



**DOROTHY  
HOGG**



**Brooch  
in the Artery  
Series  
by Dorothy Hogg  
2010**

Silver, red pigment and seed pearls  
8cm x 7.2cm

# DOROTHY HOGG

## ■ **Where are you based?**

Based in Edinburgh apart from the 6 months in 2008 when I undertook a residency at the V&A.

## ■ **How does craft relate to your practice as an artist?**

My work is led by ideas and executed with craft skill and critical judgment.

## ■ **How did you acquire the skills required for your practice?**

My family background enabled me to be aware of precise making on a small scale. My father and grandfather were both opticians and watchmakers who also retailed watches, clocks and jewellery. I was involved in the businesses from an early age and was fascinated by the tools and processes. The women in the family always had knitting or sewing in their hands, those skills they passed on to me.

I studied at Glasgow School of Art for four years and on graduating in 1967 I gained a rare place at the Royal College of Art in London for a further three years. I have been acquiring skills ever since.

## ■ **How did this prepare you for your practice?**

Positive

I had the mindset to thoroughly immerse myself in the art college environment, which is the best place to develop creativity in an expressive way.

Negative

If your work is art led it is difficult to make a good living in the commercial world without compromise.



Negative

Setting up a workshop in the early 1970s with no grant and no reference points was slow, there were few individual craft workshops then and no group studios available and no serious contemporary galleries in Scotland. There are so many more opportunities now.

Positive

If you have the vision and the drive to express yourself you will find a way. It is helpful to have high level arenas in which to exhibit your work in the appropriate context.

### ■ **Thoughts on the future of your area of practice?**

Emerging craft artists learn to present themselves and sell their work while at Art College. The problem is that craft skill may not be recognised as valid as intellectual skill in a university context. It is accepted that musicians need to practice but not so recognised that hand skills require constant practise to develop. The online market place opens up new possibilities continually and new technologies are developing amazing directions for fresh approaches.

### ■ **3 key opportunities you have experienced in your career?**

**1** - My horizons were extended when I gained a place at Glasgow School of Art and then the Royal College of Art.

**2** - It was satisfying to be able to put my ideas on teaching and learning into effect at Edinburgh College of Art where I was Head of Department for 22 and half years.

**3** - Being invited to curate exhibitions in the UK and internationally provided an interesting direction for me.



Brooch in the Artery Series  
Silver and red beads  
6cm x 14cm

■ **Why did you select Andrew Lamb?**

As a student at Edinburgh College of Art, Andrew Lamb demonstrated an exceptional level of skill, talent and commitment. It has been a great pleasure to be able to watch him develop creatively and gain the recognition due to him.

■ **What is the question FCA&C should have asked you?**

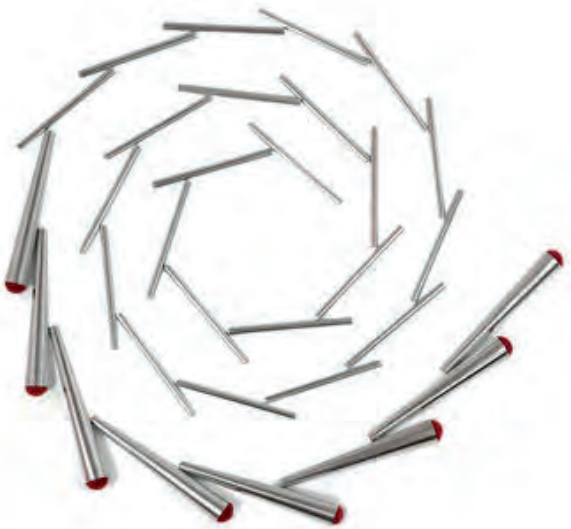
What happens to your psyche when you sit at your bench, loom etc to make work? In my case I feel settled/ at home/ where I should be/ challenged and privileged to be able to bring ideas into reality and have them function.

*Download this booklet free from  
<http://www.fcac.co.uk/event/craft-generation/>  
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Brooch in the Artery Series  
Silver and red beads, 9x4.5cm



Necklace from the Artery Series  
Silver and red felt, 2005  
Length 146cm



Stud Earrings from the Artery Series  
Acrylic & red pigment, silver posts topped  
w pearls, 2009  
3.2x3.2cm



Cube ring & earrings  
Silver, 2004  
2x2cm



