

Newsletter



BABA
British Artist Blacksmiths Association

MARCH 2024

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Editors Notes

Welcome to the BABA Newsletter for March 2024. The first signs of spring are starting to blossom with the snow drops and daffodils starting to open and most importantly; clients are starting to think about ironwork for the garden once again. With spring comes news that the dates have been set for this summer's blacksmithing competitions, forge-in's, AGM's and all manner of blacksmithing events up and down the UK and further afield.

If you are planning on hosting your own event this season, be it big or small, then don't forget to send in the details, we can help publicise it for you. Forge-ins and competitions are a great way to get to know your fellow smiths, learn new skills and share wisdom and horror stories alike. There's no excuse for hiding in the dark and dingy smithy this summer, so get out there, show your face! meet up with your old blacksmithing buddies and make some new ones.

So put down your hammers and tongs for 5 minutes, let the smoke clear from the forge, grab yourself a coffee and dive into the depths of this month's newsletter.... and make a note of those events in your diary.

p.s. Keep those emails and information coming in. NEWSLETTER@BABA.ORG.UK



 TUSCAN FISH ART
Sculpture

Newsletter@baba.org.uk



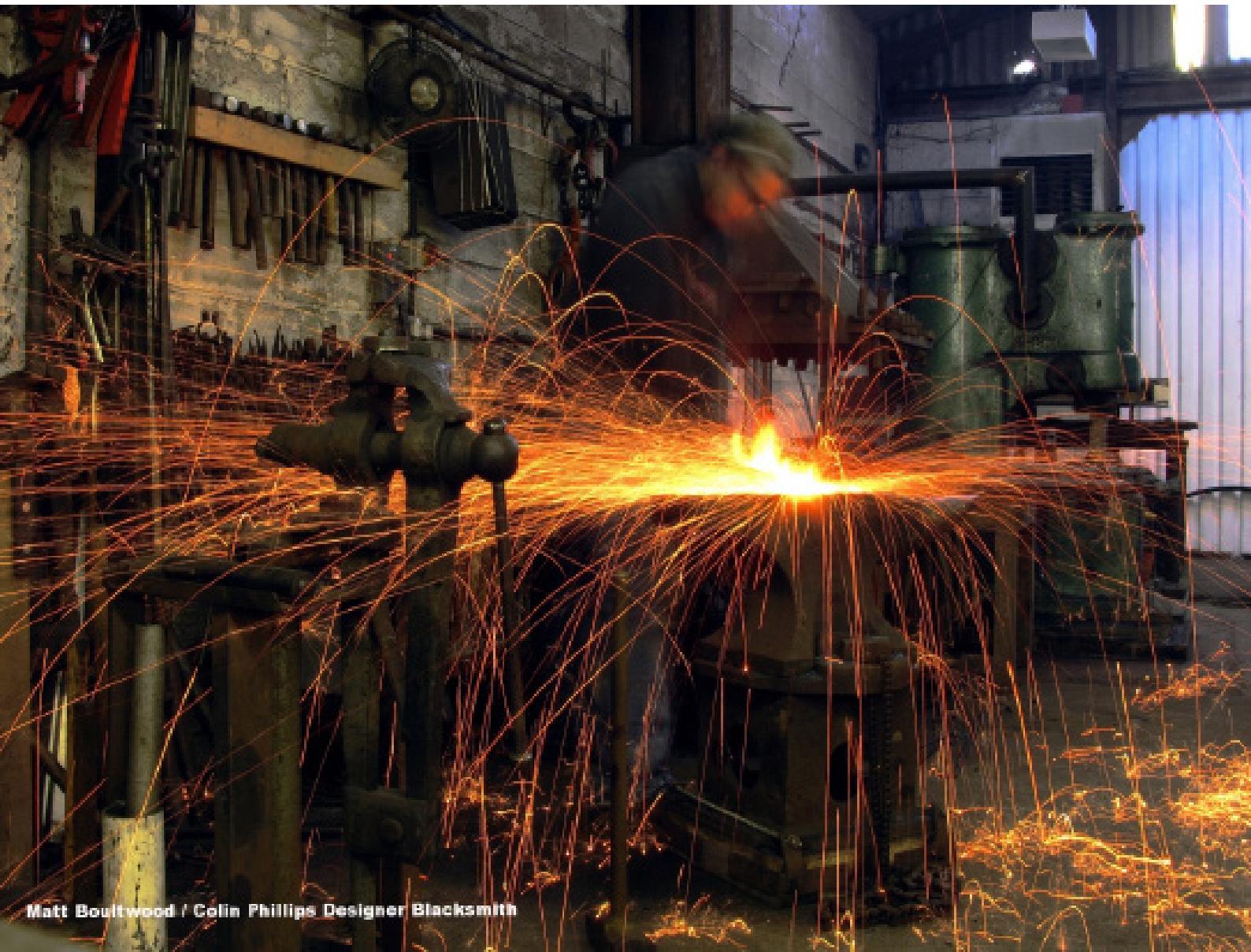
WHAT IS BABA & WHY JOIN?

For 45 years, BABA has developed and promoted the work of the modern artist blacksmith. BABA has united thousands of professional and amateur smiths (and interested many others) across Britain and the rest of the world in a spirit of friendship and collaboration, to learn about, enjoy and advance the extraordinary craft of creative blacksmithing.

To this end, we:

- Organise forge-ins and hold an annual conference
- Hold masterclasses, where members can get involved and ask the tricky questions
- Publish a for members magazine (usually 4 issues per annum) and the monthly newsletter
- The Members website, With member galleries and useful resources
- Offer a competitive discounted forge insurance scheme
- Organise the production of large public sculptures to display the talents of the members
- Organise talks from leading experts from around the globe
- Organise gallery Exhibitions, Competitions, meet-ups, digital events and much much more

For full details and to become a member go to: <http://www.baba.org.uk/>



Sculpture by the Sea - 2010

Sydney NSW Australia

Colin Dray and Wendy Tanner (*Artist Blacksmiths Association NSW*)



November 2010 saw the staging of the 14th Sculpture by the Sea exhibition in Sydney, Australia, viewed by approximately 440,000 people. This event, which is the world's largest annual free-to-the-public outdoor sculpture exhibition, is held on the spectacular coastline south of the iconic Bondi Beach, and the sandstone cliffs and sparkling surf provide a dramatic background for the 109 artworks exhibited there.

Sculptors from all over the world are featured, and this year, pride of place, on the most prominent headland, was given to a monumental piece by the British artist Sir Anthony Caro. For this exhibition he chose the largest in his sculpture series, *Erl King*, featuring a forged wrought iron anchor and large plates of Corten steel. Anthony Caro, born in 1924, has played a pivotal role in the development of 20th Century sculpture, having often explored the intersection of art and architecture. Recently, he was involved with co-designing London's Millennium Bridge, which opened in 2002.

