

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

I have been fascinated by the possibilities in the technique of enamelling since I was first introduced to enamels in 1974, whilst training to become a jeweller at Central School of Art and Design. All the work that I have produced since then has been enamelled.

After 3 years at the RCA spent studying silversmithing and furthering my explorations into enamelling, I established a workshop and continued producing 'one-off' pieces. Since then my time has been divided between teaching enamelling, producing enamel work to commission and for exhibition, and carrying out enamel work for other goldsmiths. Currently I am working to commission on a part-time basis, the rest of the time I look after my two young sons.

I see my work as a continual exploration into the possibilities within the technique of enamelling and indulging in the wonderful range of colours available to me. In some of the work I am interested in soft subtle harmonies of colour, reflecting observations from nature. At other times the richness and vibrancy of colours provokes a more personal imagery.

My present work combines the techniques of engraving with enamelling in the form of champléve and basse taille, where areas of metal are removed and filled in with enamel - the background of these areas are carved with detail which shows through the enamel. This produces a rich and painterly effect. Although in the past I have tended to cover as much of the surface as possible with enamel I am currently exploring the effects of contrasting areas of carved and engraved metal with areas of enamel. Some current work also focuses on more geometric or abstract patterns, playing with contrasts of shape and colour. As an antidote to this very controlled and labour intensive work, I have also been exploring ways of using enamel in a freer and more spontaneous way, both on silver and copper.

I am happy to consider commissions for any piece of enamelled silverware or jewellery, I carry out the designing, engraving, and enamelling myself, and use a professional silversmith to make up the items.

Prices of commissioned pieces can start at around £1000 for items such as a small bowl, larger or more decorated pieces such as vases around £4000-£15,000. Jewellery can also be commissioned from around £250.