

# ADRIAN SASSOON

## Cara Murphy

Curriculum Vitae



Born 1969, Lisburn, Northern Ireland

1988-1992 Glasgow School of Art BA Hons Design (Silversmithing & Jewellery)  
1992-1994 Royal College of Art, London, MA Goldsmithing, Silversmithing, Metalwork and Jewellery

Working in Northern Ireland

"Using traditional silversmithing techniques my work creates a silver landscape for the table, which is influenced by the natural environment.

Although I have always had an interest in combining silver with other materials, especially stone and wood, my work has developed more recently to include elements of colour. Adding this colour with transparent vitreous enamel enables me to create organic patterns on the surface of the silver that are highlighted by the refraction of light.

Applying the enamel is a slow process and is built up in layers. Each layer is applied wet with a quill and fired in a kiln. The final layer is ground smooth before the final firing."

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## Solo Exhibitions

- 2018 Ulster Museum, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
1997 Barbican, London  
1996 Roger Billcliffe Gallery, Glasgow  
1995 Design Yard, Dublin, Ireland

## Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2024 *Adrian Sassoon*, The Treasure House Fair, London  
*Adrian Sassoon*, TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2023 *Adrian Sassoon*, The Treasure House Fair, London  
*Adrian Sassoon*, TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2022 *Adrian Sassoon*, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London  
*Matter Moves Mind*, Culturesphere Gallery, Munich, Germany  
*COLLECT*, Somerset House, London
- 2021 *What Colour is Metal?*, State Apartments, Dublin Castle, Dublin, Ireland  
*Mastery: Women in Silver*, Ruthin Craft Centre, Wales  
*The Pearson Silver Collection*, Sworders Fine Art, London  
*Conjuring Form*, Doneraile, Cork, Ireland  
*Royal Ulster Academy*, Ulster Museum, Northern Ireland
- 2020 *Open Up*, Dutch Silver Museum, Schoonhoven, The Netherlands  
*Generation*, National Design and Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland
- 2019 *COLLECT*, Saatchi Gallery, London  
*Renewal*, Goldsmiths' Centre, London & tour
- 2018 *Adrian Sassoon*, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London  
*Colour Theory*, Contemporary Applied Arts, London  
*Homo Faber: Best of Europe*, organised by the Michelangelo Foundation, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice, Italy  
*The Miniaturists*, The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
- 2017 *Adrian Sassoon*, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London  
*Jubilee*, Galerie for Art & Design, Pforzheim, Germany  
*Narratives in Making*, Portfolio Critical Selectin, National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland  
*Global Irish Design Challenge*, National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland
- 2016 *Silver Speaks*, Victoria and Albert Museum, London  
*Global Irish Design Challenge*, National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland  
*Royal Ulster Academy*, Ulster Museum, Belfast, Northern Ireland
- 2015 *Irish Connection - Portfolio: Critical Selection*, The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh  
*Silver and Stone*, Solomon Gallery, Dublin, Ireland  
*Side by Side – Portfolio: Critical Selection*, Centre Cultural Irlandais, Paris, France  
*Side by Side – Portfolio: Critical Selection*, National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland
- 2014 *McCrorry Family*, The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh  
*Portfolio - Selected Works*, Royal Hibernian Gallery, Dublin, Ireland  
*Feast of Silver*, Fortnum and Mason, London  
*A Spoonful of Silver*, Belton House, Lincolnshire  
*Hammered*, Museet pa Koldinghus, Denmark  
*Hopeaa ja emalia*, Finnish Craft Museum, Finland
- 2013 *Hopeaa ja emalia*, Höyry-galleria, Finland  
*Contemporary Silver: A Selling Exhibition*, Christies, London  
*Culture Craft*, London Street Gallery, Derry, City of Culture 2013

Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

- 2013 *Future Beauty?*, Farmleigh Gallery, Dublin, Ireland  
*Rocks*, Goldsmiths Centre, London
- 2012 *Future Beauty?*, National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland  
 Royal Ulster Academy, Ulster Museum, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
*Fit for Purpose*, Victoria and Albert Museum, London  
*National Craft and Design Awards*, Royal Dublin Society, Dublin, Ireland  
*My Place*, Bluecoat Gallery, Liverpool
- 2011 *26 Treasures*, Ulster Museum, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
 Arts Council Collection, Parliament Buildings, Stormont, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
*Thirty*, Flowerfield Arts Centre, Portstewart, Northern Ireland  
*Irish Craft Portfolio*, Farmleigh Art Gallery, Dublin, Ireland  
*Irish Craft Portfolio*, National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland
- 2010 *Material Poetry*, American Irish Historical Society, New York, USA  
*Objects of Light*, Danish Museum of Art and Design, Copenhagen, Denmark  
*London Design Festival*, Victoria and Albert Museum, London  
*C3*, Ulster Museum, Belfast, Northern Ireland
- 2009 *Designers and Makers'*, FE McWilliams Gallery, Banbridge, Northern Ireland  
*Side x Side - Edge > Edge*, Häme Castle, Finland  
*Object*, National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland  
*COLLECT*, Saatchi Gallery, London  
*A Pinch of Salt*, Goldsmiths Hall, London
- 2008 *Silver Sounds*, Queens University, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
*Connect: Eat and Drink*, Hillsborough Courthouse, Northern Ireland  
*You'll Never Walk Alone*, Bluecoat Gallery, Liverpool and NCG, Kilkenny, Ireland
- 2007 *Moments of Indulgence*, Millennium Galleries, Sheffield  
*Connect*, Birmingham  
*A Dynamic of Change*, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, USA; and  
*Making Changes: Contemporary Craft in Northern Ireland*, Ormeau Baths Gallery, Belfast, Northern Ireland
- 2006 *Silver Connections*, Crafts Council of Ireland Touring Exhibition, Ireland  
*TEN*, Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery, Birmingham
- 2004 *Looking: Over My Shoulder*, Lesley Craze Gallery, London
- 2001 *Movers and Shakers*, Roger Billcliffe Gallery, Glasgow  
*Cutlery*, Lesley Craze Gallery, London
- 2000 *Spoons*, The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh  
*Young Silversmiths*, The Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh
- 1999 *Cutlery - Ancient and Modern*, Goldsmiths' Hall, London  
*Ten Leading Silversmiths*, Roger Billcliffe Gallery, Glasgow  
*Zilver in Beweging*, Galerie Marzee, The Netherlands  
*Metalmorphosis*, Museum of Decorative Arts, Prague and Brohan Museum, Berlin, Germany
- 1998 *Silver and Tea - A Perfect Blend*, Goldsmiths' Hall, London  
*Contemporary Decorative Arts*, Sotheby's Colonnade Galleries, London
- 1997 *Silver from Scotland*, Crafts Council, London, Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh and Aberdeen Art Gallery, Aberdeen
- 1996 *Cisti Nua: New Treasures*, DESIGNyard, Dublin & Barbican Centre, London
- 1995 *Moving Parts*, Roger Billcliffe Gallery, Glasgow  
*Exploring the Lathe*, Crafts Council of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland  
*Essentials - made to be used*, Roger Billcliffe Gallery, Glasgow

