

Craft 2026

Craft 2026 is an exhibition of contemporary craft with ceramics, glass textiles and metal work from established professionals and emerging creatives from the UK, Europe, North America, Africa and East Asia as well as our annual exhibition of DMU Design Craft second year student work

Exhibitions and events run from **29th May – 19th June 2026**

Find out more [@lcbdepot](#) or at lcbdepot.co.uk/event/craft2026/



Bel the Giant

JC Middlebrook

A series of three collars inspired by lace worn in Europe during the 17th century. Each collar is made using a different material, using appropriate techniques for the medium: net, denim and vintage paper. Each collar is embroidered with the text, telling a local folk tale in the looped, picot edge.

Artist Bio

I'm Jayne Childs, the JC in JC Middlebrook. I'm an independent designer and lace-maker who works with tech and textiles. I'm also a Research Assistant in the Nottingham Trent University Lace Archive.

Careful study takes my work beyond nostalgia, highlighting technical detail and hidden marks. Varied embroidery styles highlight the craftwork within the 'machine-made'; my lace is drawn, digitised, made, finished- all in my Nottinghamshire studio.

Recently, I've explored local folklore and children's tales using embroidery onto fabric, a new creative departure for me. I started with the 'Nine O' Clock Horses' and more recently the tale of Bel the Giant. The works in this exhibition feature concepts of masculinity and pride drawn from this research.

"Mountsorrel he mounted at

Rothley he rode by

Wanlip he leaped o'er

Birstall he burst his gall

Belgrave he is buried at"

-Bel The Giant, Leicestershire folk tale

[@jcmiddlebrook](https://www.instagram.com/jcmiddlebrook)

www.jcmiddlebrook.co.uk