

# DR. MICHELLE STEPHENS

PHONE: 07908955614 • E-MAIL: MAIL@MICHELLESTEPHENS.CO.UK  
WWW.MICHELLESTEPHENS.CO.UK

---

## QUALIFICATIONS

---

2015 - 19: **Practice-based PhD**, "Coded Cloth: How a generative digital design process for jacquard weave can reanimate historical pattern archives", MMU, Manchester  
2015-2020: **PGCLTHE**, Fellow of the HEA, MMU, Manchester  
2013 - 14: **M.A. Textile Practice**, Distinction, Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester  
2006 - 10: **B.A. (Hons) Fine & Applied Arts**, Textile Art, First Class Honours, University of Ulster, Belfast  
2008 - 09: **Diploma in Area Studies** (Business Education Initiative), College of Saint Elizabeth, NJ  
2005 - 06: **Foundation Studies in Art and Design** (Pass with Commendation), University of Ulster, Belfast

---

## EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

---

2014 - Current: **Lecturer**, Contextualising Practice, Unit Leader of Material Cultures. Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester  
2018 - 2022: **3D Weaving Research Technician**, 3D Weaving Innovation Centre, University of Leeds, Leeds  
2014 - 2016: **Visiting Lecturer**, Textiles in Practice (Weave). Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester  
2014 - 2016: **Graduate Teaching Assistant**, Textiles in Practice (Weave & Digital Design). Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester  
2010 - 15: **Part Time Lecturer**, Textile Design, University of Ulster, Belfast  
2012 - 14: **Weave Workshop Facilitator**, Island Arts Centre, Lisburn  
2012 - 14: **Weave Workshop Facilitator**, Atlas Women's Group, Lisburn  
2010 - Current: **Visiting Textile Designer** at the University of Ulster, Belfast  
2011 - 14: **Textile Workshop Facilitator**, Dromore Nursery School, Dromore  
2012: **Weave Workshop Facilitator**, St Aloysius PS, Lisburn  
2012: **Weave Workshop Facilitator**: 6 week program. Oakwood Integrated PS, Lisburn  
2010 - 12: **Weave Workshop Facilitator**, Ulster Folk and Transport Museum, Cultra  
2011: **Textile Workshop Facilitator**, Irish Linen Centre, Lisburn  
2007 - 11: **Art Facilitator**, Friendly Faces, Lurgan  
2008 - 09: **Gallery Assistant**, Malony Art Gallery, College of Saint Elizabeth, NJ  
2007: **Textile Workshops**: Individually Themed Projects, 6 week program. Pineview Day Nursery, Lurgan  
2007: **Textile Workshops**: Mixed media. Individual Themed Projects, 6 week program. Drop Inn Ministries, Richill  
2006: **Textile Workshops**: Drawing Projects, Lisnally Special Needs School, Armagh  
2004: **Art Classroom Assistant**, Lurgan Junior High, Lurgan

---

## VOLUNTARY WORK

---

2013-2017: **Online Communications Director**, The 62 Group of Textile Artists, UK  
2011: **Director of Development**, UmeU, Belfast

---

## SELECTED PROJECTS

---

2019: "**CRAFTING FUTURES: CREATING SUSTAINABLE TEXTILE FUTURES FOR WOMEN: DIGITIZING CORDILLERA WEAVING TRADITION (CSTFW) PROJECT**", British Council Project through MMU in Collaboration with the University of Philippines, Baguio & The Corditex Team.  
2017: "**DIGITAL : PHYSICAL**", Cultural Digital Designer in Residence, Artist in Residence, St Ambrose Barlow RHS, Manchester. Code Workshops. Resulting artwork from these workshops were produced for the school. Funded by *The Ideas Foundation* and *Comino Foundation*.  
2017: "**EXPLORING AUDIENCES' ENGAGEMENT THROUGH PARTICIPATORY WORKSHOPS**", REALab weave consultancy project, with The Museum of Science & Industry in collaboration with the research faculty at the University of Manchester.  
2016: "**DISTINCTIVENESS**", Digital Designer in Residence, Artist in Residence, Falinge Park HS, Manchester. Code Workshops of which students and staff from both ICT and Art participated in. Resulting artwork from these workshops were produced for the school. Funded by *The Ideas Foundation* and *Comino Foundation*.  
2015: "**DIVERSITY**", Digital Designer in Residence, Artist in Residence, Abraham Moss HS, Manchester. Code Workshops of which students and staff from both ICT and Art participated in. Resulting artwork from these workshops were produced for the school. Funded by *The Ideas Foundation* and *Comino Foundation*.

