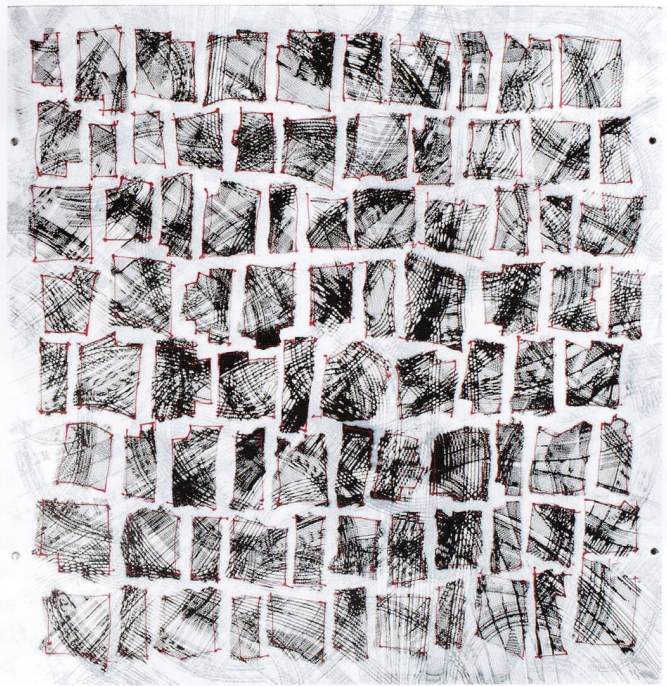


Craft in the Bay

Alex McErlain

A new exhibition at 'Craft in the Bay' gallery, Cardiff explores the relationship of drawing to making in the work of nine contemporary artists. The premise of the exhibition is to raise awareness of the intricate and complex connections that exists between the development of an artist's ideas and the resultant artwork. Drawing is at the heart of each exhibitor's practice and the differing ways they explore what constitutes drawing for them will be presented within the exhibition. As exhibition curator I have endeavoured to bring together a wide range of craft practice combined with a multifaceted range of approaches to drawing which will ensure a fascinating, informative and revealing exhibition for the audience.



The exhibition includes the work of emerging artists such as jeweller Megan Ochedusko whose delicate drawings of everyday objects such as brushes, help her develop work that demands tactile exploration. Her drawings reveal some of her fascination with bringing together differing materials in the design of an object, ideas which are eventually translated into pieces of jewellery. Megan writes: 'My interest in our sense of touch began with a fascination with Braille and how people with visual impairments are reliant on their sense of touch. It intrigues me how our senses interconnect, so much so that one can be substituted for another. It's a sense we use subconsciously more than we think, whether it's the feel of an item of clothing against the skin or the weight of a piece of jewellery, our sense of touch plays an immense role in our preferences of many things in life.'

Alongside emerging artists are some internationally known makers such as Elizabeth Turrell who has long been interested in the use of mark making within the development of her work in metal and enamel. Turrell's work incorporates direct drawing and mark making through an unfired enamel surface. It brings forth the potential of making delicate

Megan Ochedusko - Line drawing of five household brushes

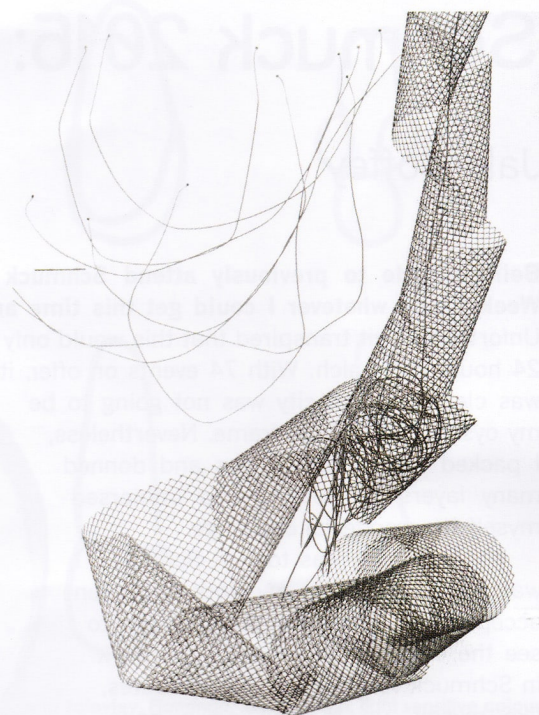
Elizabeth Turrell - 'Memory Bowl' 28cmd



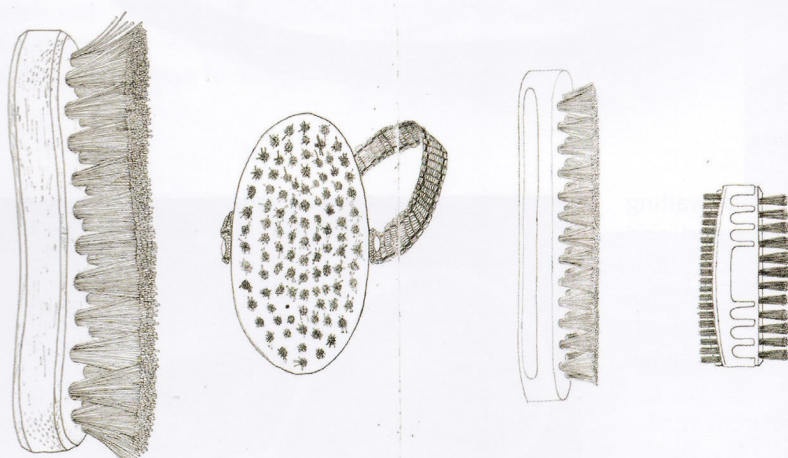
linear marks in combination with bolder aspects of surface colour and texture. Her drawings appear to accompany her work rather than precede or follow it. There is a sense of integration across whatever media she works in that brings an intensity to her finished pieces.

An artist whose work spans differing media is Kate Haywood. With a first degree in jewellery from Central St Martins College, London and two subsequent degrees in ceramics her works display an unusually strong grasp of multimedia sensibilities. She writes: 'I am interested in exploring ways in which poetic structures can function visually, by balancing and manipulating material qualities and connotations, whilst employing a "thinking through making" approach'. Drawing is central to the development of her ideas and she surrounds her workspace with evidence of a broad interpretation of drawing, ranging from making images with wire through to modelling drawn paper images into three-dimensional constructions.

The remaining six exhibitors work in a variety of disciplines including textiles, ceramics and glass. The exhibition will include sketchbooks, drawings in many media, photographic documentation of drawing based activity, together with a good group of examples of each artist's practical work.



Kate Haywood - Wire drawing



Megan Ocheduszko - Line drawing
of five household brushes

Kate Haywood - 'Hora'
63x21x3.5cm. Porcelain, leather
brass, wool



Exhibition 'Drawing Inspirations'

17th September – 6th October 2016, Craft In The Bay, Cardiff.

Exhibitors: Elizabeth Turrell, Megan Ocheduszko, Kate Haywood, Alice Kettle, Julia Griffiths Jones, Clare Florey-Hitchcock, Richard Heeley, Christie Brown, Amanda Simmons.