



Michael Eden outside his studio at Hale, near Milnthorpe, with a Wedgwoodn't Tureen

The next big idea

Based at Hale, near Milnthorpe, Michael Eden worked for many years as a potter, alongside his wife Vicky. His work changed direction dramatically after he completed MPhil research at the Royal College of Art (2006-8), exploring how digital technology could be developed and combined with craft skill to produce objects created through 3D printing. His work, which he describes as "sitting at the intersection of craft, design and art", is exhibited internationally

WORDS SUE ALLAN MAIN PHOTOGRAPHY PHIL RIGBY

My daily schedule is focused on the next exhibition or art fair. At the moment, I'm doing research and drawings for a solo exhibition at the Holburne Museum in Bath. Once a form takes shape I move over to the software to create it, and send the files to a bureau in Newbury who do the 3D printing - officially it's called "additive layer manufacturing" - using a nylon which is then coated.

At this stage in my career as an artist and maker every day brings a new challenge. The technology is changing so rapidly. I love the challenge: it fires me up!

My MPhil at the Royal College was the best thing I ever did. It provided a critically supportive environment which challenged my thinking and then, at my final show, I was approached by [leading art dealer] Adrian Sassoon, whose representation, support and guidance continue to be so important for my career. Another lovely thing was when, last year, Tullie House Art Gallery in Carlisle bought my Cyan Bloom, which is displayed alongside their

porcelain collection at Old Tullie House.

When I'm wrapped up deep in ideas and new objects it's very difficult to stop. But when I do come up against an obstacle I jump on my bike and go for a 20 to 30-mile ride. That seems to clear my head.

This year I'll be attending a number of art fairs with Adrian Sassoon, including Tefas at Maastricht in March, Collect at the Saatchi Gallery in London in May and Masterpiece at Chelsea Hospital in July plus my exhibition at the Holburne Museum in the autumn.

I work in a very hybrid way, combining traditional tools and techniques with new ways of working but I've experimented with new materials all my life. The driving force is still an idea: that's what comes first, not the software, hardware or tools.

Michael Eden is represented by Adrian Sassoon
www.adriansassoon.com
Michael Eden exhibition: Oct 31 2015 - Jan 17, 2016 Holburne Museum, Bath
www.holburne.org

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A Rebours



PrtInd Vase



Mnemosyne; below: Amalthea

