

CRUAN





I am an enameller and maker of hand crafted, enamelled copper vessels, and Cruan is our family run business based in Cornwall. Cruan is Irish gaeilge for enamel.

The designs for the pieces draw inspiration from my childhood in Ireland and the Celtic traditions of copper and enamel work, as well as the beautiful surroundings of my adopted Cornish home.

The pieces start with a concept for a particular shape vessel. These are often hand-raised by myself or my husband and then hand-spun by a skilled, silver spinner based in Sheffield. The bowls are prepared and then coated with powdered enamel. Each is then fired in a kiln to melt the enamel to form the inside or outside coating. Chemical reactions, which depend on time and temperature, produce the myriad effects that we see in the finished products. My experience and intuition as an enameller contributes a degree of control to these reactions, but tiny fluctuations can have a dramatic effect and there is always the excitement and anticipation to see exactly what the finished effect will be.

Cruan's studio is based in Krowji, the largest creative-studio complex in Cornwall, and our work benefits from the heady atmosphere of so many artists working in close proximity. We are fortunate enough to have qualified for a Cultivator creative export grant which has allowed me to expand my business. I am a member of the Guild of Enamellers and the British Society of Enamellers, both of which play a vital part in keeping the craft of enamelling alive and thriving.

This catalogue shows a selection of the vessels we make and gives some idea of future projects. Please contact us for information about any aspect of our work.

Shapes & sizes



Small round bowls
70mm wide x 30mm tall

Medium sloped bowls

105mm wide x 55mm tall



Beaker vases

80mm wide x 85mm tall



Large wide bowls

210mm wide x 60mm tall



Enamel finishes

Solid Colours

Sea blue



Lavender fields



Springtime green



Port



Wicklow green



Sky blue



Dappled colours

these vary each time due to the enamelling process

Soft white/green



Light grey/blue



Dark green/black



Pale blue/dark blue



Golden flux



Randoms



Copper finishes



Textured

This finish is the most popular, the copper is textured after being enamelled and having all the firescale removed. It is then treated with a natural wax to delay tarnishing.

Mirror polish

This finish is the most work intensive, the exposed copper is sanded over six times using ever finer sand paper. It will need polishing to remove finger prints and delay tarnishing, but is worth the effort!



Natural

This finish is also very popular among customers, they love the rich tones that enamelling extracts from the copper. It is lightly sanded to remove loose fire scale and is then treated with a natural wax to delay tarnishing.



Matt black

This finish offsets the colours of the enamels, the black finish comes from a technique used in enamelling and is completely natural. It does not tarnish and it is treated with a natural wax.

Custom pieces & exclusives

We are happy to work with shops, interior designers and individuals to produce a large single piece. We are also happy to discuss exclusivity within a certain area, or an exclusive range for your business.

Future plans...

We have been awarded a Cultivator creative investment grant with which we have purchased a larger kiln. The new kiln will allow me to create larger pieces and collaborate with artists and craftspeople to create a new body of work alongside my bowls. There are collaborations already planned with a silver spinner and blacksmith, as well as a silversmith.

We have several exhibitions in Cornish galleries scheduled over the next two years, both as solo shows and collaborations. We are hoping to extend out of Cornwall and to exhibit further afield.

The team...





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