2015: “**Art and Textiles Masterclass**”, project inspired by the current exhibitions at The Whitworth Art Gallery, Manchester. Participants used code to manipulate the textile archives into new designs.

2014: “**ORDER : CHAOS**”, Digital Designer in Residence, Artist in Residence, St Ambrose Barlow RC HS, Manchester. Code Workshops of which students and staff from both ICT and Art participated in. Resulting artwork from these workshops were produced for the school. Funded by *The Ideas Foundation* and *Comino Foundation*.

2014: “**{MACC} : CARD**”, project funded by the Arts Council of England. A collaborative exhibition and interactive data collection of socio economic demographics with Gemma Latham. The main exhibition site was during the Barnaby Festival, Macclesfield.

2013: “**Laser Cut Media**”, project that followed alongside the Childrens’ exhibition ‘LOOP the LOOP’ at the Island Arts Centre, Lisburn. Participants engraved Perspex components for an outdoor public art piece. LAAC Funded.

2013: “**Digital Textiles**”, Lagan Valley Hospital, Lisburn. Patients at the Lagan Valley Hospital learnt how to weave and then they used their skills to translate their patterns into digital versions of them. An exhibition of work is now on permanent display at the Hospital. LAAC Funded.

2013: “**Digital Textile Trial**”, Dromore Nursery School, Dromore. Textile theory was combined with iPad applications in a six week workshop programme. Exhibition of work followed this programme. LAAC Funded.

2013: “**Yarn Bomb Your City**”, working with eight community groups creating an outdoor textile installation through the Island Arts Centre, Lisburn.

2013: “**Techno Textiles**”, incorporating basic textile skills with modern technology to create digitally formed textiles in eight schools. Island Arts Centre, Lisburn. LAAC Funded.

2012: “**Collaborative Textiles**”, community arts facilitation. Large-scale textile installation in Wallace Park, Lisburn. Participants included Harmony Hill Craft Group and selected students from the BA Fashion and Textiles Degree at the University of Ulster, Belfast.

---

## RESIDENCES

---

2017: “**DIGITAL : PHYSICAL**”, Cultural Digital Designer in Residence, Artist in Residence, St Ambrose Barlow RCHS, Manchester

2016: “**DISTINCTIVENESS**”, Digital Designer in Residence, Artist in Residence, Falinge Park HS, Manchester

2015: “**DIVERSITY**”, Digital Designer in Residence, Artist in Residence, Abraham Moss HS, Manchester

2014: **AA2A Artist in Residence**, Sheffield Hallam, Sheffield

2014: “**ORDER : CHAOS**”, Digital Designer in Residence, Artist in Residence, St Ambrose Barlow RC HS, Manchester

2011 - 12: **Making it programme**, Artist in Residence, University of Ulster, Belfast

2011 - 12: **Making it programme**, Artist in Residence, R-Space Gallery, Lisburn

2010 - 11: **Artist in Residence** (Teaching one day a week), University of Ulster, Belfast

2007: **Arts Care**, Belfast City Hospital.

Publications accompanied the residency:

**Moment by Moment: A Pilot Arts Programme at the Cancer Centre for Northern Ireland**

DVD and Information pack. Belfast Health and Social Care Trust in association with ArtsCare. 2007

**Moment by Moment: A collection of writings and artworks created by patients and staff of the Cancer Centre**

Belfast Health and Social Care Trust in association with ArtsCare. 2007

---

## EXHIBITIONS

---

---

### SOLO SHOWS

---

2019:  
“**Radical Response**”, IDSAR Conference, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Gallery, MMU, Manchester  
“**Coded Cloth**”, Vertical Gallery, MMU, Manchester

2013:  
“**Construction**” NI Libraries, Lisburn

2012:  
“**Woven Structures**” Lisburn City Library, Lisburn  
“**T3: Textile x Technology x Technique**”, R-Space Gallery, Lisburn

---

### GROUP EXHIBITIONS

---

2017:  
“**Whipstitch: The State of Contemporary Design**”, Ann Arbor, MI, USA  
“**Modus Operandi METHODS PRACTICE**”, Grovenor Gallery, MMU, Manchester