### Selected Group Exhibitions (continued)

1994            *Jewellery / Small Objects*, Galerie Marzee, The Netherlands

### Public Collections

GSA in NYC, Aaron Faber Gallery, New York, USA  
Aberdeen Art Gallery & Museums, Aberdeen  
Arts Council of Northern Ireland  
Shipleigh Art Gallery, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear  
The Goldsmiths' Company, London  
Ulster Museum, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
Arts Council / An Chomhairle Ealaíon, Ireland  
Department of Foreign Affairs, Dublin, Ireland  
National Museum of Ireland, Dublin, Ireland  
Office of Public Works, Ireland

### Selected Commissions

2022            Randox Grand National Trophy  
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                  St Leger Trophy Centrepiece  
2016            Business to Arts 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Awards, Ireland  
2014            Altar Candleholders, St. Columb's Cathedral, Derry, Northern Ireland  
                  Nevin Spence Memorial Trophy, Irish Rugby Union Players Association  
2012            Altar Cross, Drummahaire Parish Church, Randalstown, Northern Ireland  
                  Altar Candleholders, St. Anne's Cathedral, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
2011            Desk set, The Silver Trust Collection for 10 Downing Street, London  
2008            Sam English Commemorative Bowl, Rangers Football Club, Glasgow  
2007            Centrepiece, Queens University, Belfast, Northern Ireland  
1996            Communion Box, Hillsborough Parish Church, Hillsborough, Northern Ireland

### Awards

2021            Royal Dublin Society Irish Craft Bursary  
2018            Individual Arts Award, Arts Council of Northern Ireland  
2017            Best Collectors' Pieces Award, Image Interiors and Living Design Awards,  
                  Dublin, Ireland  
2016            Rosy James Memorial Award, Northern Ireland  
2013            Individual Arts Award, Arts Council of Northern Ireland  
2012            RDS National Craft Award of Excellence and California Gold Medal  
2011            Individual Arts Award, Arts Council of Northern Ireland  
2009            Freeman of the Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths'  
                  Freeman of the City of London  
2008            Major Individual Award, Arts Council of Northern Ireland  
2005            Individual Arts Award, Arts Council of Northern Ireland  
2003            Individual Arts Award, Arts Council of Northern Ireland  
2002            Individual Arts Award, Arts Council of Northern Ireland  
1996            Creative Arts Award, Arts Council of Northern Ireland

### Awards (continued)

- 1994 Quality Mark, Crafts Council of Ireland  
Selfridge Prize, Highly Commended, Royal College of Art, London
- 1993 Precious Metal Bursary, Worshipful Company of Goldsmiths, London
- 1992 Cutlery Design Winner, Royal College of Art, London  
Richard Hubbard Arroll Memorial Prize, Glasgow School of Art, Glasgow  
Winner, British Stainless Steel Student Design Awards

### Bibliography: Books & Catalogues

- 2022 Davis, J. L. and Hamme, G., *Contemporary British Silver Designers*
- 2021 Goring, E., Audas, J. and Hughes P., *Mastery: Women in Silver Portfolio: Critical Selection*, Design & Crafts Council of Ireland
- 2019 *Portfolio: Critical Selection*, Design & Crafts Council of Ireland
- 2017 *Portfolio: Critical Selection*, Design & Crafts Council of Ireland
- 2015 *Portfolio: Critical Selection*, Design & Crafts Council of Ireland
- 2011 *Portfolio: Critical Selection*, Crafts Council of Ireland
- 2007 *Connect: Eat and Drink*  
*Making Changes*
- 2006 *Silver Connections*
- 2000 Smith, K., *Silversmithing - A Manual of Design & Techniques*, Crowood
- 1999 *The Art and Evolution of Cutlery*
- 1998 Levi, P., *New British Design*  
*Metalmorphosis*, Museum of Decorative Arts, Prague, Czechoslovakia  
& Broham Museum, Berlin, Germany
- 1997 *Silver from Scotland*  
*Serving for Delight*