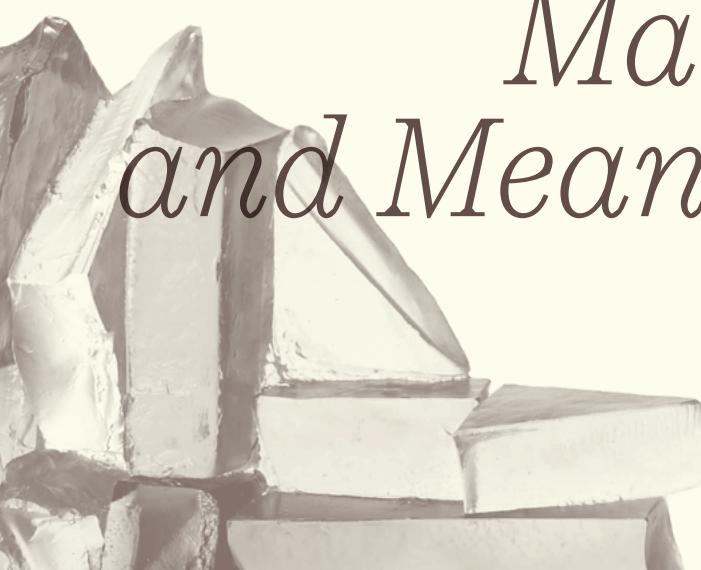


Events
Programme
Beneath
the Surface

*Material
and Meaning*



Design-Nation • 6 Dec 2025—15 Mar 2026

hub

Regular Events at the Hub

GALLERY ACTIVITY

18 Dec 2025–15 Mar 2026,
during opening hours
Thematic Gallery Tours

Explore the exhibition from fresh perspectives with our self-guided tours, available digitally on Bloomberg Connects. Each tour highlights key themes from the exhibition, offering new ways to engage with the craft on display. **Free, all ages—scan the QR code in the gallery to begin**

GALLERY EVENT

Every Sunday, 11am–3pm
Slow Sundays

Unwind in the calm of the Hub Main Gallery. Bring your sketchbook, journal, or simply enjoy a mindful exploration of the exhibition in a peaceful atmosphere. **Free, all ages**

GALLERY EVENT

Thu 11 Dec, 8 Jan,
5 Feb & 5 Mar
Sun 25 Jan, 15 Feb
& 15 Mar, 11:30am–12pm
Gallery Talk & Tour

Join our visitor experience assistants for a 30-minute tour of *Beneath the Surface*. After the tour, take advantage of a 20% discount at our CaféBar.

Free, all ages

Special Events at the Hub

WORKSHOP

Sun 1 Feb, 10:30am–4pm
Ceramic Sculpture Workshop with Rosa Wiland Holmes

Join Great Pottery Throw Down 2020 winner Rosa Wiland Holmes for an exclusive ceramics workshop exploring organic sculptural forms in pottery throwing and hand-building techniques. **£140, 18yrs+, booking required**

FILM & GUEST TALK

Fri 6 Feb, 3–5pm
The Nettle Dress—A Tale of Love & Healing

Experience *The Nettle Dress* film, followed by a talk and Q&A with its creator, Allan Brown. A moving reflection on craft, nature, and the process of healing through making. **Free, 12A rating, booking required**

GALLERY EVENT

Wed 19 Feb, 11am–12pm
Gallery Families

Bring the whole family for an hour of fun and discovery as we explore the main gallery exhibition together. Learn about artists and makers who work with clay, glass, textiles, and more. **Free, 5yrs+**

Opening Hours:

Mon–Sat: 10am–5pm

Sun & Bank Holidays: 10am–4pm

+44 (0)1529 308710

info@hub-sleaford.org.uk

hub-sleaford.org.uk

Hub, Navigation Wharf, Carre Street,
Sleaford, Lincolnshire, NG34 7TW
what3words://noble.form.green

