ANNA GILLESPIE

I began as an art historian, with a specialism in twentieth century art and design, and I have had a dual career in art and education. Having worked with resident artists in schools, I was inspired to join the part-time Foundation Course at Banbury, which I followed by studying glass and ceramics at Bucks New Uni, and architectural glass at Central Saint Martins.

Working in my garden studio, I make stained glass panels to hang against windows, and I make larger panels to commission, set in window and doorframes. My style has been called ‘contemporary arts and crafts’.

In the traditional way, I create a design, choose and cut the glass, lead, solder and cement it. The full beauty of working in stained glass comes with the painting. I have been developing my skills in using the medieval paint in black and bistre brown to build up line and tone. I also use the yellow stain which gives stained glass its name. Painted and stained pieces may go into the kiln several times – it is a long process.

I am inspired by glass itself, medieval fantasy as seen in ancient buildings and manuscripts, and the flowers in a Cotswold garden.

My work in kiln-formed glass includes fused hangings and tiles, slumped dishes and sculptural forms. I also make stained glass panels in steel frames for the garden.

I enjoy **teaching** stained glass in my studio. Please contact me through my website if you are interested, or if you would like to discuss your ideas for a **commission**.

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