

Hugh Miller.

Business: Hugh Miller Furniture
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Qualifications: 2007-2009:
University of Sheffield
Masters in Architecture
2003-2006:
University of Newcastle
B.A. (Hons) Architecture, First Class

Experience:
2009-present: Hugh Miller Furniture, Studio

Background:

From my studio in Liverpool, I design and make contemporary studio furniture in wood and brass. I divide my time between producing collections for exhibition, and creating bespoke commissions for private clients in the UK and abroad.

Before starting my studio I trained as an architect, and this remains intrinsic to my work and evident in everything I make. I see my furniture as small pieces of architecture, designed with the rigour of the 'architectural method', where the broad brush-strokes of the concept flows through in to the intricacy of the detail.

Churchill Fellowship to Japan:

In 2015, I was awarded a Winston Churchill Memorial Fellowship, in order to travel to Japan to research the unique woodworking arts culture there. This has been a formative experience for me, and has fundamentally changed my practice. Since returning from Japan, I have developed a set of guiding principles which are a fusion of Japanese thinking and my western design training, and these now underpin all of my work.

Current Work:

I have been exploring these guiding principles in a new collection of work which I have been exhibiting throughout 2016. These pieces, which include a dining table and chairs, a console table, and a set of serving implements, are the first iterations of these principles, and form the basis for the much more ambitious set of work which I am exhibiting at COLLECT in 2017.

Selected Exhibitions:

2017: (upcoming) Exhibiting at **COLLECT**, at the Saatchi Gallery in London, organised by the Crafts Council.
2016: Exhibited at **Made London**, Marylebone
2016: Joint exhibition of my furniture with textile weaver Rita Parniczky at **Bluecoat**, Liverpool
2016: Exhibited at **Designer Crafts on the Mall**, as a member of the Society of Designer Craftsmen
2015: Exhibited at **Celebration of Craftsmanship and Design**, Cheltenham. Also exhibiting and giving lecture in 2016
2014: Exhibited at **Royal College of Art Summer Show**, London, in collaboration with jewellery designer Kate Rieppel.

Awards:

2016: Winner of the **Craft&Design Magazine Award** at Made London 2016
2016: Selected as 1 of 20 international artists to design an ArtSuite bedroom at **IceHotel, Jukkasjärvi, Sweden**
2016: **'High Commendation'** by **Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers**, for design of 'An Absence of Noise' collection.
2015: Awarded **Winston Churchill Memorial Fellowship**, to research woodworking and design philosophies in Japan.
2015: **Winner, Wood Awards**, for the design and construction of Constellations Bar, Liverpool.
2015: **AJ Small Projects Awards**, shortlisted for Constellations Bar
2015: **RIBA Awards**, nominated for Constellations Bar
2010: Awarded **Silver Medal at RHS Tatton Show** for design of 'Handbag of Harmonies' Garden.
2009: Awarded **North East Timber Trade Association Prize** for best use of timber in a Masters Architecture thesis.
2006: Awarded **William Bell Memorial Scholarship** by University of Newcastle.
2005: Awarded **Napper Memorial Fund Prize** by the School of Architecture at the University of Newcastle.

Teaching, Lecturing, Writing:

2017: (upcoming) Feature article in **Craft&Design Magazine**, spring 2017
2016: (current) visiting lecturer at **Osaka Institute of Technology, School of Architecture**
2016: (current) timber design tutor at **Newcastle University, School of Architecture**
2014: (current) visiting tutor at **Liverpool University, School of Architecture**
2016: **'Japanese Wood Craftsmanship'** book written to document my research in Japan
2016: 'The Use of Water as a Tool in Japanese Woodworking' - Article for **Carpenters Company Magazine**
2016: Lecture at **Manchester University School of Architecture**, on Constellations Bar at 'Before You're 30' event
2016: Lecture at **Glyndwr University** on Japanese woodwork and its influence on my work at 'Creative Futures' week
2016: Lecture at **Heritage Crafts Association** annual conference, on Japanese wood art and its influence on my work

Collections: Work held in private collections in London, Cheshire and the Lake District.