Of the 109 sculptures, 63 were of metal, most being mild steel or stainless steel. Most were fabricated and many had glossy coloured paint finishes. Only a few appeared to involve forging. The winning entry, *Mirroring 1995*, was an interesting small bronze piece on a granite plinth by Danish sculptor Keld Moseholm. It shows 2 figures pulling on a piece of rope (or is it one figure reflected in an imaginary mirror?) - making a statement about the relationship between reality and unreality. The people's choice prize of \$5,000 was awarded to NSW artists Suzie Bleach and Andy Townsend for their sculpture *The Adaptable Migrant*, a life-sized steel camel containing in its belly a time capsule collection, including a ukulele, a sewing machine and books. The random items represented the culture,

Mitsuo Takeuchi

Japan - Transfiguration "Link" XXIII (stainless steel, stone)

history and memories brought by migrants to Australia. Bondi local Tomas Misura won the \$3,000 kids' choice prize for his energetic work, *Splash*. According to Misura, the giant stainless steel paint tube squirting red paint towards the beach captures an artistic moment in time.

Several sculptures with highly polished stainless steel finishes created fascinating reflections of the scenery and the passing parade of walkers, joggers, kids and dogs. Many were site specific and had a nautical or aquatic theme, to fit in with the seaside setting.

All works except the ephemeral ones were for sale, for prices ranging from around AUS\$12,000 to AUS\$530,000 - and up to one third of exhibits actually sell. Artists come from across Australia and 11 different overseas countries. Some are sponsored and some are recipients of scholarships. Up until this year all artist have been given \$2,000 to put towards production and installation costs - unfortunately discontinued because of the economic downturn. The 100 finalists are chosen from over 500 entries, so competition is fierce. Nine artists are part of the "Decade Club" having exhibited 10 or more times at SxS.

Another part of the exhibition is an undercover gallery where the artists can exhibit small pieces of their work at more "affordable" prices. Some of these are maquettes of the larger outdoor exhibits, and others are variations on a theme. This provides further income for the artists and the organisers of the event, which relies to a large extent on the generosity of donors, sponsors and benefactors, as well as the commission from sales of works.

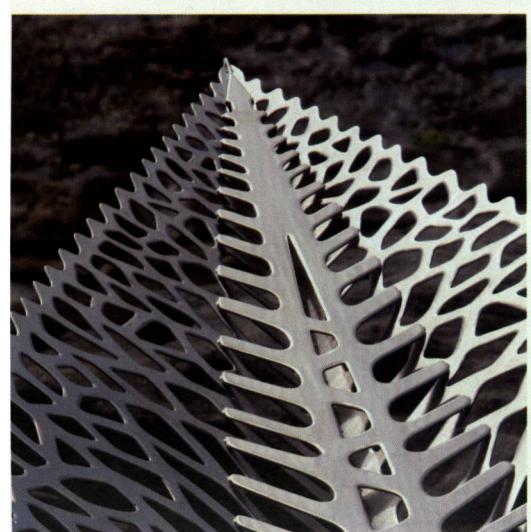
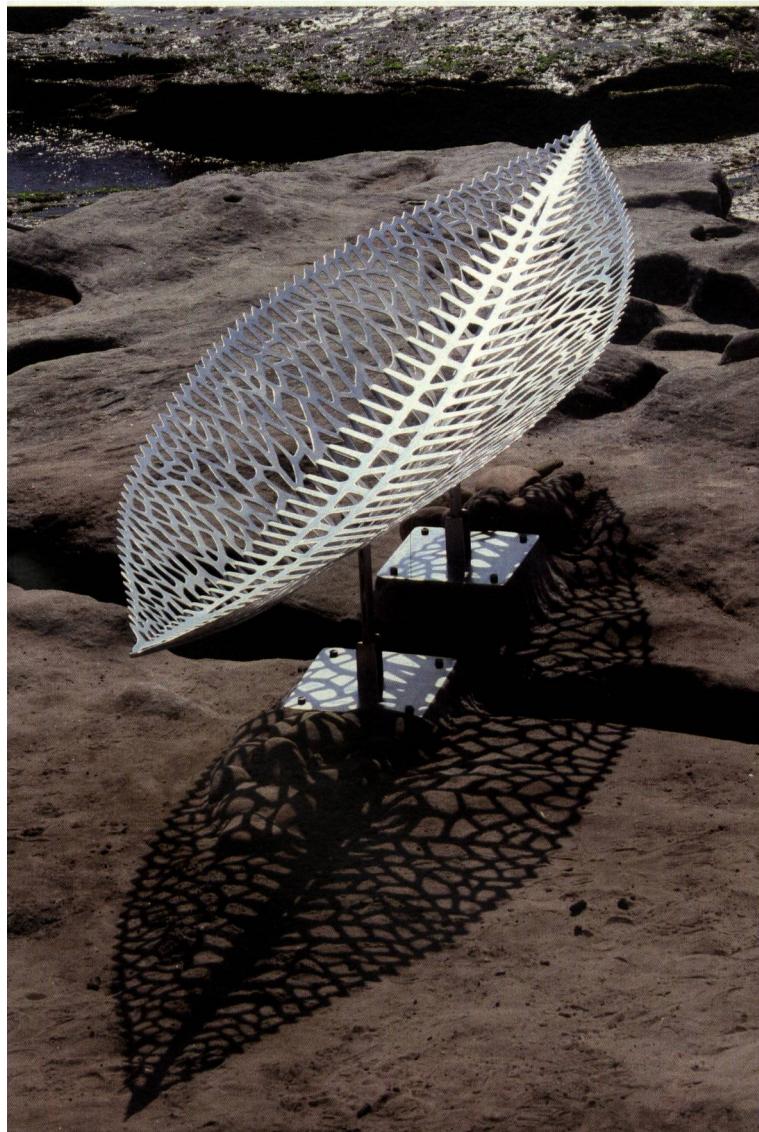
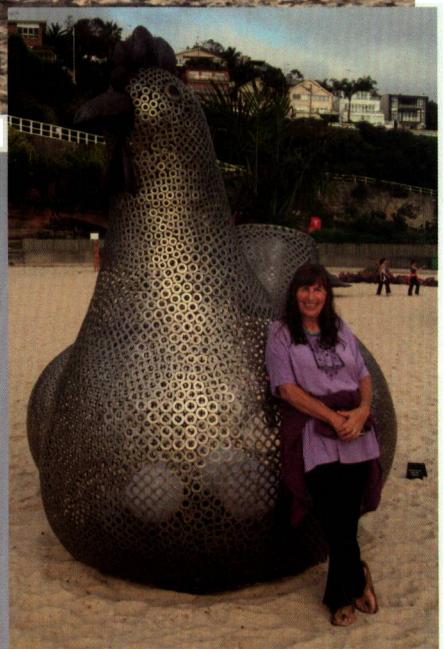
Sculpture by the Sea has proved so popular there are now annual events at Cottesloe Beach in Western Australia and Aarhus in Denmark. www.sculpturebythesea.com

A personal reflection

What I really like about this exhibition, having seen 4 of them now, is that it is so accessible. Not only is it free, but there is something for everyone. Children are encouraged to participate, to vote for their favourite sculpture and also to interact with the sculptures. A special "Kid's Program" is produced, with simple and sometimes amusing descriptions of each work, with activities for kids to do. We always stay with friends at nearby Bronte Beach, and are therefore able to wander along the coastline at different times of the day, and under different weather and light conditions, whether stormy skies or sparkling sun. Sometimes you can view the sculptures in their solitary beauty, with only the sound of seagulls and surf. Other times, the path is crowded with families and friends strolling, and the sculptures are surrounded by people touching them, talking about them, and of course, photographing them. Sometimes you meet the sculptor doing a bit of maintenance on their piece, or proudly polishing the stainless steel surface. A volunteer is sweeping the sand off a giant pair of stone sunglasses. The surfers wind their way past the sculptures on the beach, and wade into the crystal waters, and at the weekend, the "little nippers" race amongst them. Life goes on and the gallery is open all hours.



