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**Basketry Education and Qualifications**

2001-2003 City and Guilds Part One Creative Basketry, City Lit, London  
2005-2007 City and Guilds Part Two Creative Basketry, City Lit, London

**Additional Basketry Training**

2003 Workshop with Lois Walpole on Recycled/Sustainable Basketry  
Workshop with Mary Butcher on Irish Skiathogs

2005 Workshop with Tim Johnson on Cordage

2007 Master-class with Hisako Sekijima on Contained Spaces  
Workshop with Kazue Honma on Plaited Basketry

2008 Workshop with Christine Brewster on Square Willow-work  
Workshop with Anne Ratnarajah on Imbenge wire baskets

2011 Workshop with Alison Fitzgerald on Irish frame baskets

**Professional Development Training**

2009 Selected maker, Craft Council Emerging Makers Development Programme in Contemporary Basketry

2010 Selected maker, Hothouse: Craft Council Development Programme for Emerging Makers

**Exhibitions/Events**

2012 Jul-Aug **'THERE WILL BE NO SLOW MOTION'**, Aspex Gallery, Portsmouth

2012 April-May **'IN MY ART OR CRAFT'**, The New Schoolhouse Gallery, York

2012 May 13 **AMULETS**, exhibition with Basketryplus, The Petrie Museum of Egyptian Archaeology, London

2012 July-Aug **'OH'**, group exhibition as part of Deptford X 2012, Art Hub Gallery, Deptford, London

2012 Sept-Dec **MAGGS BENEATH THE COVERS**, group exhibition, Maggs Bros Antiquarian Booksellers, Mayfair, London

- 2011 Jan **Basketry Showcase**, Greenwich Tourist Information Gallery, Greenwich, London
- 2011 Feb-Mar **NANOWOMEN**: showcasing technology, Fashion and Textile Museum, Bermondsey, London
- Nov 2011-  
Jan 2012 **BASKETRY FOCUS** with Mary Crabb and Maggie Smith, New Ashgate Gallery, Farnham, Surrey
- 2011 Dec **'TREE'**, Art Hub Gallery Xmas Group Show, Art Hub Gallery, Deptford, London
- 2011 Sep **PORTRAITS IN THE MAKING**, Pitzhanger Manor House & Gallery, Ealing
- 2011 April **ON THE WALL** with Basketry Plus, Lauderdale House, Highgate, London
- 2010 Dec **Art Hub Xmas Show** and Open Studios, Art Hub Gallery, Creekside, Deptford, London
- 2010 Nov **RELAY**: group show, Core Gallery, Creekside, Deptford, London
- 2010 Oct **HOTHOUSE** emerging makers exhibition, New Ashgate Gallery, Farnham, Surrey
- 2010 **Deptford X**, Art Hub Gallery, Framework Studios, Deptford, London
- 2010 **The Hanging Garlands of Tibby Place** – community arts project, specialist consultant to Shane Waltener
- 2010 **Group show at the Claremont**, Brighton Festival and Artist's Open Houses, Hove Arts Trail, Hove, West Sussex
- 2010 **SHOW YOUR WORKING OUT** – solo show, Metre Square Gallery, Quay2c, Kingsgrove, Peckham, London
- 2009 **Art Hub Studios Xmas Show**, Art Hub Gallery, Framework Studios, Deptford, London
- Hybrid Basketry** - Specialist consultant to Shane Waltener, **Origin: the London Craft Fair**, Somerset House, London.
- THE UPSETT** - A Group Exhibition of Contemporary Basketry by Basketry Plus, the Barbican Library Foyer, Barbican Centre, London, UK
- FULL CIRCLE** - A Group Exhibition of Contemporary Basketry, The New Maynard Gallery, Campus West, Welwyn Garden City, UK
- South East Arts Open Studios** - The Old Reed Bed, Lower Halstow, Kent, UK
- 2008 **MATERIAL DIFFERENCE** - An Exhibition of Contemporary Basketry and Ceramics (with Robert Cooper), Rochester Art Gallery and Craft Case, Rochester, Kent, UK
- Surrey Open Houses** - Guest Artist (with Penny Green) Dorking, Surrey, UK
- Brighton Festival and Artist's Open Houses** Guest Artist (with Maggie Feeny) Fiveways, Brighton, West Sussex, UK
- 2007 **Final Group Show** - City and Guilds Creative Basketry, City Lit, London.
- LE FLAC a 20 ANS** (invited artist) - International Exhibition of Contemporary Art, Chateau de la Coste, Grezels, S.W. France
- 2006 **LES EPHEMERES** - Site Specific Installation and group exhibition, Le Manoir de Rouergou, St Medard, S.W. France
- 2004 **PASSION** - An Exhibition of Contemporary Basketry, with Suni Lopez, Lauderdale House, Highgate, London

