

# 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 **29<sup>th</sup> May – 19<sup>th</sup> June 2026**

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



## ***Memory of Place***

Kate Shea

This collaborative work by Martli Jansen van Rensburg and Kate Shea is based around the theme of place and displacement. Both Martli and Kate have strong connections to their immediate environment. Martli's link to the red rocks which make up the strong colour of the soil 'staining their childhood clothes red from playing outside' contrast the soft forms Kate finds in the trees which she feels strongly connected to.

The contrast between the heat of Petoria and the cool, dampness of Nottinghamshire was also highlighted in initial conversations and swapped images. These contrasting elements are also reflected in the materials the

collaborators work in. Martli working in the hot environment of the hot glass shop and Kate working in cool wet clay.

Martli and Kate decided to 'displace' these objects and share them physically so they could exist in each others environment creating a juxtaposition of materials and forms.

Since starting these conversations with Martli, Kate uncovered similarities in experiences they both share and has been inspired by Martli and this experience to continue to develop this work further in the future.

## **Artist Bio**

Kate Shea is a ceramicist whose primary material is porcelain. Her practice-based research explores fragility, strength and interaction through movement.

Amongst a wealth of different experiences Kate has been able to indulge in her other passion, education. Currently she is ceramics specialist and Lecturer for the Design Crafts Degree at De Montfort University in Leicester. Through teaching, Kate can share her love for the material and takes great pleasure in instilling her passion in others.

In recent years, motherhood and a focus on teaching, has seen a lull in Kate's own practice, and keen to re-establish this, she welcomed the timely opportunity to collaborate with Tshwane University of Technology.

Meeting her collaborator Martli Jansen van Rensburg has unlocked an investigation which has laid dormant for a number of years, and she is delighted to begin to share it.

[@k8.shea.clay](https://www.instagram.com/k8.shea.clay)