

# Pathways to Making

## Developing your craft career in an expanded field

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2013

A partnership between Craftspace, the University of Wolverhampton and Bilston Craft Gallery

University of Wolverhampton, School of Art and Design, Molineux Street, Wolverhampton. WV1 1DT  
**#mitmpath**

- 9.30 – 10.00 Registration and refreshments (School of Art & Design Foyer)  
Opportunity to sign up for afternoon breakout sessions
- 10.00 – 10.10 Introduction by Emma Daker (Exhibitions and Project Development Manager,  
Lecture Theatre Craftspace)
- 10.10 – 10.50 **Craft in an expanded field – Thinking across platforms and disciplines and  
Lecture Theatre ecologies**  
What is meant by craft as an expanded field? What is the potential to the craft sector and what examples are there of practitioners working across platforms and genres? New media and applied arts, a presentation by Tanya Harrod
- 10.50 – 11.20 **New Approaches**  
Lecture Theatre Exploring developments across the craft and media sectors in a discussion between Heidi Hinder (Artist Maker and recipient of a Watershed Craft and Technology Residency) & Victoria Tillotson, (producer, Pervasive Media Studio), in conversation with Tanya Harrod about Heidi's project, 'Money No Object' in which she explores concepts of value and the role of material currency in the digital age'  
Followed by Q&A
- 11.20 – 11.35 Coffee break (School of Art & Design Foyer)  
Foyer Final opportunity to sign up for afternoon breakout sessions
- 11.35 – 12.05 **Ongoing Conversations**  
Lecture Theatre The importance of talking through practice and understanding the value of tacit and material knowledge will be addressed in conversation between David Littler and Helen Carnac discussing how their work as makers has shifted considerably into new avenues, disciplines and their moves into performance as a vehicle for their work. They will consider how this has developed, changed and challenged their approach to making. As members of Intelligent Trouble along with other collectives independently, they will debate their different and shared experiences of working in this way.
- 12.05 – 12.35 **Group Benefits**  
Lecture Theatre Maker collectives are on the rise. How and why are they initiated and what are the benefits? Discussing the potential of collaboration, Gareth Neal (furniture maker and member of Bodging Milano), will highlight craft presented in a performative manner, in addition to the potential of working with commercial industries through the group's activities alongside his own practice.
- 12.35 – 1.05 **A Question of Value**  
Lecture Theatre Luxury craft is a potential developing market for makers, both at home and abroad, reflected by schemes such as Walpole's Crafted Mentoring Programme. Ndidi Ekubia (silversmith) will present her experience of the programme and the benefit of mentoring from Grant Macdonald (Grant Macdonald Silversmiths), in addition to the resulting maker network.
- 1.05 – 1.15 Sophie Heath – Invitation to Bilston Craft Gallery showing  
Lecture Theatre

1.15 – 2.15	Lunch (MK507: on the 5 <sup>th</sup> Floor)
2.15 – 3.15 MK507	<p>Breakout sessions:</p> <p><b>1. <u>Taking a different approach:</u></b> This session will explore potential entrepreneurship within portfolio careers. Jennifer Collier, will present on the development of her gallery, workshop, and studio space Unit Twelve. This will be followed by discussion on potential other avenues of work within portfolio careers from both the morning presentations and Jennifer's work.</p>
Lecture Theatre	<p><b>2. <u>Developing potential:</u></b> Building on the Made in the Middle action research project Apprenticeships in the Making, this session will continue the current apprenticeship debate and provide information on the new Creative Employment Programme. Stuart Shotton (Learning and Engagement Manager, Craftspace) will present the Apprenticeships in the Making film and Iris Bertz (Creative Alliance) will present the potential of the Creative Employment Programme for makers to grow their business before opening the discussion.</p>
MK312	<p><b>3. <u>Pathways to portfolio careers:</u></b> A session aimed at students and new graduates to consider alternative routes to break into the sector and/or marketplace. Madeleine Furness will introduce the Craft Council's Hothouse scheme, followed by presentations by recent alumni of the programme, ceramicist Anna Collette Hunt and textile artist Helen Foot, outlining their experiences before opening the discussion.</p>
3.15 – 3.30 Foyer	<p>Coffee break (School of Art &amp; Design Foyer) (key responses brought back from breakout sessions to provide outline for panel discussion)</p>
3.30 – 4.20 Lecture Theatre	<p>Panel discussion chaired by Tanya Harrod</p>
4.20 – 4.30 Lecture Theatre	<p>Conclusion by Tanya Harrod</p>
4.30	<p>Ends</p>
4.45	<p>Travel to Bilston Craft Gallery for exhibition viewing</p>
5.00 – 7.00	<p>Viewing of Made in the Middle at Bilston Craft Gallery Refreshments provided</p>