

Craft 2024 : Collected

LCB Depot's exhibition & events programme highlights work from different creative practices every month.

This month the focus is on contemporary craft, including ceramics, glassware, fibre, and fine metals with work from established professionals and DMU Design Craft second year students. Exhibitions and events run from **3rd - 20th June 2024**

Find out more [@lcbdepot](#) or at lcbdepot.co.uk/event/craft2024



Funny Old World II - New World Fragment

Moira Robinson

Glass and metal sculpture hung from a battery-powered motor

A planet has disintegrated. A segment has pulled away, trailing hot droplets of planetary core; nosing its way through the vastness of space. When it finds a suitable spot, it will grow into a new planet, like a cutting growing into a whole new plant.

Balancing Fragments earrings

dichroic glass/torchformed glass/ silver-tin (leadfree) solder/silver/ stainless steel/niobium*

These earrings are small hanging sculptures; each one is a balanced counterweight system. This means that they turn and dance as the wearer moves. The dichroic glass glitters with many colours. All the earwires are anodised niobium* or stainless steel, so are hypoallergenic.

Artist Bio

Moira Robinson is a Leicester local, who makes glass sculpture and jewellery in her tiny tetragonal home studio. She creates fused glass, lampworked beads and pate de verre, and combines them with handforged metal and found objects.

Ideas often start with the natural world but sometimes end up somewhere completely different.

*Niobium is an ideal metal to use for earwires. Like gold, titanium and stainless steel, it can be worn by anyone, even those who normally have allergic reactions to metals.

As an added bonus, niobium can be anodised to a range of beautiful colours! Natural niobium is darkish grey, and has a thin surface layer of niobium oxide. But if it has a current passed through it in an electrolyte bath, this oxide layer can be made thicker. Then, like oil on a puddle, it will absorb some colours of light, and reflect others back. The thickness of the oxide layer, hence the colour, depends on the voltage being applied; 10V will give a coppery gold, 100V gives a bright purple-pink. This oxide layer is a fraction of a mm thick, but won't wash or rub off. In addition to rainbow colours, it can be persuaded to look like silver, gold or bronze.

Titanium can be anodised to give different colours in the same way, but it is rather stiff. Niobium is more malleable and can be formed into lovely soft curves. So it is the best metal for the purpose, well worth the extra expense.