

## **POLLY POLLOCK**

**[www.pollypollock.co.uk](http://www.pollypollock.co.uk)**

**Instagram @pollypollockbaskets & @pollypollockbasketryteaching**

**Studio 29 Kingsgate Workshops 110-116 Kingsgate Road NW6 2JG**

### **Education**

1977 - 1978 Goldsmiths College, London, Foundation Year  
1983 - 1986 London College of Furniture, C & G Basketry Courses Parts 1 and 2  
1989 - 1990 South East London College, City & Guilds 730 Teaching Qualification

### **Qualifications**

1985 & 1986 City & Guilds Basketry Part 1 (distinction)  
City & Guilds Basketry Part 2 (distinction)  
1989 & 1990 City & Guilds 730, Further & Adult Education, Teacher's Certificate, Stages 1 & 2

### **Teaching**

1986 - present Basketry Tutor - City Lit, London  
City Lit 2 Year Basketry course,  
City Lit Advanced Basketry Course,  
(many Short Courses and Summer Schools)  
2018 & 2020 Visiting Lecturer - Royal College of Art, Basketry Masterclass  
2018 William Morris Gallery  
2018 - present Occasional Tutor at Ardington School of Crafts  
2015 - present Kingsgate Community Centre - Tuesday Basketry Class  
2009 - 2014 Kingsgate Workshops Trust - Tuesday Basketry Class  
2002 - 2009 Kingsgate Community Centre - Women's Community Basketry Class  
2008 - 2013 Basketry Tutor - Morley College London

### **Grants/Awards/Associations**

- Member of Textile Study Group 2019
- Oppenheim John-Downes Memorial Trust 2001
- City & Guilds Bronze Medal (1985)
- Awarded Licentiate with distinction - Society of Designer Craftsmen (1986)
- Member of Basketmakers' Association, Oxfordshire Basketmakers and Hertfordshire Basketmakers

### **Residencies**

- Piece Hall Art Gallery (Basketmaker in Residence) : 1987
- RESTORE Mental Health Rehabilitation Centre, Oxford (over 3 yrs) MOMA/NHS Oxford
- Glynn Vivian Gallery, Swansea, Wales : 2 week residency 1994
- Rattlesden Primary School, Suffolk, 2001 6 week residency with Bury St Edmunds Arts Gallery, Suffolk : Living Willow Tunnel/Play Structures

### **Most Recent Projects**

2018 and 2019 : Self-funded 6 week research and development sabbaticals in Amsterdam - my ongoing "Nest" series of work resulted from this period of work. I continue to work on my other project "Once in a White". Both projects explore themes of nurture, protection, damage and repair.

## **Exhibitions include**

- "Material Conversations", Sewell Centre Gallery, Oxfordshire, 2020 (forthcoming)
- "Basketry - Function and Ornament" Ruthin Craft Centre, Ruthin, N Wales, 2019
- "Spring" Hampstead School of Art, London 2019
- "Basketry Identity" Riverhouse Arts Centre, Walton on Thames 2015
- "Microtopia" 2013 & 2014, Kingsgate Gallery, London NW6
- "Travelling Lines" 2013, North Wall Arts Centre, Oxford
- "Interwoven" 2012, Morley Gallery, London
- Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, Display Case alongside European Basketry exhibition, 2009
- "East Weaves West" - Basketry from Japan and Britain, Collins Gallery Scotland, 2007 (then touring)
- "Baskets Then & Now", with Oxford Basketmakers, Woodstock, 2006
- Pinolere Ethnographic Park, Tenerife, Canary Islands 2005 - 2006
- "Made in Camden", London 2004
- "Strands" - with Oxfordshire Basketmakers & OWSD, Oxford 2002
- Designers Block, London (collaboration with Benson Saw) 2001
- Stanley Picker Gallery, Kingston University 1999
- "Beyond the Bounds" : Basketry & Textiles, Manchester (touring) 1996/97
- Shipley Art Gallery, Gateshead, Tyne & Wear - 1994
- Bankfield Museum, Halifax - 1994
- Brewery Arts Centre, Cirencester - 1994
- Touring Exhibition (British & Polish Traditions in Basketmaking) - 1994
- Pam Schomberg Gallery, Colchester - 1993
- West Dean College, Sussex - 1992
- Society of Designer Craftsmen, Mall Galleries, London - 1992, 1993
- Blackburn Museum & Art Gallery - 1991
- Oriel 31 Gallery, Wales - 1991
- Leicestershire Museums Touring Exhibition - 1991
- Craftspace Touring Exhibition - 1990/9
- Cooper Gallery, Barnsley - 1990
- Bluecoat Display Centre, Liverpool, 1989
- Harbour Gallery, Whitstable, Kent 1989
- Ruskin Craft Gallery, Sheffield - 1989
- Rufford Crafts Centre, Nottingham - 1988
- Primavera Gallery, Cambridge - 1987
- Scottish Gallery, Edinburgh - 1987
- Piece Hall Art Gallery, Halifax - 1987, 1990