Top and right:
Tae-Guen Yang
South Korea - *Sitting Hen*
(stainless steel, bronze,
resin, lighting)
Left and below:
Virginia King
New Zealand - *Leaf-vessel*
(marine grade stainless
steel)



Sculpture by the Sea continued



Clockwise from top:

Suzie Bleach and Andy Townsend

NSW - *The Adaptable Migrant* (steel, salvaged objects)

Christopher Vassallo

Victoria - *The Amplitude* (Corten steel, stainless steel)

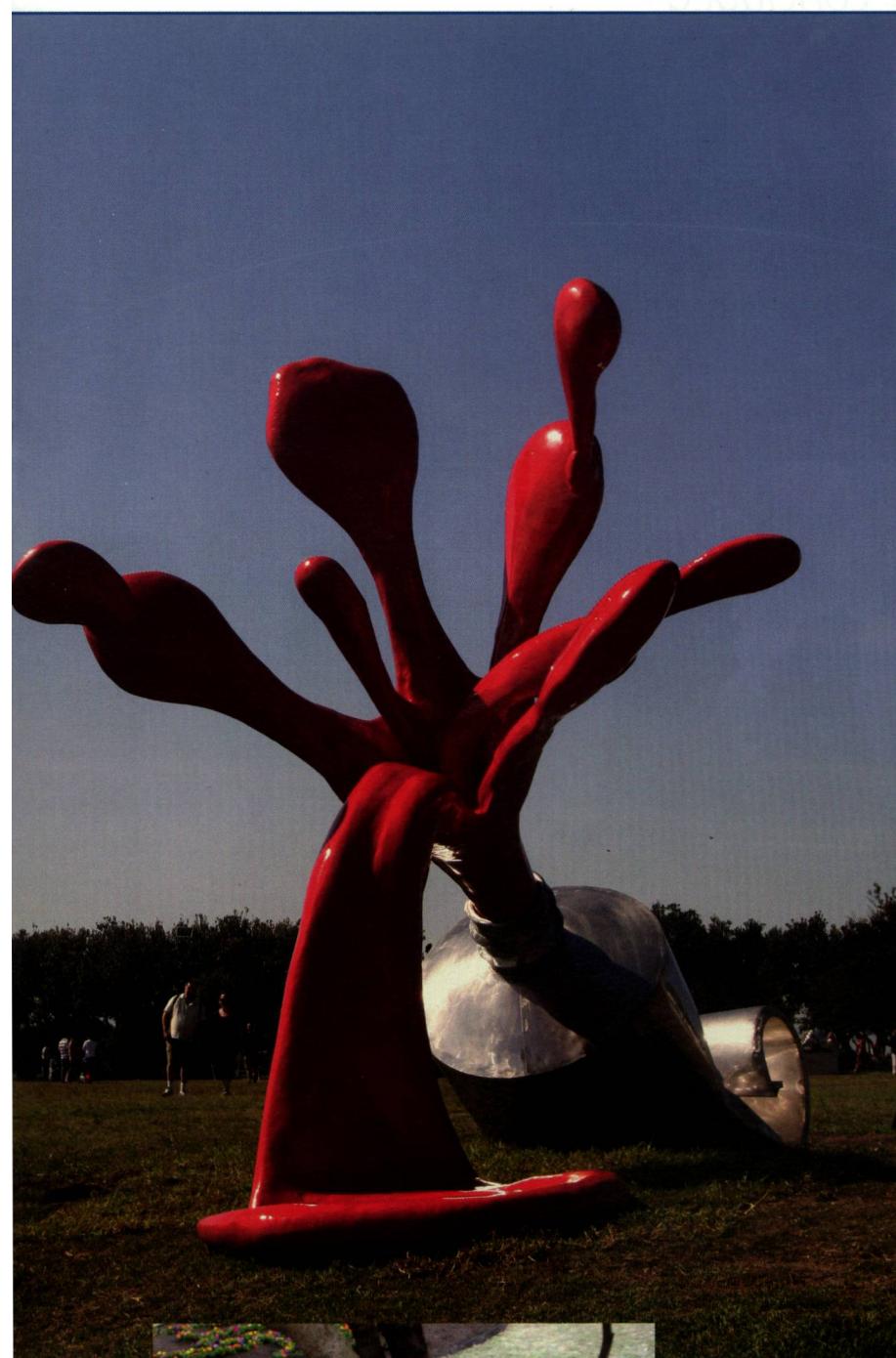
Sir Anthony Caro

England - *Erl King 1993* (Corten steel)

Phillip Spelman

ACT - *Caravela* (painted steel)





Clockwise from left:
Tomas Misura
NSW - *Splash* (stainless steel, painted steel)
Jeramie Carter
NSW - *The Dancer* (stainless steel, mild steel)
Greg Johns
SA - *Old Fella - Story Tella* (Corten steel, ironstone)
Keld Moseholm
Denmark - *Mirroring*, 1995 (bronze, granite)



Sculpture by the Sea concluded



Left:

Tim Macfarlane Reid

WA - *Initials* (Austen weathering steel)

Below:

Steve Croquett

NSW - *Jolly Giants* (hand formed sheet metal)





Left:

Koichi Ishino

*NSW - Wind Stone - Earth and Sky
(marine grade stainless steel, granite)*

Below:

James Rogers

NSW Big Bather (steel)



BLACKSMITHING EVENTS:

Upcoming Events

- Bronze & Stainless Workshop 16th & 23rd March
- Collect (Qest Exhibition) 1st-3rd March
- Spring forge-in at Phoenix Forge - April 6-7th
- North Somerset Show 1st May
- Internationaal Smeedevent 17th-19th May
- Devon County Show 18th-20th May
- DC Blacksmiths Forge-In 31st-2nd June
- 50th Anniversary ABANA Conference 6-9th June
- Royal Cornwall Show 8-10th June

Things to look forwards to...

- Royal Three Counties Show 16th -18th June
- Royal Highland Show 22nd -25th June
- Royal Norfolk Show 28th -29th June
- Great Yorkshire Show 11th -14th July
- New Forest Show 25th-27th July
- Edenbridge & Oxted Show 27th-28th August
- Dorset County Show 7th-8th September
- Newbury Show 16th-17th September
- BABA AGM and Conference September 2024

If you know of an event taking place
email the details to;

Newsletter@baba.org.uk





BABA
British Artist Blacksmiths Association

Bronze & Stainless Workshop

Peter Crownshaw & Andrew Findlay

16th & 23rd March 2024



BABA
British Artist Blacksmiths Association



The BABA Membership has an exciting opportunity to absorb years of expertise from two renowned artist blacksmiths with the workings of Stainless Steel and Bronze. This event will be hosted at Peter Crownshaw's Forge at St Michaels Nr Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire, WR15 8TG

Peter Crownshaw (Stainless) & Andrew Findlay (Bronze) have kindly offered to relay their knowledge as part of a BABA events one day workshop. Organised by the BABA Council for BABA members, this is a rare opportunity to work at the anvil learning the intricacies of forging stainless steel and bronze from these two eminent master smiths.

