

CRAFTS



THE MAGAZINE FOR CONTEMPORARY CRAFT

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Designers go back to basics

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Britain's best new talent

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Jayne Wallace's jewellery

PHOTO

Making the long list

This year, *Jerwood Contemporary Makers* comes to the final of its three-year series. And so, before the reassessment begins of how the prize should continue, 2010 sees a bumper crop of names to celebrate. The selectors, Hans Stofer, Richard Slee and Freddie Robins, have chosen 29 makers to share the £30,000 prize fund.

Those selected include David Clarke, Nora Fok, Marloes ten Bhomer, David Gates and Richard Wheeler. One less well-known maker that Robins was keen to include was Karen Nicol. As a fashion embroiderer and textiles designer, Nicol has worked for a seemingly endless line of designers, and Robins describes her as 'the best mixed-media embroiderer in the country by a long way'.

Other selected makers, such as Carl Clerkin, may more usually operate in a design context, but the selectors were keen to demonstrate the broad range that the Jerwood can accommodate. 'I love Carl Clerkin's thinking process,' Robins explains. 'I've done things with him before but I was really keen to show his work, because it sits in quite a strange territory.' Clerkin will present *Desperate Measures*, a series of buckets modified for differing

purposes. It stems from time spent last year living 'without any services', as he explains: 'The aim of the work is to question what we think we want, what we would like and what we actually need, to explore what happens when aspirations are super-seeded by desperation.'

Seen as a whole, the list is broad, covering many disciplines and approaches. 'It's about the fact that making exists in all different areas, making isn't something just in the craft world. It's something that all different types of creative people in the physical world do,' says Robins. 'This is the *Jerwood Contemporary MAKERS*, no matter what context it sits in. We're trying to look at the work for its integrity and merit alone, not categorising it.'

The show (16 June - 25 July) presents one piece of work for each selected maker. Designed by Michael Marriott, it will, Robins emphasises, be a 'democratic and simple placement of pieces'. With a range from couture to buckets it seems this year's Jerwood will give us a more complex, and holistic, look at making. *Jerwood Contemporary Makers* is at the *Jerwood Space* from 16 June - 25 July. For details see *Crafts Guide*, www.jerwoodvisualarts.org



Left: *Pouring Forms*,
Laura Ellen Bacon
Right: *Disc florets*,
Nora Fok, knitted dyed
nylon, 30 cm diam., 2009
Above right: *Triple Necked
Vessel*, Conor Wilson,
earthenware, glaze,
lustre, acrylic paint, brass,
steel, 28 x 20 cm, 2009

