

CURRICULUM VITAE

HELEN WHITTAKER MBE

I am Creative Director at Barley Studio, York. I have 30 years of experience in designing and making stained glass windows and architectural sculptures in copper and glass, and have completed more than 100 commissions.

Alongside my own work I have also collaborated with two Royal Academists, David Hockney and Hughie O'Donoghue, to create windows for Westminster Abbey.

I am Renter Warden to the Court of the Worshipful Company of Glaziers, a leading Livery Company of the City of London. I am a Fellow of British Society of Master Glass Painters, a Brother of the Art Workers Guild and an Honorary Craftsperson Member of the Company of Merchant Taylors of York. I am a Craft Scholar of the Prince's Foundation, having received the prestigious Hancock Medal for High Achievement after completing their MA in Visual, Islamic and Traditional Arts.

I actively promote the art and craft of stained glass to a variety of audiences. For the Glaziers Foundation I chair the Education and Training Committee. As head judge I supported the "Reflections of the Lord Mayor" roundel competition.

A list of selected commissions follows and a full list can be found on my website at: www.helenwhittakerart.com

ADDRESS

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EMPLOYMENT

Nov 2012 to date: Creative Director -
Barley Studio, York.

Sept 1998 to date: Designer / Artist and Conservator -
Barley Studio, York.

March 1999 to Feb 2017: Course Tutor -
Stained Glass, Prince's School of Traditional Arts, London.

EDUCATION

Sept 2010 – July 2012: FdA/BM (1:0) Business Management -
Leeds Metropolitan University.

Sept 1996 – July 1998: MA Visual Islamic and Traditional Arts
Department (VITA) (Specialising in Stained Glass) -
Prince of Wales's Institute of Architecture, London.

Sept 1993 – June 1996: BA Hons (2:1) Three Dimensional Design;
Glass with Ceramics (Specialising in Stained Glass) -
University of Sunderland.

SELECTED AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

2024: Awarded MBE "for services to the creation and conservation
of stained and architectural glass art" -
King's Birthday Honours.

2019: Featured in 'CRAFT IS GREAT' -
UK Government Campaign showcasing British talent.

2019, 2015, 2006: Master's and Craftsmanship Awards -
York Guild of Building.

2006: Hancock Medal for High Achievement -
The Prince's Foundation.

2004: Stevens Competition: Prize for Craftsmanship -
The Worshipful Company of Glaziers and Painters of Glass.

2002: Stevens Competition: Commissioned -
Ellerton Church Preservation Trust.

2002: Travelling Scholarship: Stained Glass Creation in Germany -
The Prince's Foundation.

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2023 Art Macau: Macau International Art Biennale 2023
God does not play dice with the universe

2020 Britain is GREAT, Manchester and Gatwick International Airports
Falling Water and Sopworth

2019 Collate, Hong Kong
Dark Angel and Sangwin

2019 Haw Par Mansion, Hong Kong
Time and Space

2019 Art Workers Guild, London
Glass exhibition

2018 Prince and Patron, Buckingham Palace
Creation window

SELECTED LECTURES AND PUBLICATIONS

2025: Illuminating Stained Glass: Creativity, Conservation and Craft at Barley
Studio (Juliette MacDonald, Helen Whittaker and Keith Barley)

2025: Divine Light: The Stained Glass of England's Cathedrals (Janet Gough)

2025: Kings Foundation School of Traditional Arts, Public Lecture.

2024: Friends of York Minster, Lecture.

2023: Invited guest on Talking out your glass podcast.

2022: Invited speaker at American Glass Guild Conference, Corning Museum,
New York State.

2022: Art Workers Guild, London, Lecture.

2020: Friends of York Art Gallery Q and A

2020: Shanghai International College (SCF), Webinar.

2020: The Stained Glass Museum Annual Lecture, Webinar.

2020: The Worshipful Company of Glaziers, Webinar.

2019: Shenzhen, China, Lecture.

2019: Haw Par Mansion, Hong Kong, Lecture.

2019: Invited speaker at Stained Glass Association of America /
American Glass Guild Joint Conference, San Antonio, Texas.

2019, 2015: Stained Glass: The Quarterly Magazine of the Stained Glass
Association of America

2018: How to look at Stained Glass (Jane Bocket)

2016: Crafted in Britain (Anthony Burton and Rob Scott)

2015: TEDx, Pocklington, East Yorkshire.

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SELECTED COMMISSIONS

2024 [Selby Abbey, North Yorkshire.](#)

The Gethsemane window – North Nave Aisle (1.2m x 3.4m)

2024 [St Michael's Church, Highgate, London.](#)

The Hope window – North Nave Aisle (1.4m x 4.0m)

2023 [The Grange Retreat Centre, Ampleforth Abbey, North Yorkshire.](#)

'Pax amidst the thorns' (0.35 m x 1.15 m)

2023 [All Saints Church, Wetheringsett cum Brockford, Suffolk.](#)

'Axis Mundi'; Two memorial windows – North Nave Aisle (each 1.8m x 3.8m)

2022 [Our Lady of Lourdes Chapel, Alabang, Philippines.](#)

Six Marian Windows (overall 180 sq m)

2021 [St Helen's Church, Lea, Gainsborough.](#)

Memorial to the Marshall family – North aisle West window (1.5m x 3.2m)

2020 [St Cuthbert's Church, Crayke, North Yorkshire.](#)

St Cuthbert – North Nave Aisle (1.1m x 2.5m)

2020 [All Saints Church, Hovingham, North Yorkshire.](#)