Truly an experience not to be missed!

Limited tickets are available, with 10 participants on the 16th March 2024, and a further 10 participants on the 23rd March 2024. Tickets are available on the BABA website from the 1st February and the event is open to BABA members only.

For those wanting to make the most of the trip and in need of accommodation, this can be booked at Peter's daughters pub just a 10-minute walk from the forge. There are 10 rooms available at The Fountain Inn, Oldwood Road, Oldwood, Tenbury Wells, Worcestershire WR15 8TG. Tel no. 01584 810701. Email: thefountainoldwood.co.uk

There will also be many a B&B in the area, just a google search away.

Useful directions for the Forge:

When you get to St. Michaels, take the road opposite St. Michaels church go approximately 150 yards, you will see a red phone box, take the drive at the side of phone box, avoiding potholes if you can! we are at the end of drive.



Bronze & Stainless Workshop

Peter Crownshaw & Andrew Findlay

16th & 23rd March 2024



The chosen dates for this event coincide with 'Ferrous Festival of Artist Blacksmithing' being held in nearby Hereford. Organised by Hereford College of Art with a rich programme of exhibitions and events held in the City of Hereford from 15th - 24th March 2024

The day will include:

9.30am-5.30pm (16th March 2024)

***9.30am-12.30pm (Bronze)** Introduction to material, how it is forged, structural qualities, material precautions, optimum heats required, joining processes, finishing and general hints and tips.

***12.30pm-1.30pm Lunch**

***1.30pm-4.30pm (Stainless Steel)** Introduction to material, how it is forged, structural qualities, material precautions, optimum heats required, joining processes, finishing and general hints and tips. The process of passivating and electropolishing of stainless steel will be explained.

***4.30pm-5.30pm** A chance for participants to have a go and get a feel for forging both materials, including informal Q&A session.

Tea & Coffee will be provided also.

9.30am-5.30pm (23rd March 2024)

***9.30am-12.30pm (Bronze)** Introduction to material, how it is forged, structural qualities, material precautions, optimum heats required, joining processes, finishing and general hints and tips.

***12.30pm-1.00pm Lunch**

***1.00pm-1.30pm** Talk from a Columbia metals representative.

***1.30pm-4.30pm (Stainless Steel)** Introduction to material, how it is forged, structural qualities, material precautions, optimum heats required, joining processes, finishing and general hints and tips. The process of passivating and electropolishing of stainless steel will be explained.

***4.30pm-5.30pm** A chance for participants to have a go and get a feel for forging both materials, including informal Q&A session.

Tea & Coffee will be provided also.

Tickets are £60 per head per day, this includes stainless steel and bronze for you to forge and take home with you.



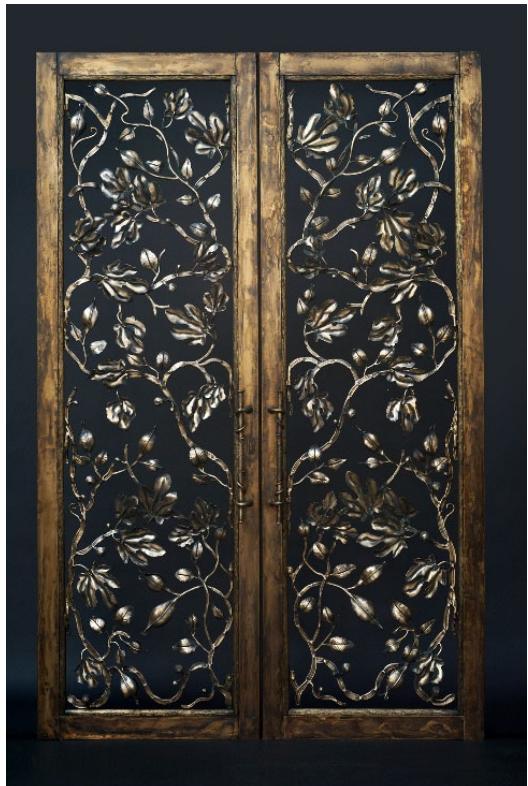
Bronze & Stainless Workshop

Peter Crownshaw & Andrew Findlay

16th & 23rd March 2024



Please bring along a few hand tools for forging, along with a notepad and pen.





5 day chasing course in Dronfield, Sheffield.

Dates: March 26-30th
Time: 9am-5:30pm

Location: Unit 2 north house, Callywhite lane, Dronfield, S18 2XR

Costs: £850.00

Sign up at: <https://www.tictattailor.com/events/timothypuddephatt/1124500?>

Sign ups are now live and seating is limited!

If you have any questions or concerns about the course you may contact:
Our host: Timothy Puddephatt at thefootofiron@gmail.com

Or Douglas Pryor at : Pryorcreationsllc@gmail.com

All tooling and materials for the course will be provided.
The pitch pots will be available for purchase through pre-order with our host.
Please let Timothy know if you are interested!

Workshop Description:

If you are new to Chasing it is a style of relief work in sheet metal that can be applied to almost anything. From tea pots to battle armour it has been used to create sculptural narrative in metal throughout human history.

For me the art of chasing is a beautiful fusion between illustration and sculpture. The ability to transform any drawing into a three dimensional form is one of the most exciting and challenging aspects of relief work.

What you can expect from this course:

We'll be focusing on building a knowledge base of different chasing techniques, material control, pitch management, and how to use illustration and design to compliment low to high relief work in sheet metal.

Participants can expect to work on up to two projects in 18ga (approx 1mm) copper. The first project is usually a structured follow along design matched to the individual's skill level. If there is time the following projects will be assigned on an individual basis to best complement their growth and interests.

If participants have already taken one of my workshops or completed one of my warm up projects before and are comfortable with tackling something more challenging then they may start a more complicated project immediately.

You may be expected to draw:

It is not a prerequisite as there are many projects that can be traced but drawing is highly encouraged. As sheet metal is shaped it distorts and changes in volume requiring the maker to redraw elements of the design by hand. Certain intermediate to advanced designs can only be made this way, but not to worry if drawing is a newer skill set as we have many available projects that only require tracing.

Bringing a sketchbook or notebook is encouraged.

You may be expected to sculpt in clay:

If your interest is to accomplish your own design in class my prerequisite for that is you must be able to draw your design. You can have this done in advance if you'd like.

In class we will discuss and plan a depth guide for your design with more drawings and a proof sculpture to act as a guide. This method of planning I'll be teaching is a great practice and an important skill for deeper relief work. Plus it's a lot of fun to do which is always ideal.

As mentioned, tooling and materials will be provided for the duration of the course. If you have some of your own tooling you are of course welcome to bring what you are comfortable with.

You are most welcome to bring your own safety gear such as ear and eye protection to make yourself more comfortable as well.

This style of work can happen at any scale so bringing an optivisor or other optical magnification could also be a good idea but is not a must. Though if you think you may struggle with working small the magnification is very helpful.