Online Events via Zoom—registration required

SHORT VIDEO SERIES

Wed 10 Dec, 14 Jan,
18 Feb, 11 Mar, 12–1pm
On My Workbench

Peek inside artists' studios to discover their latest projects, ideas, and materials. Be inspired by a rotating line-up of exhibiting makers as they share what's currently on their workbench. **Free, 18+**

DEVELOPING YOUR PRACTICE ARTIST TALKS SERIES

Mon 12 Jan, 7pm
and Sat 17 Jan, 10am
Design-Nation Application Clinic

Thinking of joining Design-Nation? Join one of our free clinics to discover how membership can help your creative journey. **Free, 18+**

PANEL DISCUSSION

Thu 22 Jan, 10–11:30am
The Places that Inspire

Join the Hub and Design-Nation curatorial team alongside exhibiting artists as they explore how place, landscape, and cultural heritage shape their materials, methods, and creative identities. Followed by audience Q&A. **Free, 18+**

DEVELOPING YOUR PRACTICE ARTIST TALKS SERIES

Wed 4 Feb, 9:30–10:30am
Design-Nation Discussion

Every month, Design-Nation hosts a lively members' discussion online. February's event is open to all artists as we discuss exhibiting in a gallery or museum. Share insights, experiences, and gain practical tips on preparing work for professional exhibition spaces. **Free, 18+**

PANEL DISCUSSION

Thu 19 Feb, 2–3:30pm
Hidden Narratives

Join the Hub and Design-Nation curatorial team alongside exhibiting artists to discover the stories that lie beneath the surface of handmade objects. Artists share how emotion, memory, and cultural history are embedded in their materials and techniques. Followed by audience Q&A. **Free, 18+**

DEVELOPING YOUR PRACTICE ARTIST TALKS SERIES

Wed 4 Mar, 7–8:30pm
Selling Story-Driven Craft

Explore how meaning and narrative can connect your work with buyers and collectors. Exhibiting artists share insights into communicating the emotional and conceptual power of their practice. **Free, 18+**



Book online at
hub-sleaford.org.uk/whats-on

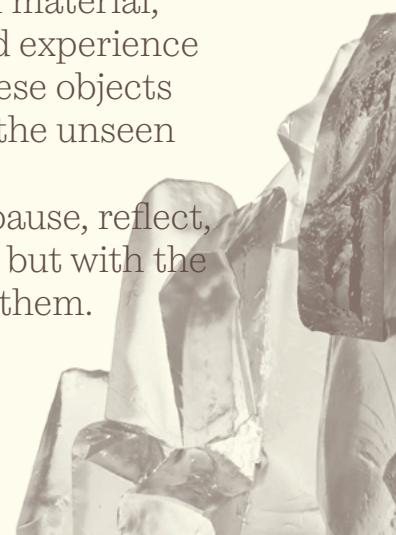
Most events are free, but some require booking or payment. All online events take place via Zoom. Booking terms and conditions are available on our website.

To celebrate 25 years of supporting British craft and design, Design-Nation presents *Beneath the Surface: Material and Meaning*—a powerful and poetic exhibition about how materials hold stories, memories, and emotion.

Beneath the Surface brings together selected works by 26 leading artists and makers from across the UK, showcasing a cross-section of contemporary craft in clay, glass, metal, textile, wood, and more. Each artist explores personal and shared narratives of identity, memory, migration, transformation, and resilience.

The artworks encourage us to slow down and look closer, revealing vulnerability beneath their surface and uncovering deeper stories through material, technique, and process. Rooted in lived experience and shaped by sustainable practice, these objects offer quiet yet profound reflections on the unseen forces that shape our lives.

The exhibition is an invitation to pause, reflect, and connect—not just with the objects, but with the emotions, histories, and hands behind them.



hub

@hubsleaford
hub-sleaford.org.uk

The Hub is a culturally vibrant arts centre in Sleaford, nationally recognised and locally rooted. We inspire curiosity, connection and creative learning through visual arts and dance. Entry to the Hub is FREE!

DESIGN NATION

@design_nationuk
designnation.co.uk

Design-Nation is a UK-wide membership network and curated portfolio representing some of the country's most talented and innovative designers and craftspeople.



BETTER

ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**