

# ADRIAN SASSOON

## Ben Gaskell

Curriculum Vitae



Born 1955, London, England

1975-1978     New College, Oxford (Zoology)

Working in London

I carved my first stone object as a child, a simple sphere from a quartz pebble in the river Wye. My love of nature then led me to a zoology degree at Oxford, then on to pursue bats worldwide. Crystal boulders in Madagascar later diverted me to 10 years of rock-crystal trading there, then on to learning to carve all kinds of hardstone in London.

My current work is pure, exquisitely finished but not fussed over or decorated, and broken. It flaunts the uncontrollability of breakage and imperfection which modern Man trivializes, along with all of Nature in this our age of consumerist corporate greed under His insane slogan "economic growth", - which deluded creed so wrongly holds that technology and economic commodification of everything can one day smuggle humanity out of the Nature, out of Lovelock's Gaia.

My objects speak back of the truth of Nature, of what Man now calls its "imperfection", yet which will always prevail over the deluded hubris of His wholesale destruction of his natural matrimony.

Good craft in hardstone is forever slow and very laborious. It is born of great patience. "Writing is good, thinking is better. Cleverness is good, patience is better." Hesse.

I would like to see natural hardstone carving recognised today as the fundamental and enduring medium of expression that it used to be in ancient times when our gods were of Nature, of the Sun, of fertility, of the Earth, rather than the disciples of the London Shard. A true shard is broken by its very nature.

### Selected Group Exhibitions

- 2023 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London
- 2019 *Adrian Sassoon*, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
- 2018 *Adrian Sassoon*, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London  
*Adrian Sassoon*, TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2017 *Adrian Sassoon*, Pavilion of Art & Design London, London  
*Adrian Sassoon*, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London  
*Adrian Sassoon*, TEFAF Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2016 *Adrian Sassoon*, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London  
*Adrian Sassoon*, TEFAF, Maastricht, The Netherlands
- 2015 *Adrian Sassoon*, Masterpiece London, The Royal Hospital Chelsea, London
- 2013 *Crafted: Makers of the Exceptional*, Somerset House, London

### Awards

- 2010 Gold Award, Goldsmith's Craft and Design Council
- 2007 Silver Award, Goldsmith's Craft and Design Council
- 2005 Special Council Award, Goldsmith's Craft and Design Council  
Gold Award, Goldsmith's Craft and Design Council
- 2004 Gold Award, Goldsmith's Craft and Design Council

### Public Collections

Los Angeles County Museum of Art, California, USA

### Publications

- 2013 *Digital Crafts: Industrial Technologies for Applied Artists and Designer Makers*, Ann Marie Shillito, London