

Marta Ozog



Biography

Marta grew up in Poland, where she completed the Secondary School of Visual Arts specialising in ceramics. She moved to Ireland in 2007 to learn English. In 2014 she completed a Fetac Level 5 in Art and Sculpture in Whitehall College of Further Education in Dublin and was awarded Student of the Year. She successfully applied for a place on the DCCol Ceramics Skills & Design Course in Thomastown.

On completion of the course in July 2016, Marta intends to join a collective studio in Dublin producing functional and sculptural ceramics. She has exhibited her work with Ceramics Ireland, Irish Polish Society and Sculpture in Context in Dublin.

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Babs Belshaw



Biography

Babs is originally from the Isle of Man and moved to Co. Derry, Northern Ireland in her teens. Pursuing a career in the arts took her to Cardiff School of Art and Design, graduating in 2014 gaining a BA (Hons) in ceramics. During her degree she specialised in porcelain tableware. Babs has exhibited in many places around Cardiff, Art in Clay at Hatfield House and New Designers in London. Ceramics has been a great passion for Babs throughout her life. Previous to her degree, she also worked in mixed media using textiles and painting focusing on seascapes. This has been an evident inspiration throughout her work. After gaining some work experience Babs realised she needed to advance her skills in the field of ceramics and was awarded a place on the DCCoI Ceramics Skills & Design Course in Thomastown in 2014. Upon graduating Babs will set up a ceramic studio in Carnew, Co. Wicklow.

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Babs Belshaw Pottery



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Aisling McElwain



Biography

Originally from Co. Monaghan, Aisling always had a keen interest in arts and crafts and studied art up to Leaving Certificate. Following a few years each of university, work and travel, Aisling relocated to Wexford in 2008 to work as a spatial analyst.

In 2012, she attended a short ceramic course which ignited her passion for clay. The following summer, having attended a second course, Aisling knew that ceramics was the future for her and she successfully applied for the DCCol Ceramics Skills & Design Course.

Aisling was selected as a committee member of Ceramics Ireland earlier this year. She has exhibited in the Blue Egg Gallery, Wexford and in the Ceramics Ireland Members Exhibition at Farmleigh House, Dublin. In June 2016, Aisling was shortlisted for the 2016 RDS Craft Awards.

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Aisling McElwain Ceramics

Bridget Timoney



Biography

Bridget, originally from Keash, Co. Sligo, has always had a keen interest in craft. In 2013 she graduated from Limerick School of Art and Design with a BA (Hons) Degree in Ceramics. She fell in love with the potter's wheel from her first time. It was in LSAD that she first learned of the DCCol Ceramics Skills & Design Course. She knew then that this was her future.

Bridget has shown her work in several exhibitions around the country including 'Stepping Out' at The Blue Egg Gallery, with Ceramics Ireland and at the Boyle Arts Festival 2013 - 2015. She has been selected for the RDS Craft Awards 2016.

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Martha Opher



Biography

Martha is from a village in Gloucestershire, England. From a young age Martha has had an interest in art and she completed a Foundation Diploma in Art and Design close to home. Following this she spent a year travelling in Europe and South Asia, spending five months volunteering in Japan. Inspired by the craft she had seen, Martha took up pottery classes and subsequently attained an internship at the Leach Pottery in St. Ives, Cornwall. She was able to witness a very vibrant ceramic scene and from here she went on to work with French potter Michel François. She applied and was accepted onto the DCCol Ceramics Skills & Design Course in Thomastown in 2014. Martha is interested in working with her combined love of ceramics and painting.

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Andrew Ilsley



Biography

Andrew came from rural Herefordshire in England to Dublin in 2007 where he began making pots in the evenings as an antidote to a series of uninspiring temping jobs. Some years later, now firmly addicted to clay, he put aside a career as an archivist to train to become a full time potter. He was accepted on to the DCCol Ceramics Skills & Design Course in 2014.

Andrew has exhibited and sold work at both the Ceramics Ireland Members and Selected exhibitions 2015 and 2016, 'Stepping Out' at the Blue Egg Gallery 2016, and was shortlisted for a 2016 DCCol Future Makers Award. Upon graduation he will return to his studio in Dublin to make functional pots and clay musical instruments.

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Andrew Ilsley Ceramics

Éva Kaszás



Biography

Eva was born in a small village in Hungary. The desire to work with clay developed at an early age, though there was no background of art in the family. Twenty years ago Eva studied pottery and since then she has been working not only in pottery but had various hospitality jobs in her home country, in Cyprus and on cruise ships around America. In 2004, she built her own studio in her village in Hungary.

In 2007 Eva moved to Ireland and worked in Crookstown Craft Village, Co. Kildare. The wish to do only pottery grew through the years and in 2014 Eva was accepted on to the DCCol Ceramics Skills & Design Course in Thomastown. Eva has exhibited in the Blue Egg Gallery in Wexford and in Ceramics Ireland Exhibitions in 2015 and 2016. Eva intends to continue working in ceramics in the immediate future.

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Keve ceramics



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Fiona Shannon



Biography

Fiona grew up in Portstewart, Co. Derry. It was from here, the scenic north coast where her artistic talents blossomed from a young age. After developing a creative passion at school she went on to complete a foundation course in Art and Design. Following this she undertook a three-year undergraduate degree in Contemporary Applied Art in Belfast where she specialised in pottery. Finding her niche in the field of ceramics Fiona decided her next step was to expand her knowledge and expertise by completing the DCCol Ceramics Skills & Design Course, graduating in 2016. Fiona has exhibited at Ceramics Ireland Members exhibitions and the Blue Egg Gallery, Wexford.

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Fiona Shannon Ceramics



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Claire Murdock



Biography

Claire grew up in Ballymena, Co. Antrim, Northern Ireland. She received a Diploma in Foundation Studies Art and Design in 2010, during this time she fell in love with clay as a material. Claire graduated from the University of Ulster, Belfast in 2013 with a second class BA (Hons) Degree in Contemporary and Applied Arts, specialising in ceramics.

Claire took a year out before applying and being accepted onto the prestigious DCCoI Ceramics Skills & Design Course in Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny, she will graduate in July of this year. Using the knowledge and skills she has attained from the course, she intends to work towards setting up her own pottery business near her home and become an independent maker.

Claire was recently shortlisted for a 2016 DCCoI Future Makers Award.

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Claire Murdock Ceramics

Kate McGuane



Biography

Kate is from Ballinhassig, Co. Cork. From a young age Kate developed a love for arts and crafts. In 2012 Kate graduated from University College Cork with a Bachelors Degree in Geography and History.

After her studies, Kate returned to her passion, to study Art, Craft and Design in Colaiste Stiofan Naofa. It was here that she first experienced working with clay and became immersed in the craft. As part of her work experience she began to teach arts and crafts and assisted in Crafty Hands Pottery Studio in Midleton.

In 2014 Kate was accepted on to the DCCol Ceramics Skills & Design Course in Thomastown, Co. Kilkenny and is currently finishing her second year. In April 2016 she debuted her work as part of the *Stepping Out* exhibition in the Blue Egg Gallery, Co. Wexford. In June 2016 Kate won a Materials Support at the Future Makers Awards and Supports, and exhibited in the Ceramics Ireland Members Exhibition.

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Kate McGuane Ceramics



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