



KAJA UPELJ

1992 | Born in Ljubljana, Slovenia
Lives and works in London

EDUCATION

2026 | Goldsmiths University, Fine Art Program
2024 | Member of Royal Society of Sculptors
2018 | Royal College of Art
MA Ceramics and Glass, London
2016 | Academy of Fine Arts and Design
BA of Applied Art, Ljubljana
2014 | Estonian Academy of Arts
BA Glass Art and Design, Tallinn

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS AND ART FAIRS

2025 | Glipmses of the Guest Rooms
Chilli Gallery, London, GB
Comfort Zone for Ljubljana Art Weekend
Mala Galerija BS, Ljubljana, SLO

2024 | Arte Laguna Prize
Nord Arsenale, Venice, Italy

2023 | West Bund Art & Design
Ting Ting Art Space, West Bund Dome Art Center, Shanghai, China
I Art 021 Shanghai Contemporary Art Fair
Ting Ting Art Space, Shanghai Exhibition Center, Shanghai, China
I Kiaf Seoul 2023
Ting Ting Art Space, COEX Convention Centre, Seoul, South Korea
I Artaipei
Ting Ting Art Space, Taipei Wolr Trade Center, Taipei, Taiwan
I We All Get to Paradise
CabanaMad Gallery, Milan, Italy
I Collect Art Fair 2023
Joanna Bird Gallery, Somerset House, London, GB
I Green World
Emma Scully Gallery, New York City, USA

2022 | Where There's Nothing Else Left, Hold me Tighter
Ljubljana's Castle, Ljubljana, SLO
I Design Miami 2022
Emma Scully Gallery, Miami Beach Convention Center, Miami, USA
I Future Fair
Emma Scully Gallery, Chelsea Industrial, New York City, USA
I Crafting a More Human Future
Homo Gaber Foundation, Fondazione Giorgio Cini, Venice, Italy
I Collect Art Fair 2022
Officine Saffi, Somerset House, London, GB

2021 | Townhaus Collective
Soshiro Gallery, London, GB

I Magazzino / Warehouse
Officine Saffi, Milan, Italy

2020 I Main Dishes: A Ceramics Encyclopedia
Officine Saffi, Milan, Italy

I Miart Art Fair 2020
Officine Saffi, Milan, Italy

I New Acquisition
Glasmuseum Lette, Coesfelf, Germany

I Collect Art Fair 2020
Officine Saffi, Somerset House, London,GB

I Noman Circle 2020
Officine Saffi, Chesa Planta, Samedan, Switzerland

2019 I Lake Como Art Fair
Officine Saffi, Teatro Sociale Como, Como, Italy

I Nomad Circle 2019
Officine Saffi, Palazzo Soranzo Van Axel, Venice, Italy

I Milan Design Week / Perfect Darkness
Officine Saffi, Milan, Italy

I Miart Art Fair 2019
Officine Saffi, Milan, Italy

I Collect Art Fair 2019
Officine Saffi, Saatchi Gallery, London, GB

I New Horizons Young Talents Exhibition
Coast Gallery, CHINA

2018 I West Bund Art & Design Expo
The cultural power Institute, China

I China Craft Week 2018
Hangzou Creative Design Center, China

I New Graduate Show 2018
London Glassblowing, GB

I Graduation Show 2018
Royal College of Art, GB

I Materialise
House of Preston Fitzgerald, London, GB

2016 I Work in Progress Show 2016
Royal College of Art, London, GB

I The Emerging and The Established
Christie's Gallery, London, GB

2015 I Interpretation
Olustvere Manor Gallery, Menzendorff Museum, Estonia, Latvia

I Luminos
Titanikas Gallery, Lithuania

I international Ceramics Triennial Unicum
National Museum of Slovenia, Ljubljana SLO

I Dimensions
Kult 3000, Ljubljana, SLO

I Aluo 70
University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, SLO

2014 I Vision of Invisible
Estonian Academy of Art, Estonia

SCHOLARSHIPS AND RESIDENCIES

- 2024 | Vila Lena Residency
- 2022 | Artist Residency in New York City
Ministry of Culture, Slovenia
- | Promising Project Scholarship,
Ministry of Culture, Slovenia
- 2018 | 2018 Radcliffe Trust Scholar,
Scholarship of Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust, GB
 | Corning Museum Of Glass: Surface, Texture, and Mark Making
with Marina Hanser
Scholarship of Corning Museum of Glass
 | Corning Museum Of Glass: Demystifying the Digital with
Norwood Viviano
Scholarship of Corning Museum of Glass
- 2017 | Pilchuck Summer School : Applying Gravity with Miguel Unson
Partnership scholarship Royal College of Art
- 2016 | Scholarship for Postgraduate Study Abroad
Ministry of Culture, Slovenia

