

PRESS RELEASE

9 August 2012

## Alison Britton Life and Still Life

**16 October – 15 December 2012**  
**Exhibition at the Crafts Study Centre**  
**University for the Creative Arts, Falkner Road,**  
**Farnham, Surrey GU9 7DS**  
**01252 891450 [www.csc.ucreative.ac.uk](http://www.csc.ucreative.ac.uk)**

In this exhibition Alison Britton will show a selection of objects from her own 'study collection' of other people's work - paintings, photographs, drawings, pots, tableware - as a framework for a group of her new pots, mainly in red clay, which she started to use after a residency at the Shigaraki Ceramic Cultural Park in Japan in 2010. A few ghostly older pieces are also contributing a paler background, and unusually in her work these are largely white.

In 2009 Alison Britton curated the exhibition *Three by One* at the Crafts Study Centre, which included pieces from both Ethel Mairet's and Bernard Leach's study collections of objects that inspired and informed them in engendering their innovative practice.

*"Everyone has things, but artists do something else perhaps with the objects they own, in using them to think with".*  
Alison Britton

Alison Britton (b.1948) is one of the most important figures in British ceramics, being part of the radical group of RCA graduates in the early 1970s whose work laid the foundations for what became known as 'The New Ceramics'. She studied at the central school of Art and Design and the Royal College of Art, and is highly regarded as a writer, curator and lecturer, as well as a ceramicist.

Alison Britton's work has been exhibited internationally and can be seen in major public and private collections worldwide, including the V&A, London, Royal Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh, Australian National Gallery, Canberra, National Museum of Modern Art, Kyoto, and Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris. She was awarded an OBE in 1990 for her services to the applied arts, and is a senior tutor at the RCA.



**Images:** (left) *Float*, 2012  
(middle) *Cave*, 2012  
(right) *Squirrel*, 2009

All images for Alison Britton by Philip Sayer.

Alison Britton is represented by Mardsen Woo Gallery, London.

## **Publication**

A new publication *Life and Still Life* accompanies the exhibition with a foreword by Simon Olding, introduction by Alison Britton and essay by Tanya Harrod. ISBN 978-0-9570212-2-8. Available from the Crafts Study Centre 01252 891450, email: [craftscentre@ucreative.ac.uk](mailto:craftscentre@ucreative.ac.uk)

## **Notes for Editors**

**1. The Crafts Study Centre** is a charity created by artist-makers and educators to protect the best of modern British crafts. It is a specialist university museum open free to the public as well as a research centre of the University for the Creative Arts. The Centre's acclaimed collections include modern and contemporary calligraphy, ceramics, textiles, furniture and wood as well as makers' diaries, working notes and photographs dating from the 1920s. The Centre's research library is available by appointment.

*Crafts Study Centre, University for the Creative Arts, Falkner Road, Farnham, Surrey GU9 7DS, 01252 891450, [www.csc.ucreative.ac.uk](http://www.csc.ucreative.ac.uk)*

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