

## Clare Stephenson

Born in Surrey in 1973, Clare moved north at the age of twenty to pursue her interest in art and obtained an HND in Surface Pattern Design from Leeds College of Art and Design. Having achieved her aim she returned to the home counties and enrolled at the Surrey Institute of Art and Design where she obtained an honours degree in Textile Design.

During her final year at Surrey, Clare began to experiment with paper as opposed to fabric, and found that by using methods more conventionally associated with textile design she was able to create innovative and exciting mixed-media pieces. She has spent the last four years developing these further and has held many successful exhibitions at prestigious galleries in London and the West Country.

Clare spends a large part of each year in Cornwall, where the rugged coastline and quaint fishing villages have provided the inspiration for her latest set of images, which demonstrate her firm grasp of textural juxtaposition as well as her refinement of style. Seeing these, it comes as no surprise to learn that in the course of her brief career, Clare has already fulfilled a number of commissions for restaurants across the UK, has been elected a licentiate of the Society of Designer Craftsmen, and has won the coveted Seaboard Art Exhibition prize!

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