

Passing the torch.

Curated by MORRIS, K. and RGU ART AND HERITAGE COLLECTIONS

2022

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Passing the Torch

The other pages of this file represent:

- a) The poster that was used to advertise the exhibition.
- b) A more detailed poster that was displayed alongside the exhibition to provide additional context for the event.

Both posters feature a photograph taken by Fergus Connor (Photography technician at Gray's School of Art, RGU). This photograph shows several pieces that were included in the exhibition. The image of each piece is distributed here under different terms of use. Please see the list below for more details about each piece and the terms of use for its image. Pieces are listed from left to right:

1. *Vessel in the form of a pint glass*

Paul Gow, c. 1983-1984. [Stoneware]. Image distributed under copyright, all rights reserved.

2. *Pint glasses*

Kevin Morris, 2022. [Stoneware, salt- and wood-firing]. (Two items). Image distributed under [Creative Commons BY 4.0 \(CC BY\)](#).

3. *Tea for one*

Kevin Morris, 2022. [Stoneware, gas-fired]. Image distributed under [Creative Commons BY 4.0 \(CC BY\)](#).

4. *Teapot*

Iain Pirie, c. 1973-1974. [Material unspecified]. (Includes lid, not pictured). Image distributed under copyright, all rights reserved.

5. *Remembering Bill*

Kevin Morris, 2022. [Stoneware, salt- and wood-firing]. Image distributed under [Creative Commons BY 4.0 \(CC BY\)](#).

6. *Bottle with tenmoku glaze*

Bill Brown, c. 1973-1974. [Porcelain]. Image distributed under copyright, all rights reserved.

(The pieces produced by Paul Gow, Iain Pirie and Bill Brown are held by [RGU Art and Heritage Collections](#).)

Passing the torch

25th November-2nd December
Gray's School of Art



Passing the torch

'Fired Up' marked the first communal wood firing of Gray's School of Arts wood/ kiln built by staff and students, fired on the 30th October as part of the Vibrant Campus Award. 'Passing the Torch' showcases and celebrates this achievement alongside selected ceramic works from the RGU Arts and Heritage Collection commemorating the life and work of the makers and without whom this exhibition would not be possible.

Wood firing is a continuation of technology and tradition from ancient history into contemporary practice, the characteristic earthen tones, ash deposits, burnt sienna flashings, natural glaze surfaces, and spontaneous effects, are something embraced in the firing process and evidenced within the works on show. By its very nature we feel wood firing forges cohesiveness and symbolizes the intrinsically communal and collaborative aspects of ceramics as an art form.

Exhibiting recent works alongside selected objects from the RGU Arts and Heritage Collection has allowed reflection on the development of Studio Ceramics at Grays School of Art following the Studio Pottery movement and the current trends and interests in ceramics at Grays School of Art. Drawing parallels on materials, process and

techniques popularised at the time of the work from the RGU Arts and Heritage Collection being made and finding new interest now. The work on show is a continuation of this legacy and development of wood firing in our work, the use of natural materials and striving to have a more sustainable practice.

This exhibition celebrates the cultural vibrancy of both the University and Gray's School of Art, being the only institution to offer ceramics provision in Scotland. To reflect this and the ambition of the Vibrant Campus Award, works will be shown at Grays School of Art and across campus supported by RGU Arts and Heritage

The University collections include historical and contemporary art along with physical objects which present a window into the history of teaching in the North East of Scotland whilst also a physical link with our alumni. Our aim is to provide students and visitors with a catalyst for engagement and an opportunity to explore and learn. Whilst preserving and presenting artworks and artefacts, the collection is undeniably about people and represents a reflection of their achievement. It is there to take us on a journey, to study, to question and to inform.

