



Nottingham Trent  
University

Development and Alumni Relations

# The Arts Society Nottingham Young Arts Report 2018-2019

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BA Decorative Arts



## Foreword

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I hope this report finds you well and that you have been managing with all the challenges of the last year. It has been a very difficult time for everyone, especially Nottingham Trent University students who are beginning their academic careers in these unprecedented times.

Nottingham Trent University (NTU) is a vibrant place to study and work, enriched by the diversity of perspectives, cultures and backgrounds brought by its students, staff, visitors and local communities. We value the generous contributions of our partners, in helping our students to realise their potential and are very grateful to The Arts Society Nottingham for supporting the School of Art and Design.

Everyone at NTU is committed to providing a range of opportunities so that our students may fulfil their potential. We couldn't do that without your incredible support and so it gives me great pleasure to present The Arts Society Nottingham Young Arts bursary recipients 2018-2019.

With sincere thanks and best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads "Lharne Shaw". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Lharne Shaw**  
**Head of BA Decorative Arts, School of Art & Design**

## Lucy Bentley

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I received The Arts Society Nottingham bursary with the intention of putting it towards the development of my first product lines, which I could launch at the degree show and use to start my own business.

The bursary covered the sampling process of my textiles and wallcovering collections, which were launched with my brand Hex & Henbane at the 2019 Degree Show.

I'm now in my second year of business, and since the launch I've exhibited at the Surface Design Show in London, expanded my product lines, began to build up a customer base and collaborated with interior bloggers such as No Feature Walls and Raspberry Flavoured Windows.

<http://nofeaturewalls.com/wallpaper-2/wallpaper-showcase-hex-and-henbane/>

<https://raspberryflavouredwindows.com/hex-henbane/>

As you can imagine, the pandemic did cause some setbacks. However, I've gained a lot of support through social media and subsequently ended my first year of business in profit.

Moving forward, I'm working on new designs, and looking into new products and opportunities for collaborations or exhibitions.



You can follow Hex & Henbane online via Instagram, Facebook, Pinterest and <https://www.hexandhenbane.com>

Thank you for supporting my work with The Arts Society Nottingham bursary.

## Alice Peake

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“Thank you to The Arts Society Nottingham, your generosity really made a difference in an especially challenging year.”

I think we can all agree that 2020 was a difficult year and as a student finishing my degree I was often upset and frustrated by the fact that I wouldn't have the opportunity to showcase all of my hard work in the final degree show.

I am sure this disappointment was shared by all of the Decorative Arts students, but the one thing that made a difference to me, was the £500 bursary I received from The Arts Society Nottingham.

In a sense this bursary made me feel luckier than my fellow cohorts, as it gave me the means to source materials, dyes, and furniture to upholster. I would have really struggled to buy these resources on my minimal student budget.

## Alexandra Powell

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“A drawing is simply a line going for a walk.” - Paul Klee

Inspired by Paul Klee, I wanted to explore form and translucency away from traditional ceramic lighting products and began to re-examine the quality of a ‘line’ and what this meant in a three-dimensional sense. I intend for my work to express movement in the same way as a gestural brush stroke or scribble, a snapshot of sparklers cutting through the air, a bold moment of joy captured in clay. My intention for the degree show was to create an aerial landscape of bold sculptural lighting, capturing a moment of spontaneity between maker and material. Within my practice, I prioritise form and function equally, providing consumers with pieces of playful sculpture that embed themselves within daily life, bringing moments of joy to the user.

The £500 bursary provided by The Arts Society Nottingham allowed me to experiment with scale in my work, using premium materials and large amounts of electrical components for the lighting pieces. Although I didn’t complete all of the work I had hoped, I have gone on to set up my own studio in Nottinghamshire and have used additional funds to buy the materials and equipment I needed to continue working during the pandemic.



Since graduating, I have gone on to work with several online stockists, taken part in online exhibitions, as well as being selected for the ‘Future Edit’ exhibition by The Crafts Council, alongside 43 graduate makers from around the UK. Moving forward I hope to continue making sculptures and lighting pieces to exhibit and sell and eventually hope to complete my degree vision in a solo exhibition.

I want to express my gratitude to The Arts Society Nottingham for this bursary, which allowed me the funds to truly experiment during my degree and provide support during such an unprecedented year [www.allypowell.co.uk](http://www.allypowell.co.uk)



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