

# Hugh Miller.

**Business:** Hugh Miller Furniture  
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**Qualifications:** 2007-2009:  
**University of Sheffield**  
**Masters in Architecture**  
2003-2006:  
**University of Newcastle**  
**B.A. (Hons) Architecture, First Class**

**Experience:**  
2009-present: Hugh Miller Furniture, Studio

## **Background:**

From my studio in Liverpool, I design and make contemporary studio furniture in wood, brass and Japanese bamboo. I divide my time between producing collections for exhibition, and creating bespoke commissions for private clients in the UK and abroad.

Before starting my studio I trained as an architect, and this remains intrinsic to my work and evident in everything I make. I see my furniture as small pieces of architecture, designed with the rigour of the 'architectural method', where the broad brush-strokes of the concept flows through in to the intricacy of the detail.

## **Churchill Fellowship to Japan:**

In 2015, I was awarded a Winston Churchill Memorial Fellowship, in order to travel to Japan to research the unique woodworking arts culture there. This has been a formative experience for me, and has fundamentally changed my practice. Since returning from Japan, I have developed a set of guiding principles which are a fusion of Japanese thinking and my western design training, and these now underpin all of my work.

## **Current Work:**

I have been exploring these guiding principles in a new collection of work which I have exhibited throughout 2016. These pieces formed the basis for the much more ambitious set of work, including my signature Coffee Cart, which were featured at the Saatchi Gallery as part of 'COLLECT' in 2017.

## **Selected Exhibitions:**

2017: (upcoming) 'Dish of the Day' exhibition of table wear and furniture at **Bluecoat Display Centre**, Liverpool  
2017: Exhibited at **COLLECT**, at the Saatchi Gallery in London, organised by the Crafts Council.  
2016: Exhibited at **Made London**, Marylebone  
2016: Joint exhibition of my furniture with textile weaver Rita Parniczky at **Bluecoat Display Centre**, Liverpool  
2016: Exhibited at **Designer Crafts on the Mall**, as a member of the Society of Designer Craftsmen  
2015: Exhibited at **Celebration of Craftsmanship and Design**, Cheltenham. Also exhibiting and giving lecture in 2016  
2014: Exhibited at **Royal College of Art Summer Show**, London, in collaboration with jewellery designer Kate Rieppel.

## **Awards:**

2016: Winner of the **Craft&Design Magazine Award** at Made London 2016  
2016: Selected as 1 of 20 international artists to design an ArtSuite bedroom at **IceHotel, Jukkasjärvi, Sweden**  
2016: '**High Commendation**' by **Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers**, for design of 'An Absence of Noise' collection.  
2015: Awarded **Winston Churchill Memorial Fellowship**, to research woodworking and design philosophies in Japan.  
2015: **Winner, Wood Awards**, for the design and construction of Constellations Bar, Liverpool.  
2015: **AJ Small Projects Awards**, shortlisted for Constellations Bar  
2015: **RIBA Awards**, nominated for Constellations Bar  
2010: Awarded **Silver Medal at RHS Tatton Show** for design of 'Handbag of Harmonies' Garden.  
2009: Awarded **North East Timber Trade Association Prize** for best use of timber in a Masters Architecture thesis.  
2006: Awarded **William Bell Memorial Scholarship** by University of Newcastle.  
2005: Awarded **Napper Memorial Fund Prize** by the School of Architecture at the University of Newcastle.

## **Teaching, Lecturing, Writing:**

2017: (upcoming) Feature article in **Craft&Design Magazine**, spring 2017  
2016: (current) visiting lecturer at **Osaka Institute of Technology, School of Architecture**  
2016: (current) timber design tutor at **Newcastle University, School of Architecture**  
2014: (current) visiting tutor at **Liverpool University, School of Architecture**  
2016: '**Japanese Wood Craftsmanship**' book written to document my research in Japan  
2016: 'The Use of Water as a Tool in Japanese Woodworking' - Article for **Carpenters Company Magazine**  
2016: Lecture at **Manchester University School of Architecture**, on Constellations Bar at 'Before You're 30' event  
2016: Lecture at **Glyndwr University** on Japanese woodwork and its influence on my work at 'Creative Futures' week  
2016: Lecture at **Heritage Crafts Association** annual conference, on Japanese wood art and its influence on my work

**Collections:** Work held in private collections in London, Cheshire and the Lake District.