

# Darren Ball

<https://www.darrenballtextileartist.com/>  
<https://www.craftscouncil.org.uk/directory/darren-ball-textile-artist>

## PERSONAL PROFILE

Darren trained in Fashion Textiles, specializing in hand knit. He taught himself free machine embroidery whilst teaching art and textiles in secondary and further education. He now focusses on his machine embroidery producing framed, bespoke embroideries from his new home in Wales. Darren uses applique and machine embroidery to illustrate personal narratives or ideas, inspired by memorabilia or his collection of vintage *Stitchcraft* knitting and embroidery magazines. He works with vintage and repurposed fabrics which he has collected over several years, these create a found palette of colour. The bespoke nature of his work is emphasized by his use of vintage handkerchiefs in combination with his unique knitting skills to create his pieces. Darren is an alumnus of the Crafts Council Hothouse programme.

## EDUCATION & QUALIFICATIONS

MA Textile Culture	Norwich School of Art and Design (2003-04)
Postgraduate Art Teacher's Certificate	Cardiff Institute of Higher Education (1993-94)
BA (Hons) (First) Fashion/Textiles	Middlesex Polytechnic (1987-90)

## EMPLOYMENT/CAREER HISTORY

Textile Artist	Surrey (2015-present)
Teacher of Art and Textiles	1994-2022

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

	Crafts Council Directory 2019
Member	Design Nation 2019
Member	Society of Designer Craftsmen 2017
Member	The Sussex Guild 2015-23
Member	Makers Guild Wales 2025
Member	The Textile Society

## MOST RECENT EXHIBITIONS

2025	New Members Work Makers Guild Wales 8 Aug-7 Sept, Craft in the Bay, Cardiff
2025	Stitch by Stitch 5 Jul-30 Aug, Willow Gallery, Oswestry
2025	Celebrating Stitchcraft 17 Jun-18 Oct, Chertsey Museum, Chertsey
2025	Broderers' Exhibition 2025 25 Feb-2 Mar, Bankside Gallery, London
2024	GNCCF 17-20 Oct, Design Nation Sustainability & Ethical Practice, Manchester
2024	Craftworks 15-17 May, Shoreditch Town Hall
2023	Made Brighton 2023, Brighton Dome
2023	Made London 2023, Islington
2023	Solo Exhibition 14 Mar-7 May, The Sunbury Embroidery Gallery, Sunbury-on-Thames
2022	ING Discerning Eye 2022, Mall Gallery
2022	Young Masters Art Exhibition Part 2, Exhibitionist Hotel, London
2022	Atelier Beside the Sea Open, Brighton
2022	Transformations SDC exhibition, Bankside Gallery, London
2021	Form Made From Chelsea Harbour Design Centre
2021	Collect 2021 Contemporary Craft Fair on Artsy.net
2020	ING Discerning Eye, online show
2020	RWA 168th Open Exhibition, Bristol
2020	Rising Stars 2020, New Ashgate Gallery, Farnham
2020	The Craft Centre and Design Gallery Leeds
2019	Brighton Art Fair, Lewes
2019	ING Discerning Eye 2019, Mall Gallery
2019	Made London 2019, Marylebone
2019	North Surrey SDC exhibition, Robert Phillips Gallery, Walton on Thames
2018	Sparkle, Landmark Art Centre, Teddington

2018	Sussex Guild Craft show, De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill on Sea
2018	Designer Crafts Exhibition, Chelsea College of Arts, London
2018	Contemporary Textiles Fair, Landmark Art Centre, Teddington
2017	Sparkle, Landmark Art Centre, Teddington
2017	Design & Craft Fair featuring Made, West Dean
2017	Contemporary Textiles Fair, Landmark Art Centre, Teddington
2017	Member of the Society of Designer Craftsmen (SDC)
2016	Contemporary Textiles Fair, Landmark Art Centre, Teddington
2016	Design & Craft Fair featuring Made, West Dean
2016	Sussex Guild Craft show, Michelham Priory
2016	Brighton Art Fair
2015	Sussex Guild Craft show, Michelham Priory and Midhurst Rother College
2015	Member of the Sussex Guild of Designer Makers
2013	Autumn Art Fair, Landmark Art Centre, Teddington
2012	Selected for Surrey Open Art Exhibition, Lightbox Gallery, Woking
2006	Selected for Open Exhibition, Black Swan Arts
2005	'Eat Art' Exhibition, Robert Phillips Gallery, Riverhouse, Walton-on-Thames.

#### **PROFESSIONALLY RELATED EXPERIENCE**

2019	Selection for Crafts Council Hothouse 2019
2019	Crafts Council Directory
1991	National finalist in 'Clothes Show/Brother Knitting Competition
1990	Texprint Interstoff 'Graduate design linked to industry a Focus of Excellence'