- 2003      **The London Art and Design Show** (with The Fibre Art Gallery) The Midland Grand Hotel, London  
**Iliffe Yard Open Studios**, London. Guest Artist  
**Vanguard Court Open Studios**, London. Guest Artist  
**Contemporary British Basketry**, recent student work selected by Mary Butcher for **INTERNATIONAL BASKETRY**, Lugo, Spain  
**Final Group Show**, City and Guilds Creative Basketry Part One, City Lit, London

### Workshops

- 2012      Family Activity Day Basketry Workshop, Guildhall Art Gallery, London  
2012      Basketry Bangle Workshop for adults, Guildhall Art Gallery, London  
2011 June      Twining Workshop for children, British Museum, in conjunction with the 'Basketry and Belonging' exhibition.  
2011 Oct      'Get Crafty': recycled basketry workshop for children, Pitzhanger Manor, Ealing, London.  
2011 Nov      Plaited Paper Baskets: New Ashgate Gallery, Farnham, Surrey.  
2010      Family Activity Day, Guildhall Art Gallery, London  
2009      Variations on Catalan Platters/Tension Trays for Hertfordshire Basketry  
2008      Christmas workshop for Hertfordshire Basketry  
2007      Turkshead bangle mini workshop for Hertfordshire Basketry AGM  
2006      Turkshead bangle mini workshop for Basketmakers Association AGM

### Commissions

- 2011      Large Wall-hanging: theatre set of Death and the Maiden, Harold Pinter Theatre, Panton Street, London  
2011      Garden Structure: Restoration House, Rochester  
2007      Large Wall Piece: Philip King (Kinleigh, Folkard and Hayward Ltd)  
2005      Clothing adornments in basketry for final year catwalk show: Harriet Miller, M.A. Womenswear Knitwear, School of Fashion and Textiles, Royal College of Art, London, UK

**Gallery - Commissions:** In October 2011 Stella was asked to make a large wall-hanging for a new production of 'Death and the Maiden' starring Thandie Newton at the Harold Pinter Theatre in London's West End. The piece used over 3,000 metres of string.

### Bursaries

- 2003      Student bursary from the Worshipful Company of Basketmakers

### Memberships and Positions Held

The Basketmakers Association  
Hertfordshire Basketry – Programme Organiser  
Basketry Plus (exhibiting group for contemporary basketry)

### Publications

- 2012      'Practical Basketry Techniques', Stella Harding and Shane Waltener, A&C Black  
2005      Catalogue, M.A. Fashion, Royal College of Art 2005, London

**STELLA HARDING****Statement**

Driven by a desire to create dynamic contemporary aesthetics using basketry techniques, I make three-dimensional, mixed media woven structures: including striking wall pieces, intricate sculptural forms and wearable structures that push the boundaries of traditional basketry.

Though drawn by the call of the wild to gather and experiment with natural materials I'm also keen to exploit the rich harvest of discarded manufactured materials that abound on the city streets – ripe for transformation and re-cycling. Alongside more conventional basketry materials such as willow and dogwood I also use plastics, metal and paper. I love the life and energy in natural materials yet I seek to re-nature them in intriguing ways, using paint and pigment, mark-making and surface texturing. My work is as much about line and gestural movement as it is about form and geometric space.

Born in the stark industrial east end of Sheffield but instilled with a passion for wide horizons I now live and work in London – one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world and a place where elements of the natural world are sometimes strangely juxtaposed against the urban landscape. Simultaneously subverting and celebrating the pastoral idyll I seek inspiration from the ways in which culture and nature interweave in unexpected ways, each one leaving its mark upon the fabric of the other.

Recently I've begun to explore the natural mathematics underlying and revealed by traditional basketry techniques. Despite being somewhat maths phobic I find that my hands can grasp what my mind lets slip. The spiral plait is endlessly fascinating: its relationship to universal structures in both the natural and cultural environment connects my making to cyclical patterns of growth and renewal. The tightly constrained intertwined forms reveal a tension between the organic and the engineered – archefossils from our industrial past.

I welcome commissions for site responsive projects and opportunities to work with museums and historic collections. I'm also keen to share my skills in basketry by giving talks and workshops and engaging others through public participation in making.