Class will run from 9am to 5:30pm with a one hour lunch break at 12:30pm.

Participants can be expected to swing a hammer for 7-8 hours a day, the hammers are not very heavy but it should be kept in mind that it is very physical work.

All skill levels welcome!

This has only been made possible by our gracious host Timothy Puddephatt and by your enthusiastic interest and support!

Thank you and stay in touch!

-Douglas "

SPRING FORGE-IN

April 6th-7th 2024 at

PHOENIX FORGE



2 Days of fun filled forging, on the farm, with some friendly competitions. Homegrown meat for the bbq, On site camping. Bring some hand tools, beer and a donation towards dinner.

Forging theme: Spring Time

**RSVP IF YOU PLAN TO VISIT
INFO@PHOENIXFORGE.CO.UK**

**Workshop Address:
Mile End Farm, Trevaughamn, Carmarthen, SA313QL**



Heritage Ironwork Seminar

Thursday 25th April 2024 9:30am-4:00pm

The Gallery, Alan Baxter Associates, London EC1M 6EL

'Writing Specifications for Heritage Ironwork'



A day of practical guidance which will lead you through the process of writing specifications for repairs to historic ironwork. This training event will unpick the sometimes daunting task of specifying methods and materials that are suitable for historic structures, helping you to produce unambiguous statements that address actual repair needs.

By the end of the day, with the additional support of our recently published booklet,

you will be in a stronger position to create a specification document that is accurate, meaningful and fit for purpose. This training day will also assist those who need to read, understand and carry out the content of specification documents.

Topics covered include:

- Choosing a method of repair
- Historical significance & cultural context
- Purpose of works
- Environment, Timing and Budget

Aim of the day

To celebrate the launch of our latest guidance booklet on the subject of Writing Specifications, we are holding a training day on the subject with the aim of establishing & disseminating good practice in the procurement process for historic ironwork.

Who is it for?

All levels of experience and background are welcome. This day will be of interest to architects, surveyors, blacksmiths, contractors, local authorities, commissioners and owners of ironwork - anyone who wants to gain a better understanding of the ironwork in their care.

Ticket Prices: from £40-£100 including lunch & refreshments

Booking at: <https://nhig.org.uk/events/c-event/>

KNIFE SOLINGEN 2024

DIE KLINGENMESSE

11. MAI: 10 – 18 Uhr

12. MAI: 10 – 16 Uhr

Verkaufsmesse für:

Handgefertigte Einzelstücke

Hochklassige Serienmesser

Material und Werkzeug

Mit umfangreichem Begleitprogramm

Ort: Theater und Konzerthaus Solingen

www.knife-solingen.de

Bild: Richard Kappeller, Gewinner KNIFE Award 2023



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Industrieverband Schneid-
und Haushaltwaren



STADT MARKETING
Klingenstadt Solingen



DEUTSCHES
KLINGEN
MUSEUM
SOLINGEN



DC BLACKSMITHS FORGE-IN



About

We welcome you to join us for forging / beer filled weekend at DcBlacksmiths with David + Jake Cooper.

With lots on there will be Hog Roasts on the Saturday night with live entertainment so bring your dancing shoes! + pizza Van available on Friday night pizza ranging from £10-£14.

Also would be brilliant if people can bring something for the Saturday dinner table.

People welcome from 12 Noon on Friday and ask if people can be off premisses by no later then Noon on Sunday.

A live forging competition will be held through out the weekend with Themes to be decided, along with a selection of fun competitive games to take place.

Camper van / car parking will be made available along with plenty of camping space so bring your tents + sleeping bags. There will also be a Bunk house so bring a mat.

Please can everyone who is interested in coming along RSVP to my self Jake Cooper at jdcblacksmith@gmail.com.

- Arrival from 12 Noon Friday - 12 Noon Sunday
- Hog roast and live music in evening
- Bring your own booze and food for table please
- Camper van and camping available
- Competitions and themes TBD
- Bunk house space available (Wooden floor Outbuilding)

When: 31st May - 2nd June

Where: Hill House Forge, Main St, Burton Agnes, YO25 4NG

Jake - 07895777614

David - 07932111836

Call for Teams:

International Forging Competition

Sign up your team to compete for cash prizes totaling \$2,000.

Call for Entries:

The Ring Project

Blacksmiths from around the world are invited to submit a forged ring for a public art project.

Call for Entries:

Gallery of Ironwork

Metal artists are invited to show their work in our gallery space during the event.

Visit abana.org/50thanniversary for details and registration.



ABANA

50th Anniversary Celebration & Conference

June 6-9, 2024
Johnstown, Pennsylvania
USA

The event will feature:

- Renowned Demonstrators
- International Forging Competition
- Engaging Lectures
- Gallery Exhibition of Ironwork
- Auction
- Iron-in-the-Hat Raffle
- Tailgating & Vendors
- Craft Classes
- Big Tool Raffle
- Children's Activities
- Food and Festivities
- and much more!



Save the date!!

**BABA AGM & Conference
20th - 22nd Sept 2024**

the venue

**Rural Crafts Centre,
Herefordshire and Ludlow College
Holme Lacy, Hereford, HR2 6LL**

Demonstrations and presentations by

Will Maguire



Charles Lewton-Brain



Australia

Canada

**Lots more information in the Artist Blacksmith magazine
booking details will follow very soon
information will sent by email and on social media**



ASPIRING TO DESIGN 2024

Plans are being formulated to run a design seminar later in the year for BABA members. This will be a two day event led by James Price and Pete Hill, aimed at those with little or no design training and individuals keen to consider how they could take more control over the design of the work they make. It will have a focus on “contemporary” style and encourage thinking more consciously about design all the time and not just when you sit down to draw something for a client. We will aim to show how design can make your work both stand out from the crowd, help keep your work fun and engaging for yourself and potentially enable you to perhaps resolve technical issues before beginning the work.

Obviously two days is not going to allow you to learn everything you might during three years at a college or university or through 30 years of designing and making. It will be an introduction, some guidance and some encouragement! There will be pointers about where to look yourself for more context, more inspiration, how to look and see, most crucially how to discuss and consider.

The hope is, that with enough interest, this might evolve into more than a single event with the opportunity to delve deeper into the subject, looking at specific aspects of the design process.

Ultimately the motivation for this event is to encourage an increase in the volume of contemporary forge work that is being produced, to get more of our work on public view and encourage potential clients to consider commissioning more of the exciting and innovative work we are all capable of producing and relish seeing made by friends and colleagues.

Currently we are considering a number of venues in central England and it would be extremely helpful if we had an idea of the potential level of interest in the event. So if you are interested in broadening your outlook and challenging yourself, we would appreciate if you could drop us an email to design@baba.org.uk so we can plan accordingly with a suitable venue as we move forward.



CLASSIFIEDS: Toys for the toy shop....



Toby Forbes Gower:

The widest range of Blacksmithing tools at sensible prices:

<http://www.tfg-design-in-metal.com/shop>



The National School
of Blacksmithing



national_school_
blacksmithing



Why choose us?