Memorial window to the Worsley family – North Nave Aisle (1.0m x 2.0m)

2020 [Ironmonger's Hall, London.](#)

Heraldic panel for the 691st Lord Mayor of the City of London,
Sir Peter Estlin (0.4m x 1.1m)

2019 [St Joseph's Catholic Church, Tadcaster.](#)

Celebrating 150 years of the Church (0.9m x 1.8m)

2019 [Dulwich College, London.](#)

Celebrating 400 years of the School – Lower Hall (2.0m x 0.7m)

2019 [Police Memorial Chapel, Southwick Park, Hampshire.](#)

Commemorative window for D – Day (0.9m x 1.0m)

2019 [Scarborough Hospital Multi-Faith Chapel.](#)

Prayer Tree Sculpture (1.0m x 1.7m)

2018 [All Saints' Church, Penarth.](#)

A Window to Architecture; Memorial to Dale Owen and his son Jason –
North Nave Aisle (1.6m x 3.5m)

2018 [Westminster Abbey, London.](#)

The Queen's Window by David Hockney RA – West wall of North Transept
(3.5m x 8.5m)

2018 [RAF Club, London.](#)

Celebrating women in the RAF – Stained Glass and Sculpture (4.1m x 1.8m)

2018 [St Mary's Church, Sopworth, Wiltshire.](#)

Creation; Memorial window for Ned Sells – North Nave Aisle (0.4m x 1.0m)
Exhibited as part of 'Prince and Patron' exhibition, Buckingham Palace, 2018

2017 – 18 [St Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, Oakham, Rutland.](#)

Complete glazing scheme (27 sq m)

2018 [St Mary Magdalene Church, Hart, Hartlepool.](#)

'Some fell onto good soil' – North Nave Aisle (1.2m x 2.3m)

2017 [St Lawrence's Church, Over Peover, Cheshire.](#)

'He is not here for He is Risen' – North Nave Aisle (1.2 m x 2.5 m)

2016 [Merchant Taylors' Hall, York.](#)

Celebrating 600 years of the Hall – East Window of the Great Hall
(6.5m x 2.9m)

2016 [St Mary's Priory Church, Abergavenny, Wales.](#)

The Jesse Window – East Window of the Lewis Chapel (3.6m x 5.6m)

2016 [St Aidan's Church, Hartlepool.](#)

'I am this Dark World's Light' – North Nave Aisle (1.2m x 1.4m)

2015 [St Thomas of Canterbury Church, Greatford, Lincolnshire.](#)

St Thomas Becket – South Nave Aisle (1.1m x 2.8m)

2015 [All Saints Church, Pavement, York.](#)

Commemorative window to those who served in Afghanistan –
North Nave Aisle (1.8m x 3.0m)

2014 [St Brandon's Church, Brancepeth, Durham.](#)

The Paradise Window – East Window (4.0m x 4.9m)

2014 [St Wilfrid's Church, Kirkby Knowle, North Yorkshire.](#)

St Luke, Artist and Physician – North Nave Aisle (1.1m x 2.0m)

2014 [Private Hall, Lincolnshire.](#)

Eight Heraldic Panels (each 0.4m x 0.6m)

2013 [Westminster Abbey, London.](#)

The Marian Windows – Henry VII Chapel (two windows each 3.0m x 7.5m)

2012 [Holme Cultram Abbey, Cumbria 'The Granddaughter House of Rievaulx Abbey'.](#)

Christ's Entry into Jerusalem – North Chapel, North Wall (1.5m x 3.2m)

2012 [Highgate Cemetery, London.](#)

Commemorative Window – North Wall (0.8m x 1.7m)

2010 [St Mary's Church, Lockington, York.](#)

The Parable of the Sower – South Chancel Aisle (0.7m x 3.1m)

2009 [St Nicholas' Church, Dunnington, York.](#)

The Crucifixion – East Window (1.8m x 3m)

2008 [The Royal Air Force Club, Piccadilly, London.](#)

RAF, Past and Present – Staircase Window (2.4m x 6.1m)

2008 [St Mary's Church, Community and Conference Centre, Sheffield.](#)

Pilgrimage – East Window (3.0m x 6.5m) and Two Sculptures (each 2.0m)

2007 [Holy Trinity Church, Rothwell, Northamptonshire.](#)

Jesus and the Children – East Window, South Nave Aisle (2.5m x 4.6m)

2006 [St Gregory's Church, Kirknewton, Northumberland.](#)

Centenary Window and Sculpture in Memory of Josephine Butler –
South Porch (9.8 sq mtrs)

2005 – 2006 [St Peter and St Mary's Church, Stowmarket, Suffolk.](#)

The Four Seasons – Four South Aisle Windows (each 1.9m x 4.0m)

2004 [Beverley Minster, East Yorkshire.](#)

Retro-Quire, Artworks on the Theme of Pilgrimage.
Sculpture (2m x 2m), Seating, Prayer Stands, Stained Glass Window
(1.5m x 6.4m) and Candle Stand (1.2m x 1.2m)

2003 [Worksop Priory, Nottinghamshire.](#)

St Cuthbert – Great West Window (1.9m x 5.0m)

2002 [St Ethelburga's Centre for Reconciliation and Peace, London.](#)

St Ethelburga – East Window (3.3m x 3.3m)

2000 [Ely Cathedral, Cambridgeshire.](#)

New Processional Way – Fourteen Geometric Lights

1999 [Southwell Minster, Nottinghamshire.](#)

Sixteen Romanesque Windows – North & South Transepts
(each 1.2m x 2.5m)