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

- 2025 | Čeferin, Hana. "Comfort Zone: Displays of Affection"
ETC Magazine, Issue 4 /2025
- 2022 | Haefliger, Chiara. "Kaja Upelj: Inspiration from Interaction"
Neues Glas/New Glass: Art & Architecture, Issue 4/2022
- 2020 | Prezelj, Pia. "Kaja Upelj: Skozi material preučevati človeško doživljanje"
Delo, November 19, 2020
- | McManus, Charlotte. "Material World "
30th Anniversary Qest Magazine, September 16, 2020
- | Boyle, Catherine. "Collect Preview"
Qest Magazine, Issue 41/ 2020
- | Worthington, Kate. "The Names to Invest in Now"
Elle Decoration, March, 2020
- | Joulous, Corinne. "The Fine Art of Craft"
Evening Standard, September 30, 2020
- | Crichton - Miller, Emma. "Playing With Fire"
Craft Magazine, Issue 282/2020
- 2019 | Shepard, Hannah. "British Glass Biennale"
British Glass Biennale Catalogue, September, 2019
- 2018 | Furber, Shelby. "Infinite Iridescence"
S/Magazine, Issue Winter/2019
- | Brown, Sarah. "CGS New Graduate Review"
Contemporary Glass Society Magazine, November, 2018
- | Brown, Sarah. "CGS New Graduate Review"
Neues Glass - New Glass: Art & Architecture, Issue 4/2018
- | Boyle, Katherine. "Kaja Upelj: Qest Scholar : Glassmaking "
Qest Magazine, Issue 38/ 2018
- | Author Unknown. "New Horizons Young Talent's Exhibition"
New Horizon Young Talent's Exhibition Catalogue, December ,2018
- | Author Unknown "Emerging Potters"
Emerging Potters Magazine, Issue 11/2018

SELECTED PRESS

2025 | Kač, Maja. "Ljubljana Art Weekend: v iskanju cone udobja, ki je lahko tudi pogumno dejanje upora

RTV SLO MMC, May 20, 2025

I Kač, Maja. "Cona udobja: varno zatočišče ali varljiv prostor zatiskanja oči"

RTV SLO MMC, April 21, 2025

2022 | Singer, Jill. "Saturday Select"

Sight Unseen, February 21, 2022

I Prezelj, Pia. "Odnosi trdni kakor marmor"

Delo, December 16, 2022

I Stefancic, Nadina. "Ko ni več ničesar, me stisni močnejše":

skulpture Kaje Upelj na Ljubljanskem gradu

RTV SLO MMC, December 16, 2022

I Shook, Lindsey. "2022 ART WEEK BEST IN SHOW—DESIGN EDITION"

California Home Design, December 9, 2022

I Domino Staff, "Mirror Mirror (Leaning) on the Wall: Emma Scully Gallery"

Domino, December 2, 2022

I Madlener, Adrian. "Striking scenography and future-forward optimism mark

this year's fair", The Design Edit, December 1, 2022

I Author Unknown¹ "Emma Scully Gallery Pays Homage to the Female Spirit

in Design", Hyperbeast, December 6, 2022

I Burman, Sujata. "Design Miami 2022: highlights from the fair and around

town", Wallpaper, December 8, 2022

2021 | Author Unknown, "A QEST for glass training",

Contemporary Glass Society June 21, 2021

I Author Unknown, "Kaja Upelj: With my artwork, I want to draw attention to the importance of a realistic view on surroundings"

Design Mate Russia, May 10, 2021

I Author Unknown, "Kaja Upelj: Glass as a way of understanding the world"

Design Mate Russia, May 10, 2021

2020 | Johnson- Ferguson, Christopher and Tomasi, Andrea.

"Kaja Upelj: Communicating through glass"

Homo Faber Guide, September 17, 2020

I Banks, Linda, "Luminous treasures in glass"

Contemporary Glass Society, September 1, 2020

I Author Unknown, "Spotlight on: Glass artist at Collect 2020"

TL Magazine, February 24, 2020

I Ahrhams, Charlotte. "Collect 2020"

The Design Edit, March 1, 2020

I Author Unknown, "International Art Fair for Modern Craft & Design: Collect

2020", London Town, March 1, 2020

I Julius, Corinne. "Collect London 2020:

Textiles, Ceramics and Sculptures to Watch Out for at The Capitals'S

Contemporary Craft Fair", Homes and Property, February 22, 2020

I Boyle, Katherine. "Collect 27 February - 1 March 2020"

QEST, March 4, 2020

2019 | Boyle, Katherine. "Qest to Exhibit at Collect for The First Time in 2020"

QEST, October 22, 2019

I Lucek, Emma. "Lake Como Design Fair"

Damn Magazine, September 24, 2019

I Author Unknown, "15 Craft Exhibition to See in the UK This September"

Crafts Council, September 6, 2019

I Singh, Anjali. "Contemporary artist Kaja Upelj"

Asian Curator, December 3, 2019

2018 | Author Unknown. "RCA Show 2018: Ceramics and Glass MA"

Arts Thread, July 11, 2018

I Marchesi, Francesco. "Solid Evolution for Fragile Materials: The Future of Glass and Ceramics in 6 Projects", Elle Decor, July 19, 2018

I The Editors. "Seven Designers to Watch from RCA's Ceramics & Glass program", Sight Unseen, December 7, 2018

I Small, Zachary. "The Royal College of Art's Massive MFA Show

Spans the Entire Artistic Kingdom", Hyperallergic, June 29, 2018