioner: British Waterways  
Create Play Contemplate, Olnafirth Primary School. Commissioner: Shetland Islands Council
- 2008-9 Llanbradach Follies, South Wales. Commissioner: Caerphilly County Borough Council.
- 2007-9 Cawdor Court, Bolton. Commissioner: Bolton at Home
- 2007 Gorebridge Care Home. Gorebridge Community Development Trust, Midlothian.
- 2004-5 Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership Trust. Commissioner: Willis Newson.
- 2003-4 Gorseinon Regeneration Scheme, South Wales. Commissioner: Cwyath Cymru.
- 2003 Lead artist, "Community Gateways". Commissioner: Caerphilly County Borough Council.

### **Participatory Commissions (selected)**

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

- 2012 Kensington Palace. Jubilee Plates project. Commissioner: HRP  
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.  
Kensington Palace. Blue and White China project. Commissioner: HRP
- 2009-11 Hampton Court Palace. Tudor Plaques for palace gardens. Commissioner: HRP
- 2009 St Michael’s School, Herefordshire. Commissioner: Creative Partnerships
- 2008 Wellingborough Artist in residence, Northamptonshire. Commissioner: Northamptonshire County Council
- 2003 Clissold Leisure Centre, Stoke Newington, London. Commissioner: Creative Partnerships

### **Private Commissions (selected)**

- 2017 Ceramic fireplace surround, London, UK
- 2017 Shetland Flora wall relief for private garden, Brighton
- 2016 Bespoke tiled kitchen, private home, 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

### **Grants and Awards (selected)**

- 2021 I-Portunus EU funding, Edges
- 2020 Grants for the Arts, Arts Council England, Interbeing
- 2017 Grants for the Arts, Arts Council England, Made in Korea
- 2016 Artists International Development Fund, Arts Council England, Korea research trip
- 2016 Grants for the Arts, ACE, Landscape Islands
- 2014 a-n New Collaborations bursary, 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"

## Employment

2014-17 Ceramics tutor, Charleston Trust, UK  
 2010-14 Ceramics tutor, Phoenix Brighton, UK  
 2006-7 Quiche, Guatemala. Artcorps artist in residence with Riecken Foundation  
 2002 Art animateur, City of London Festival  
 2001-2 Education Animateur, Stoke Newington Festival  
 1997-99 Lavuk Youth Club / Laerkevej Day Centre, Copenhagen, Denmark

## Conferences, Presentations

2019 Park 19, Guangzhou, China  
 2018 COCA Re-Stating Clay, York  
 2018 ScanCeram, Tolne Skov Pavillion, Denmark  
 2017 Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea  
 2017, 2016 Spotlight, Phoenix Brighton  
 2017, 2016, 2014 Brighton University, Brighton

## Blogs

Made in Korea 2016-17 [www.a-n.co.uk/blogs/made-in-korea](http://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](http://www.a-n.co.uk/link/KayAplin-Denmark)  
 Unravelling Shetland public art commission 2010 [www.a-n.co.uk/link/KayAplin-Shetland](http://www.a-n.co.uk/link/KayAplin-Shetland)

## Publications, magazines and articles (selected)

2022 Hidden Brighton, Ellie Seymour, UK  
 Infoceramica, Spain  
 Ceramics Monthly (May), USA  
 2021 Perfection of Understanding artist book, The Ceramic House, UK  
 Ceramic Review (May/June), UK  
 Ceramics Monthly (May), USA  
 Follies magazine, UK  
 Crafts Magazine (May/June), UK  
 Ceramics Now, Romania  
 Infoceramica, Spain  
 New Ceramics, Germany  
 Inner Magazine, UK  
 2020 Ceramics Now, Romania  
 Infoceramica, Spain  
 New Ceramics, Germany  
 2019 Obklady, Czech Republic  
 Daily Mail online  
 Les Editions Ateliers d'art, France

2018 Brighton and Hove Independent  
 S+C Szkło i Ceramika, Poland  
 Prestige Magazine  
 New Ceramics, Germany  
 2017 Monthly Ceramic Art, South Korea  
 Public Art, South Korea  
 Ceramics Monthly (Sept), USA  
 Ceramics Monthly (Nov), USA  
 Coast Magazine, UK  
 Ceramic Review (Sept/Oct), UK  
 Ceramic Review (May/June), UK  
 Made in Korea catalogue, Sladmore Contemporary, UK  
 Sussex Life, UK  
 Crafts Magazine (Sept/Oct), UK  
 Crafts Magazine (May/June), UK  
 2016 Landscape : Islands catalogue, The Ceramic House, UK  
 Crafts Magazine, UK  
 2015 Mr Partner, Japan  
 Homes and Gardens, UK  
 Ceramic Review, UK  
 Art in Brighton 2015  
 2014 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  
 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