The National School of Blacksmithing is the longest established blacksmithing college in the country. You will have the opportunity to learn the craft of blacksmithing and build your practical skills in our world leading workshop facilities, under the guidance of an experienced team of lecturers from a variety of industry specialisations.

Courses we provide:

- BTEC Level 2 Diploma Blacksmithing
- BTEC Level 3 Diploma Blacksmithing
- BA (Hons) Artist Blacksmithing
- Level 2 Welding Apprenticeship
- Level 3 Blacksmithing Apprenticeship
- Level 3 Farriery Apprenticeship
- Short Courses

Popular modules:

- Understanding and Using Forging Techniques for Blacksmithing and Metalworking
- Blacksmithing and Construction Skills
- Large Scale Design and Make
- Repoussé, Restoration and Conservation
- Metallurgy and Heat Treatment
- Forging Processes
- Welding and Thermal Cutting Processes
- Freehand and Technical Drawing



Holme Lacy
College

Holme Lacy, Hereford, HR2 6LL



clever tools for blacksmiths

...not missed until today?

There are a number of little helpers that make forging easier and more efficient. Even a traditional craft can be optimised...



Holdfast

This tool is perfect for fast clamping different workpieces directly onto the anvil. Only a simple hammer is needed to attach or detach the clamp. The size of the tool is suitable for different anvils and the shaft clamps securely in the square or round holes.



Guillotine

This helper allows various jobs if you are working alone. Finishing, settling, punching and much more.

Flexibel handling due to the bevelled C-Frame design. With fast and easy tool change, suitable for different tool dimensions. Fixation on the square hole of the anvil or for mounting on the workbench.



Adjustable spanner

The adjustable spanner is a perfect universal bending bar. The handle can be extended with a piece of pipe. This enables more power transmission.

Hint: You can clamp a raw material with the same cross-section as the twisted material on one mouth-side. This allows working with a larger lever without damaging the adjustable spanner.

Due to import regulations, we can only deliver from a minimum order value of 150€.



2X72.co.uk

BLADESMITH SUPPLIES



**BELT GRINDERS, ABRASIVE BELTS,
HAMMERS, TONGS & FIXINGS
WE'VE GOT THE LOT**



www.2x72.co.uk

CLASSIFIEDS:



Victory Tools Power Hammer Sales and Hire

Power Hammer prices from £4295 plus vat.

Being a blacksmith for many years and having to weld a mile to buy my first Massey, I fully understand the hardships of buying your first power hammer. With this in mind, I have decided to hire out our new Anyang ST power hammers to help you complete your job with the option to deduct the hire charge from the full price if purchased.

For more information about our new Anyang ST power hammers, any of our second hand power hammers or forge force induction heaters, please contact us on 01362687116 or email us at nigelbarnett@artist-blacksmith.co.uk

<http://www.artist-blacksmith.co.uk/>

Power Hammer for Sale



Ross Rigby 2cwt one piece hammer

3 phase

Built in 1951

In good working order and, as still wired in, can be seen in operation. While old this is of solid construction made in an era when things were built to last. Unlike modern hammers this is a one piece hammer, which means installation is super easy. It simply bolts to workshop floor without the need for any special foundation saving both time and money.

Offers over £ 6,500

Located in North Yorkshire, just outside Thirsk, YO7 2BJ

If you're interested, then do get in touch by contacting

Chris Topp 07773 368 643 / christoppironwork@gmail.com

Please do forward to anyone you think will be interested

JOBS, TRAINING & OPPERTUNITIES

Work Experience & New opportunities

If you are looking for a new job, or looking for some vital work experience why not send in a few words about yourself and experience and the part of the UK that you are looking to work in and we will include it here for you.

I know a few of the more established players will be looking for some extra help in the new year on those upcoming projects in the pipeline so feel free to get in touch via email and send me those job adverts. You can also check out the BABA directory for a full list of Blacksmiths offering “Work Experience”

Looking for help in the forge? why not send in the details the newsletter is now reaching a much wider audience of talented smiths who might be just the person you were looking for to join the team.

Newsletter@baba.org.uk



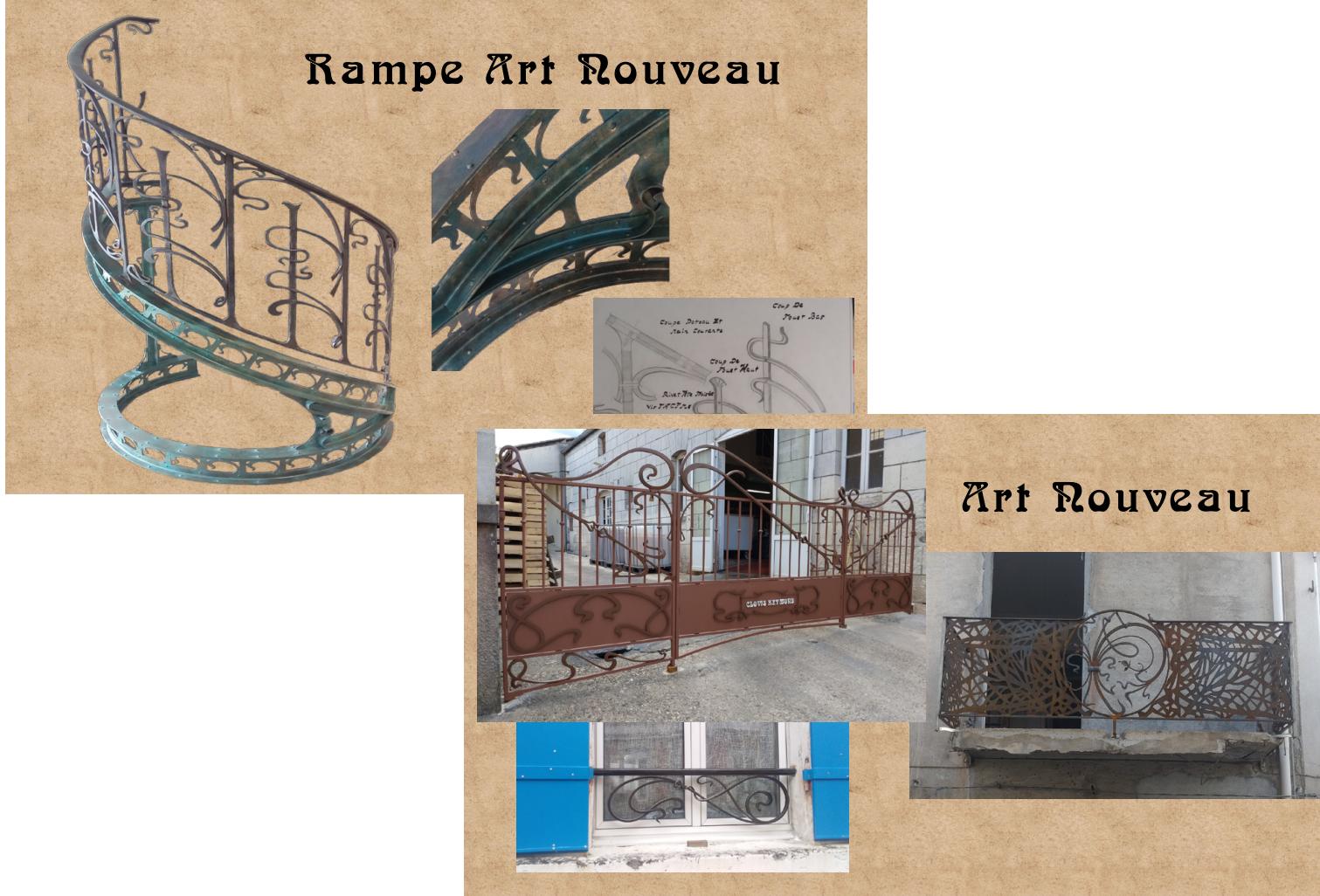
Looking for Work:

BACHMAIR Wilfried / BACHMAIR Hans:

my brother and I would like to work in the United Kingdom.

