

## FAITH SHANNON MBE, ARCA, ATC

### curriculum vitae

#### EARLY LIFE & Education

1938 Born 24th February, Dehra Dun, Uttar Pradesh, India  
 1946 Returned to Belfast, Northern Ireland  
 1948-49 Methodist College, Belfast (year off for illness)  
 1950-55 Manor House School, Armagh  
 1955-59 Belfast College of Art (NDD) - Painting (Main), Bookbinding (Subsidiary)  
 Scholarships and Prizes from Belfast & Dublin: Taylor Prize, Ulster Arts Society Prizes,  
 Florence Breakie Award, Henry Higgins Travelling Scholarship (Dublin)  
 1958-59 Above awards enabled six months between Central School of Arts & Crafts, Camberwell  
 School of Art, London School of Printing  
 1959-60 London University Goldsmiths College (ATC, First Class Honours)  
 1960-63 Royal College of Art, Faculty of Graphic Design, Majoring in Bookbinding (ARCA)  
 1962 Dublin Scholarship used for two month visit to USA, ref. fine press work, bookbinding  
 collections, private and public fine art collections.

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1963 on Began career as freelance designer bookbinder and illustrator  
 Part-time art teaching  
 Following the Floods, 1967, member of the team under the auspices of the British Museum  
 establishing International Workshop at the Biblioteca Nazionale, Florence  
 1975-79 Member of the Crafts Advisory Committee (now the Crafts Council).  
 1977 Awarded the MBE (for services to bookbinding)  
 1977-79 Chairman, Surrey Crafts Association  
 1977-80 CNA External Assessor, Embroidery, Manchester Polytechnic  
 1977-82 Member of the Council of Management, British Crafts Centre  
 1978 Acting Chairman, British Crafts Centre  
 1980 Awarded Crafts Council Bursary  
 1980-87 Lecturer then Senior Lecturer in charge of Bookbinding, Faculty of Art & Design,  
 Brighton Polytechnic; organised "Horizons in Bookbinding" international conference and  
 exhibition at Brighton Polytechnic for Designer Bookbinders, 1984  
 1981 Guest Lecturer at International Study Week on Bookbinding, Ghent, Belgium  
 1986-87 External Assessor, Wildlife Illustration/Graphic Design, Carmarthen College of  
 Technology and Art  
 1987-  
 onwards Moved to Scotland to set up workshop and run short courses.  
 Visiting lecturer Royal College of Art, Edinburgh College of Art, Glasgow School of  
 Art, USA; various conferences  
 1987 "Paper Pleasures" published by Mitchell Beazley, later editions titled as "The Art and Craft of  
 Paper"  
 1987-90 President, Designer Bookbinders  
 1989 External Assessor, HND Illustration, Carmarthen  
 1989 Member of judging panel for the Department of Education & Science/WH Smith  
 "New Bookbinding" Competition for students  
 1990 to date with Sandy Mackilligin, established and managed Corranbeg Workshops for furniture design  
 and bookbinding short courses  
 1990 Member of judging panel for Department of Education and Science Bookbinding  
 competition for students  
 1992 Invited Exhibitor; lecturing and workshop tour  
 1993-94 Member of Scottish Arts Council, Crafts Committee (interim)

1994-97	Member of the Crafts Committee, Scottish Arts Council
1994	Lecturer, “New Horizons” Designer Bookbinders International Conference, Oxford
1995	Lecturer, Society of Bookbinders Conference, Manchester
1997 to date	External Advisor, Scottish Arts Council
1997	Juror for first “Artisan” Craft Fair, Edinburgh
1999	Awarded The Society of Designer Craftsmen Centennial Medal
2004	Member of judging panel for Elizabeth Souter Bookbinding Competition, National Library, Edinburgh
2004	Member of judging panel for Designer Bookbinders Competition
2004 -	Alumni member of Scottish Arts Council