2016:  
“**Fifteenth International Triennial of Tapestry**”, Central Museum of Textiles, Lodz, Poland  
“**Making Space**”, 62 Group Exhibition, Macclesfield Silk Museum, Macclesfield

2015:

“**Upfront**”, The 62 Group of Textile Artists group exhibition, Penrith, Cumbria

2014:

“**endofthebeginning**”, MA Show, Manchester Metropolitan University, Manchester

“**CultureCraft: Culture in the Making**”, National Craft Gallery, Kilkenny, Ireland

2013:

“**British Textiles**”, Koyo Gallery, Tokyo, Japan

“**Pattern**”, CCOI Exhibition of Textiles, Limerick, Ireland

“**Anna Cheyne Visual Arts Exhibition 2013**”, Biannual Exhibition, Island Arts Centre, Lisburn

“**LOOP the LOOP**”, **Children’s Interactive Exhibition**, Island Arts Centre, Lisburn

“**Making it 11**”, Seacourt Print Workshop, Bangor

“**CultureCRAFT**”, London Street Gallery, Londonderry

“**Small Talk**” at the Constance Howard Gallery, Goldsmiths, University of London, London

“**MADE**”, SpaceCRAFT, Belfast

2012:

“**RDS National Crafts Exhibition**”, RDS, Dublin

“**(work in progress)**”, Craft NI Gallery, Waring Street, Belfast

“**RDS National Crafts Exhibition**”, RDS, Dublin

2011:

“**Material Messages**”, R-Space at the Linen Rooms Lisburn, Lisburn

“**A Christmas Trilogy**”, SpaceCRAFT, Belfast

“**Making Christmas Special**”, Craft NI Gallery, Belfast

“**Xmas Art at the Ivory**”, Victoria Square, Belfast

“**130th Annual Exhibition**”, RUA, Ulster Museum, Belfast

“**Fragments**”, Craft NI Gallery, Waring Street, Belfast

“**RDS National Crafts Exhibition**”, RDS, Dublin

“**+1 Residency Show**”, University of Ulster, Belfast

2010:

“**The Christmas Exhibition**”, Waterfront Hall, Belfast

“**Christmas 200**”, Canvas Gallery, Belfast

“**RUA Annual Artists’ Exhibition**”, Ulster Museum, Belfast

“**CRAFTFEST 2010**”, Tower Gallery, Castle Ward

“**RDS National Crafts Exhibition**”, RDS, Dublin

“**Common Thread**”, Arts Care gallery, Musgrave Park Hospital, Belfast

“**Degree Show 2010**”, University of Ulster, Belfast

2008:

“**Fusion II**”, SpaceCRAFT gallery, Belfast

2007:

“**Going Green**”, Touring Exhibition, SpaceCRAFT, Belfast and The County Museum, Dundalk

“**Fusion**”, SpaceCRAFT gallery, Belfast

2006:

“**Foundation End of Year Show**”, University of Ulster, Belfast

---

TENDER

---

2012 - 13:

“**Allianz Arts and Business Awards NI 2013**”. Design & Construction of 18 CNC milled & laser engraved awards.

---

PUBLIC ART

---

2013:

“**Wheels of Change**”, Ulster Bank Commission for the Balmoral Show. Project involved the interpretation of a local school pupils’ drawing into a public art piece. This is now on permanent display at the new site at the Maze, Lisburn.

---

COLLECTIONS

---

2013:

“**Double Weave II**”, Lisburn Arts Advisory Committee, Lisburn

2012:

“**Basket Weave**”, purchased by private collector, Dublin

“**Embossed Print Series**”, purchased by The Drawing Rooms, Belfast

2011:

“**Composition I-III**”, purchased by private collector

2010:

**“Crepe Weave Series”**, Open University Art Collection, Belfast

2008:

**“Yellow”**, purchased by private collector

2007:

**“Look A Little Closer”**, purchased for private Collection

**“Recycled and Reused Fragments I”**, purchased by private collector

**“Untitled I”**, purchased by private collector

---

## AWARDS

2014:

**Arts Council of England Award**, England

2013:

**Arts Council SIAP Award**, ACNI, Belfast

**Anna Cheyne Visual Art Award Winner 2013**, Island Arts Centre, Lisburn

**Lisburn Arts Advisory Committee Project Award**, Lisburn

2012:

**Young Artist of the Year**, LAAC, Lisburn

**Arts Council SIAP Award**, ACNI, Belfast

**Lisburn Arts Advisory Committee Project Award**, Lisburn

**1st Prize Multimedia Textiles**, RDS Crafts Competition, RDS Dublin

**Material grant recipient**, LAAC, Lisburn

2011:

**Arts Council SIAP Award**, ACNI, Belfast

**Murial Gahan Scholarship Nominee**

**1st Prize Multimedia Textiles, RDS Crafts Competition**, RDS Dublin

2010:

**Murial Gahan Scholarship Nominee**

**1st Prize Multimedia Textiles, RDS Crafts Competition**, RDS Dublin

**Shortlisted for Future Makers 2010**

2008:

**Faculty of Arts, University of Ulster Belfast, Dean’s Prize**

**(Dean’s List in Second year FAA)**

2007:

**Faculty of Arts, University of Ulster Belfast, Deans Prize**

**(Deans List in First year FAA)**

2006:

**Faculty of Arts, University of Ulster Belfast, Deans Prize**

**(Top mark in Foundation Studies)**

---

## PUBLICATIONS

2021:

**“Weave Learning Toolkit”**, for the Crafting Futures Project, through MMU in collaboration with the University of Philippines, Baguio & The Corditex Team.

2019:

**“The digitization of Cordillera weaving: designing a new oral tradition”**, Book Chapter for the Crafting Futures Project, through MMU in collaboration with the University of Philippines, Baguio & The Corditex Team.

2016:

Michelle Stephens (2016) **Bauhaus Weaving Theory: From Feminine Craft to Mode of Design**, TEXTILE, 13:3, pp.318-319

2015:

**Textile Artist Interview**, [online]

2014:

**CultureCraft: Culture in the Making Exhibition Catalogue**, National Craft Gallery, Ireland, England

2013:

**Dromore Leader**, 25th June 2013, National Craft Gallery, Ireland, England

**Ulster Star**, June 2013 May 2013

**Belfast Telegraph**, 18th May 2013, June 2013 May 2013

**Daily Mirror**, 18th May 2013

**Farm Week**, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2013

2012:

**Ulster Tatler**, June 2012

**Ulster Star**, June, July and August 2012

**Belfast Telegraph**, July and August 2012

**Newsletter**, August 2012

**RDS National Crafts Catalogue**, RDS, Dublin

2011:

**RUA Exhibition Catalogue**, June 2012

**RDS National Crafts Catalogue**, RDS, Dublin

2010:

**RUA Exhibition Catalogue**, 129<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition, Ulster Museum, Belfast

**RDS National Crafts Catalogue**, RDS, Dublin

2008:

**Going Green**, An exhibition of Craft, Applied Art and Design by 13 selected Arts/Designers/Makers, CRAFTMARK, pp.30-31

**Robinson, J. Northern Ireland Homes and Lifestyle**, May 08, Issue 21, pp. 99-102

---

## MEMBERSHIPS

---

2012 - 2021:

**The 62 Group of Textile Artists**

2011 - Current:

**Visual Arts Ireland**

**Digital Arts Studios**

2011 - Current:

**Craft and Design Collective**

**Crafts Council of Ireland**

---

## COMMITTEES

---

2012 - 2018:

**The 62 Group of Textile Artists**

2012 - 2015:

**LAAC (Lisburn Arts Advisory Committee)**

---

## SELECTED TALKS

---

2018:

**“Creative Interpolations”**, Mantis Festival, University of Manchester, Manchester

2017:

**“Dis/rupt”**, SIT Select Festival, Symposium, Stroud

2016:

**“Contemporary Textile Practice”**, Embroiderers Guild NI, Carrickfergus

2015:

**“Coded Cloth”**, University of Ulster, Belfast

2014:

**“Coded Textile Design”**, Creative Thresholds, USA

2014:

**“Order Chaos”**, Maker Day, Victoria & Albert Museum, London

---

## CONFERENCES

---

2019:

**“International Association of Societies of Design Research”**, MMU, Manchester

**“ITMA”**, Fira de Barcelona, Barcelona

2018:

**“Creative & Applied Research Methods”**, Keele University, Keele

2016:

**“Thinking, Making and Meaning”**, NWCDTP Annual Conference, RNCM and MMU

**“Critical Creativity”**, Nottingham Trent University, Nottingham

**“Enterprise Futures”** Conference, Manchester

**“evolution of methodologies”**, National Glass Centre, Sunderland