We are two French blacksmiths with around ten years of experience in the trade (you will find attached a portfolio of some works that we have been able to carry out in the past), we hope to stay in the United Kingdom for a year, according to your possibilities of course.

We can be reached by email (rapiete@live.fr) or telephone (00 33 6 31 36 07 62 or 00 33 6 40 66 35 04) for any information.



NEW METALWORKING TENANCY

Frameworks is excited to open applications for a new artist in our metalworking community.

Suitable applicants will be active craftspeople or graduates, preferably with the capacity to offer teaching classes.

Studio W10 measures 12.5ft x 18.5ft and costs £233.00 monthly.

It is on the ground floor with rolling door access through the communal forge.

It includes a fixed metal bench, and metal storage cupboard with shelving and has both natural and interior lighting.

Studio Tenancy Includes:

- Access to our unique communal forge
- Ability to carry out paid teaching classes through the Frameworks website (requires DAB check and includes admin fees).
- Taking part in Frameworks events
- 24-hour secure access
- Profile and photography on the Frameworks website.

To apply, please email the following to hello@frameworks.org:

- a description of your practice
- a copy of your current CV
- a link to your website/social media
- photos of your recent work

Available from 5 May 2023

AVAILABLE FROM 5 MAY 2023



London Bronze Casting are hiring!



Job Title: Senior Metal Work Technician

Location: Farnham, Surrey

Company: London Bronze Casting Ltd

About Us:

London Bronze Casting Ltd is a renowned Art Foundry, dedicated to preserving traditional craftsmanship while embracing contemporary artistry. We specialize in bronze casting and metalwork, collaborating with leading artists and designers. Join our team and be part of the exciting world of artistic metalwork.

Job Advert:

Are you a highly skilled metalwork expert with over five years of hands-on experience, ready to take on a pivotal role in our artistic community?

Position: Senior Metal Work Technician

Salary Range: £33,000 - £35,000 per annum

What We Offer:

- A competitive salary with opportunities for career growth.
- Immersive hands-on experience working on unique art projects.
- Collaborative and creative work environment.
- Mentorship and guidance from experienced craftsmen and craftswomen.
- A chance to contribute to the creation of exceptional bronze artworks.

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead and execute complex metalwork tasks, including TIG welding, finishing raw castings, and texture work.
- Interpret technical drawings with precision and contribute to the production of high-quality bronze artworks.
- Ensure strict adherence to health and safety protocols to maintain a safe work environment.
- Collaborate closely with a skilled team of craftsmen and craftswomen, providing guidance and support.
- Mentor junior team members and share your wealth of experience.
- Drive continuous improvement in metalwork techniques and processes.

Qualifications:

- Minimum of five years of demonstrated experience in metalwork and chasing.
- Exceptional skills and expertise in TIG welding, finishing, and texture work.
- Thorough knowledge of health and safety regulations in metalwork.
- Strong leadership abilities with a collaborative and positive attitude.
- A passion for craftsmanship and a portfolio showcasing your exceptional work.

How to Apply:

Ready to embrace a pivotal role as a Senior Metal Work Technician? Apply via our website at <https://www.london-bronzecasting.com/job-application>. Please specify the position you are applying for in your application.

Join London Bronze Casting Ltd and contribute your expertise to our artistic journey in the world of metalwork!

London Bronze Casting Ltd is an equal opportunity employer. We encourage applications from candidates of all backgrounds and experience.

CALLING ALL HOBBYISTS WITH A PASSION FOR MAKING, CREATING AND TINKERING!

Do you have an impressive hobby project that you'd love to show off? Have a problematic project that needs expert advice? Or do you want to take your crafting skills to another level?

Whether it's a toy train or full sized plane, a lovingly restored vintage motorbike, puppets, woodcutters, upholsterers, glass makers, automatons and any home made invention; no matter how big or small we'd love to either help you perfect your project or show off your unique creation!

Our Travelling Toolshed is here to help!

Get in touch with your **name, contact** information and **details** about your project:

castingtoolshed@hungrybear.tv



The Art Workers' Guild

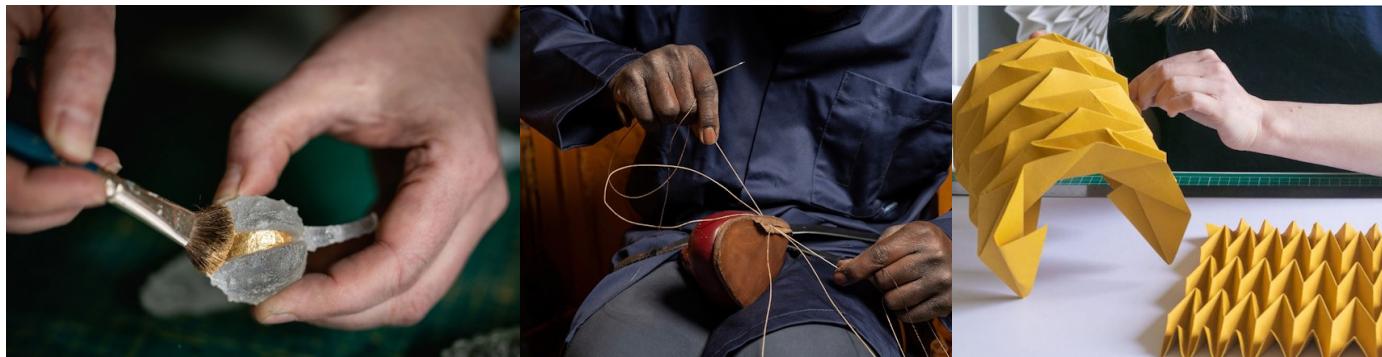
is launching a new year-long programme called Creative Connections. The programme will create a space for creative people, who are beginning to establish themselves professionally, to meet and connect with Guild members, build supportive networks with each other and develop their professional practice.

The programme will include hands-on workshops, talks, discussions and social events - all opportunities to connect with other creative people to share insights and ideas, encourage each other and navigate the challenges of sustaining a career.

<https://www.artworkersguild.org/what-we-do/creative-connections/apply/>



SUPPORTING EXCELLENCE IN BRITISH CRAFTSMANSHIP



New Scholars & Apprentices Announced

We are delighted to announce 27 new craftspeople have recently been awarded QEST funding to further their training and education, with the total awarded this round reaching nearly £300,000.

The 22 Scholars and 5 Apprentices include makers working in textile conservation, stained glass, bee farming, stone carving, millinery and more, across the length and breadth of the UK.

