

## Exhibitions in the New Brewery Arts Gallery

### Transitions

2009 - 7 March to 3 May

This touring exhibition, curated by Bilston Craft Gallery, addresses the challenges faced by makers at a mid point in their career. Five chosen artists were provided with time and support to produce new work. The exhibition highlights the various forms of 'transition' that they went through, both in their craft practice and in their career.



Represented are the ceramicist Loretta Braganza, textile artist Cas Holmes, glass artist Jo Newman, felt maker Deborah Roberts and contemporary jeweller Mizuko Yamada from Japan.



Cas Holmes's work relates to the natural and built world around us and the elements that make it up. She uses found materials as part of this process and is always looking at environmental links and sustainable practice.

As well as this exhibition, Cas is collaborating on several projects including work with another artist as a means to develop her studio practice and produce new work using a range of themes. This work will be exhibited at Walton on Thames Gallery from November 2009. She is also exhibiting in 'Traces' at Riverhouse Art Gallery, which will tour throughout the UK.

Deborah Roberts has been making felt for over fifteen years. Using ancient techniques she makes contemporary pieces for interiors: wall hangings, pods and vessels, and wearable items such as scarves and jewellery. Her MA in Textiles was the culmination of five years' work developing a variation of the Nuno technique – felting wool fibres onto woven materials such as silk and cotton to create soft, textured fabrics. More recently, Deborah has been making hand-felted vessels using a variety of techniques to make the felt and then to manipulate the surfaces. As a feltmaker, she continues to change people's perceptions of felt and shows how this ancient fabric is a contemporary material for object making.



Jo Newman employs the lost-wax process, making sensitive glass sculptures with an almost jewel-like quality. She creates glass jewellery too - including necklaces with delicately coloured cigar-shaped glass elements.