

karen painter

Following a career as a graphic designer, an ongoing appreciation of contemporary art and craft led me to transfer my design skills to making. As a mixed media artist, my practice focuses on how light interacts with my materials. Working predominantly in ceramics, I allow the materials to show their inner beauty without distraction. I have a deep appreciation for porcelain, a material that has resonated with me throughout my studies and practice.

My work often draws inspiration from familial stories, which enables me to explore both emotional and physical connections.

contact

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qualifications

BA (Hons) Fine Art and Contemporary Arts Practice
Bristol School of Art, University of Gloucestershire

FDA Design & Materials
Bristol School of Art, University of Gloucestershire

City & Guilds Textiles
Bristol Adult Learning

HND Graphic Design and Advertising
Hounslow Borough College

awards

The Gane Trust Student Travel Scholarship, 2024
The Gane Trust Student Recognition Award, 2023

exhibitions

Mud | Metal | Oil, Centrespace Gallery, 2026
RWA 172 Annual Open Exhibition, 2025
MAKING IT, Make Southwest, 2025
RWA 170 Annual Open Exhibition, 2023

residencies

Cerdeira, Home for Creativity, Portugal, June 2024

work experience

2022 to 2024
Tech Exchange Programme, Clay Shed, Bristol, UK

2002 to 2023
Self-employed Graphic Designer, Bristol, UK

1994 to 2001
Art Director, Specialist Publications, Bristol, UK