Click below to learn more about the makers and their exciting plans for their QEST training.

See all new Scholars & Apprentices

<https://rwha-mail.co.uk/CLZ-880OE-2FYCCF-5654HD-1/c.aspx>

Three new bursaries at Cockpit Arts

The Cockpit Arts Society Bursary is for professional craftspeople using traditional craft skills, including those that are at risk of dying out. The Rosalind Stracey Ceramic Award is for a ceramicist who has a strong desire to experiment and take risks with their practice. The Needlemakers' Award is an award for a maker who uses needles in the course of their work. The bursaries includes subsidy towards one year of business support and studio space.

<https://cockpitstudios.org/awards/arts-society-award-at-cockpit/>





QEST FUNDING ROUND NOW OPEN!

**Applications close
12 February**

QEST Events:

Craft Festival Bovey Tracey (<https://rwha-mail.co.uk/CLZ-8I8IB-2FYCCF-5CPZK6-1/c.aspx>)@ Mill Marsh Park, Devon

Friday 7 to Sunday 9 June

Festival of Making (<https://rwha-mail.co.uk/CLZ-8I8IB-2FYCCF-5CPZK7-1/c.aspx>)@ Blackburn
Saturday 6 to Sunday 7 July

'Fold' @Hub (<https://rwha-mail.co.uk/CLZ-8I8IB-2FYCCF-5CPZK8-1/c.aspx>), Sleaford
20 July to November

Great Northern Contemporary Craft Fair (<https://rwha-mail.co.uk/CLZ-8I8IB-2FYCCF-5CPZK9-1/c.aspx>)@ Victoria Baths, Manchester
Thursday 17 to Sunday 20 October

the CHURCHILL fellowship



We will fund you to spend up to two months discovering new ideas and best practice among leading practitioners anywhere in the world. You can do this in person or online. Then we will help you to write up your ideas as a Report published on our website, to share your insights with your community or sector, and to turn your ideas into action in the UK.

The initial grant covers all expenses for your research phase, including all travel costs. If needed, it also covers interpreters and travel assistants.

The topic you explore is defined by you. It must meet our eligibility criteria, which include offering a practical benefit to UK society. Success will be assessed within your own terms, and may be local or national.

The success of your application for a Fellowship is not affected by your qualifications, background or age. We ask only that you are a UK resident citizen aged 18 or over. We are looking for people with the potential to inspire change.

The support we offer extends beyond the initial grant:

We offer advice and assistance with planning your research and travels, writing up your findings, sharing your knowledge and implementing your ideas.

We promote your ideas and activities on our website and social media channels.

We plug you in to our online Fellows' networks which offer local and thematic contacts and collaborations.

We offer post-research grants for your knowledge-sharing and events.

We maintain contact for as long as you like, and include all Fellows within our community.

Many Fellows start their projects at a local level, in their workplace or locality, and then grow its influence, perhaps to regional or sector level. Some find themselves affecting national levels of policy or services. Almost all say that the Fellowship took them to places and levels they had not expected. In a recent survey, 100% of Fellows said they would recommend a Fellowship to others.

Crucial to this process is the personal and professional growth that comes from a Fellowship. You have an opportunity to take time out of normal life, for learning and thinking. You will be learning in a topic you care about, from leading practitioners you have chosen, anywhere in the world. You will have the status of being a Churchill Fellow, which opens doors overseas and at home. Many Fellows tell us that their ideas were not taken seriously until they became a Fellow, when their voice was fully heard.

Fellows report that these effects are long-lasting. Our survey showed that – as a result of their Fellowship – 77% of Fellows remain globally connected, 61% are leaders in their sector and 77% feel they are more fulfilled professionally. Some 88% said it was a life-changing experience.

You can read about the impact that Fellows make here, and about the impact on a Fellow's own life here:
<https://www.churchillfellowship.org/>



Bòrd na Gàidhlig

This scheme is currently open until 3pm on Tuesday 20 February 2024.

Information about projects that received support from 2018/19 onwards can be found via [GrantNav](#).

Colmcille is a partnership between Foras na Gaeilge in Ireland and Bòrd na Gàidhlig in Scotland. It fosters communication and collaboration between the language communities of Scottish and Irish Gaelic.

Funding is available to help support projects which will bring Gaelic and Irish speakers together, and also for Gaelic speakers looking to undertake an Irish course.

This year's scheme will particularly look to support projects which:

Promote the use of Gaelic or Irish through the arts

Use heritage to bring Gaelic/Irish communities together and promote the status of the languages

Bring young speakers of Gaelic and Irish together through events and school projects/trips

Promote communication and sharing of knowledge and best practice among Gaelic and Irish speakers

Guidelines for Applicants and an Application Form can be found below, for either projects or Irish course support. If you have any questions please email tabhartas@gaidhlig.scot.

ASSOCIATION NEWS & MINUTES

BABA DEVELOPMENT FUND



The BABA Development Fund is specifically for seed-funding events and projects such as masterclasses, in the form of an interest-free loan administered by the Council. Candidates should submit a written application outlining why funding is required, and how much is needed, together with a proposal as to how and when the loan will be repaid. Applications will be considered by the Council. For enquiries/applications regarding the Development Fund please contact the BABA Secretary,

Steve Rook; secretary@baba.org.uk

BABA Event Fund

If you are planning on hosting a in person forging event, big or small there are funds available to help with the cost of hosting the event. For further information get in touch with Tony:

Treasurer@baba.org.uk

BABA Minutes

Due to the recent change in the newsletter and how it is now published to the general public as a means of promoting the association, what we do and who we are. The Minutes from council meetings and the AGM will be sent out directly to the membership via Mail-Chimp to your registered email address. If you have received a copy of the Newsletter, Magazine, or Minutes remember to update your contact details on the membership page of the website.

NEWSLETTER@BABA.ORG.UK



B L A C K S M I T H

WHETHER YOU ARE A PROFESSIONAL OR AN AMATEUR
WE WOULD LOVE TO SEE IMAGES OF YOUR WORK

You have several options:

Single images with a title/caption for 'gallery' pages are most welcome at any time.

Gallery

A collection of 3 to 6 images of pieces by one artist. Please limit text to 100 to 150 words maximum. A very brief description or something about the inspiration or the artist's philosophy. A small insight.

Commission

Similar to the above, but relating to one specific commission. The finished piece, some detail shots, or perhaps some images that clearly show aspects of the making. Again, with just a very brief outline of the commission.

- 1) Please send images at as high a resolution as possible.
- 2) Please give a title or caption for each image.
- 3) If you did not take any given photograph yourself, please give the name of the photographer so they can be credited.
- 4) Please ensure that the images are not blurred and try to avoid confusing backgrounds
- 5) WeTransfer <https://wetransfer.com/> is quick and easy to use. Dropbox, GoogleDrive or similar works too

Send images and text to Henry Pomfret: artistblacksmith@baba.org.uk



BABA members can advertise second hand tools and gadgets for free in the newsletter

Businesses & non-members can advertise from just £10/month to sell their wares, so if you have some tools going rusty in the corner of the workshop or the hottest must have contraption; send me a photo and your contact info and we will spread the word far and wide.

Newsletter@baba.org.uk