## **Work in Collections of**

- Janie and David Lightfoot, London
- Bankfield Museum, Halifax
- Sheffield City Art Education Department
- Mary Butcher, Canterbury
- Sharon Plant, London
- David Buckley, London

## **Publications/Articles include**

- 'Basketry : Tradition & Change' - Journal of Museum Ethnography, No. 4, Hull, Dec. 1993
- Start-a-Craft : Basketmaking - Quintet/Apple Press, London 1994
- New Crafts : Basketwork - Lorenz Books, London 1998
- BBC TV : 'Bazaar' (basketry demonstration) 1993
- Country Living Magazine, 1994 (crafts supplement)
- Series of projects for mixed craft part-work, Marshall Cavendish, 1995/96
- New Crafts : Cardboard - Lorenz Books, London 1996 (contributor)

## **Workshops/Projects/Site Specific Commissions**

Since 1986 I have taught on a freelance basis with adults and children in numerous different learning environments : museums, galleries, schools, colleges, community centres, Summer Schools, as well as short courses in my studio.

I have led and participated in a wide range of projects relating to my own specialist area of basketry :-

- Salisbury World Refugee Centre Coiled Basketry Pilot Project working with women users of the service, 2014
- Kingsgate Workshops Trust, Organising and running a series of Workshops with a range of tutors offering differing techniques ,materials and approaches to Basketmaking, 2010/11 and 2014
- Kingsgate Primary School, London, Coiled Basketry project with parents and children, 2010
- Heber Primary School, London, Art Week Project, Recycled Bottle Wind Sculpture collaboration with Arts Republic, June 2009
- Hastings Museum & Art Gallery, Adult Workshops - Baskets from Paper
- Kingsgate Workshops Trust : Community Education Programme 2007 - 'Memory Baskets'
- Dulwich Picture Gallery, Education Dept, London : Schools Programme/Activities 2007/08/09
- Kingsgate Workshops Trust, "Putting Down Routes" Education Project with Nicola Lane (film-maker) working with 2 local schools one primary & one secondary 2007/08
- Salisbury Primary School, London : Art Week, June 2007
- Queens Park Community School, London : KS3/DT-textiles, Summer Term 2007
- Dulwich Picture Gallery, Education Department : Schools Gallery & Outreach Programmes
- Kilburn Festival/Kingsgate Workshops : "reCycle Power" - Wind Sculpture and related workshops with schools, and local community - collaboration with Tom Wilkinson and Josie Warshaw (2005)
- Salisbury Primary School, London : Art Week, June 2005
- Kilburn Festival/Kingsgate Workshops Trust : "Eco Aviary" installation & related workshops in schools and local community at the festival - collaboration with Josie Warshaw (2004)
- Kingsgate Community Centre, London : Children's After School Crafts Classes
- Wallace Collection, Education Dept. London : Family Activities over a number of years

## **Personal Statement**

Basketry and textile techniques come together in my work. Coiled basketry and stitch explore themes of protection and repair, nurture and homemaking. I find the rhythms and focus of making calming and mindful. Seemingly random stitch within formal outlines symbolises taking control of hectic family life within a chaotic world.

"Nests" (developed during sabbaticals in Amsterdam) are soft, rounded forms with subtle changes in colour, texture and form, are made from paper yarns dyed with gentle eco dyes from my kitchen waste. Like a family, or colony of weaverbirds, these intimate, protective forms relate to each other yet have individual strength so can stand independently.

"Once in a While" evolved from an idea relating to darning and repair. Comprised of small constructed pieces grouped together to form a larger (ongoing) wall piece exploring tensions and textures enclosed within a defined space. Again, the pieces stand individually or as a family group.