

## The Black Fish Press

Email: [linda@theblackfishpress.com](mailto:linda@theblackfishpress.com)

Tel: +44 7817233397

102 Albert Road

Sheffield, S89QW, UK

### Personal Statement:

With a background in design history, printing and art and design teaching, I now design and block print textiles in my studio in Sheffield.

I lino block print onto linen union and thick cotton, using vegetable oil based inks from Hawthorns in York.

With a product range including cushions and lampshades, I aim for something bold, clean and contemporary, with some reference to mid 20th century design.

I am becoming increasingly interested in the complexity of patterns, textures and colours which can be achieved by a repetition of simple blocks and patterns, from the use of overprinting, repositioning of blocks, and varying inking density.

Recently, with the help and encouragement of a research and development grant, I have begun to experiment with wholecloth quilt making. I've been exploring how the two repetitive mark making processes of printing and stitching can be combined with traditional quilting and construction techniques to make quilts which reference both patchwork and wholecloth traditions.

My interest in lino block printed textiles began back in the 1980s while studying for my history of design degree in Manchester. I came across textile designs by 20th century artists and sculptors like Ben Nicholson and Barbara Hepworth who in the 1930s had designed and printed lino block fabrics for their own use, some of which were later produced commercially. Researching and reproducing these textiles was a great way of learning and understanding the design disciplines and printing techniques involved.

Another inspiration for my own work have been the bold coloured blocked designs of Welsh double weave bedspreads which I remember from a childhood in North Wales and went on to study for my degree dissertation. The design disciplines imposed by the weaving methods and machinery and the subtle textured colour combinations achieved have informed my own design focus.

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### Exhibitions and Events:

#### 2018

*125 Years of Art & Design in Yorkshire, YAS/Ponsfords/David Mellor, Ponsfords, Sheffield;*  
Art in the Gardens, Botanic Gardens, Sheffield;  
Summer Artisan Market, Haddon Hall, Derbys;  
Art Unequalled, The Maltings, Ely, Cambs;  
Printmakers Event, Bath House, RHS Harlow Carr

#### 2017

*Open Up Yorkshire Artspace Studios, Sheffield;*  
Great Northern Contemporary Craft Fair, Manchester;  
Handmade for Christmas, Millennium Gallery, Sheffield;  
Crafted by Hand, Masham, Yorks;  
Saltaire Arts Trail Makers' Fair, Saltaire;  
C-Art Festival Art Fair, Penrith;  
Printmakers Event, Bath House, RHS Harlow Carr;  
*Loreto College, Manchester Inset day for Art & Design teachers*

#### 2016

The Little Northern Contemporary Craft Fair, Altrincham;  
*Open Up Yorkshire Artspace Studios, Exchange Place, Sheffield;*  
*Meet the Maker Demonstration at the Millennium Gallery, Sheffield;*  
Art in the Gardens, Botanical Gardens, Sheffield;  
Sheffield Print Fair, Millennium Gallery, Sheffield;  
The Art Market, Holmfirth  
Saltaire Inspired Art Fair, Saltaire;  
*Open Up Sheffield at Bank Street Arts;*  
*Made in Sheffield Exhibition, Millennium Gallery, Sheffield*

### AWARDS

**Making Ways (Sheffield Culture Consortium/Arts Council England) Research & Development Grant 2017/18**

### WORK EXPERIENCE

#### Teacher, Secondary Art & Design

Ysgol Uwchradd Tywyn  
N Wales  
2001-2010

#### Teacher, Secondary Art & Design

Brentside High School  
Ealing, London  
1993-2000

#### Television Production Assistant & Manager

1973-1990

### EDUCATION

#### CertHE in Fine Art

Bangor University  
College of Education & Lifelong Learning  
2010-2012

#### PGCE Art & Design (Secondary)

Institute of Education, University of London  
1992-1993

#### BA (Hons) History of Design (1st Class)

Manchester Polytechnic (Manchester Municipal University)  
1986-1989

Special Focus: Welsh doubleweave bedspreads &

Block Printed Textiles between the Wars

