

Kay Aplin

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Born in 1971 and brought up in Scotland, for over twenty-five years, I have had a successful career as an architectural ceramist, producing a distinct range of site-specific commissions predominantly for the public realm around the UK and internationally. Since 2008 I have been based in Brighton. In recent years, I have been developing large-scale wall-based ceramic installations for exhibition and by commission. 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.

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 2019 and Made in Korea, a cultural exchange between the UK and Korea. We are currently running our most ambitious project to date, [Interbeing](#), a cultural exchange between China and the UK taking place over during 2021 involving multiple exhibitions, residencies and multi-media outcomes.

Membership

[Craft Potters Association](#), [The Artists Information Company](#)

Collections

Shetland Museum and Archives, Guldagergaard International Ceramic Research Centre, Denmark

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 Shetland Flora, Kaolin, Stockholm
- 2021 Fuego y Agua, Aguas 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 including Competitions

- 2021 Interbeing, 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, Albrechtsens Galleri, Copenhagen, Denmark
- 2011 Twisted, Phoenix Brighton, UK

Residencies

- 2022 Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute, China

2022 Fiskars, Finland
 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

2020-21 Interbeing, involving: The Ceramic House, Jingdezhen Ceramic Institute, Shanghai Academy of the Arts, Powell-Cotton Museum, Oriental Museum & Palace Green Library London Chinese Community Centre, Chiddingstone Castle, Karin Weber Gallery Hong Kong
 2020 JOY, The Ceramic House
 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, 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
 2012 The Ceramic House 2012
 2011 Public Art in a Private Place, The Ceramic House

Public art Commissions

2016-21 Land off Bedford Road public art commission, Houghton Regis. Commissioner: Taylor Wimpey.
 2015 Tilery Courtyard redevelopment, Stockton-on-Tees. Commissioner: Groundwork.
 2014 Amptill 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: Cwyaith Cymru.
 2003 Lead artist, "Community Gateways". Commissioner: Caerphilly County Borough Council.

Participatory Commissions (selected)

2012 Kensington Palace. Jubilee – A View from the Crowd exhibition Commissioner: Historic Royal Palaces (HRP)
 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
 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

Grants and Awards (selected)

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

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, 2014 Brighton University, Brighton