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SOFA CHICAGO: CONNECT

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Press Release-



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH
Edinburgh College of Art

A select group of artists will stage Edinburgh College of Art's biggest ever jewellery and silversmithing's exhibition outside the UK at a landmark art fair in the US this autumn.

Over 50 pieces of work by 20 recently graduated artists and staff will be on display at SOFA Chicago, which runs 31 October to 3 November.

Now in its 20th year, SOFA Chicago is the world's foremost fair dedicated to studio glass, ceramics, wood, fiber and metal. With new work on show from more than a hundred galleries, it attracts more than 30,000 visitors every year.

The College was one of only five universities – and the only non-US institution - invited and exhibiting some of its cutting edge output as part of the fair's CONNECT Space.

For CONNECT Space, ECA has designed an environment incorporating seating, lighting and objects. The lounge-like installation will encourage visitors to sit, engage in discussion and discover new work and trends from Edinburgh.

ECA's CONNECT Space is in competition with the other exhibiting schools for a cash prize, supported by Chubb Personal Insurance.

In addition students from three of the participating schools will be chosen to work with The Corning Museum of Glass on glass design prototypes. The chosen designs will be created in glass by Corning Museum artists.

The 20 selected exhibitors for ECA is representative of Jewellery and Silversmithing's four year undergraduate course and one year Master's course.

The selection spans alumni since 2008, a period during which Stephen Bottomley became head of department.

ECA's space will explore the breadth and depth of jewellery and silversmithing as a discipline. The works will showcase the use of precious and semi-precious metals, as well as a range of other materials including vitreous enamel, resins, textile, paper, stone and other natural materials.

Also attending SOFA Chicago for the second year is Craft Scotland, the national body for promotion of Scottish craft who will be taking the work of 16 makers representing a range of the best of Scottish craft. More details on Craft Scotland and the makers being represented at SOFA can be found at www.craftscotland.org/SOFA

Exhibiting

Stephen Bottomley

Susan Cross

Grant McCaig

Jo Pudelko

Jessica Turrell

Elizabeth Turrell

STACEY BENTLEY MA ECA

ALICE BO-WEN CHANG MFA ECA

CIARA BOWLES BA HONS

JEE HYUN CHUNG MFA ECA

BETH LEGG PHD ECA

KELLY MUNRO BA HONS

MARIKO SUMIOKA BA HONS

KIRSTY SUMERLING MA ECA

HAZEL THORN BA HONS

HEATHER WOOF MA ECA

Cristina Zani MFA ECA

POLY COLLINS BA HONS

RHONA MCCALLUM MA ECA

MARINE STAMPFLI MA ECA

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