#### selected EXHIBITIONS

1972	<b>Designer Bookbinders</b> - Victoria & Albert Museum, London and tour of USA
1973	<b>Paul Astbury, Faith Shannon, Michael Rowe</b> - CAC Gallery, London
1973	<b>The Craftsman’s Art</b> - Victoria & Albert Museum, London
1974	<b>Designer Bookbinders</b> - CAC Gallery and Centro del Bel Libro, Ascona, Switzerland
1975	<b>British Bookbinding Today</b> - Edwards Bookshop, London
1975	<b>Hedendaagse Boekbanden</b> , Higo, Ghent, Belgium
1977	<b>Masterpiece</b> - British Crafts Centre, London
1977	<b>Jubilee Year Exhibitions</b> – Crafts Advisory Committee at Victoria & Albert Museum, London
1978	<b>Hand Bookbinding Today- an International Art</b> - Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, USA
1978	<b>Paper and Ink</b> - British Crafts Centre, London
1979	<b>Year of the Child</b> - Spinks at Mall Galleries, London
1979-80	<b>Book Now</b> - Designer Bookbinders, touring England and Scotland
1979	<b>Take a Letter</b> - British Crafts Centre, London, and Welsh Arts Council
1979	<b>The Hand Binder in the Twentieth Century</b> - Hunt Institute, USA
1979	<b>The Open &amp; Closed Book</b> - Victoria & Albert Museum, London
1979	<b>Work in Progress</b> - (four craftsmens’ work on tour in England), Crafts Council
1980	<b>Prescote in London</b> - Warwick Gallery, London
1980	<b>Designer Bookbinders</b> - Prescote Gallery, Banbury
1980	<b>Binding and Illustrations</b> - solo show, Ulster Museum and Art Gallery, Belfast
1980	<b>Group Exhibition</b> - Folkcrafts Gallery, Totnes, Devon
1981	<b>Making Good</b> - the Gardiner Centre, Sussex University, Brighton
1981	<b>Faith Shannon, Philip Smith, Michael Lloyd</b> - Parnham House, Dorset
1981	<b>Bookbinding</b> - Sudbury Hall, Derby
1982	<b>Binding for Sir Anthony Gross book “The Very Rich Hours of le Boulve”</b> - New Ashgate Gallery, Surrey
1982	<b>Bookbinding: Five Contemporary Craftsmen and the Gregynog Press</b> - Welsh Arts Council, Cardiff
1983	<b>The Printed Word</b> - Easton Rooms, Rye Art Gallery, Rye
1983	<b>Presences of Nature</b> - Carlisle City Museum and Art Gallery (travelling exhibition)
1983	<b>Modern British Bookbinding</b> - Designer Bookbinders, Bertram Rota, London
1984	<b>Un demi-siecle de Reliures d’art Contemporain en France dans le Monde</b> -Paris
1984	<b>Horizons in Bookbinding</b> - The Gallery, Brighton Polytechnic, Sussex
1984	<b>Containers</b> - British Crafts Centre, London
1985	<b>Designer Bookbinders</b> - Leighton House, London (also Paris, Brussels, The Hague)
1986	<b>Travelling Exhibition</b> - Designer Bookbinders/ Mid-Pennine Arts Association
1988	<b>Artists of the Book</b> - Athenaeum, Boston, Mass. USA (and tour throughout USA)
1988	<b>Decorative Arts Award Exhibition</b> - Sotheby’s, London
1988	<b>The Bookbinder’s Art</b> - Museum of Leathercraft, Northampton

- 1989 **Bindings from the Lord Wardington Collection** - Leighton House, London  
 1990 **Bound for Glory** - Designer Bookbinders, Archbishop Marsh's Library, Dublin  
 1990 **Experiment Bucheinband, Historich & Aktuell** - Galerie Handwerk, Munich  
**Containers for Intragrammes** -Exposition Internationale de Reliures Experimentales.  
 Le Bateau Ivre, Henri Lambert  
**As above** – La Tranchefile, Livre d'Art. Livre d'Artiste
- 1992 **B is for Book** - Shipley Art Gallery, Gateshead  
**Artseen** – International Festival of New Zealand Academy of Fine Arts, Wellington
- 1993 **Visions of Craft 1972-1993** - Crafts Council, London  
**Designer Bookbinders "The Economist"** - Leighton House, London
- 1993 **Booker Prize Bindings** – Guildhall, London & British Library
- 1994 **Designer Bookbinders "New Horizons"** - Oxford
- 1994 **The Tregaskis Collection** - John Rylands Library contd P 3
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- 1994 **Cover Story - A New Look at Bookbinding** - Crawfords Arts Centre, St Andrews  
 1994 **Art & Design Matters** - University of Ulster/Ulster Museum, Northern Ireland  
**Brought to Book** - Collins Gallery, Glasgow
- 1996 **Crafts Council Gallery Shop** - concurrent with "Recycling", Crafts Council Gallery
- 1997 **Booker Prize Binding**– Guildhall and the British Library, London  
 also British Council Exhibition, Milan
- 1998 **Containers for Intragrammes**, Collection Internationale de Reluire Experimentale (1998-  
 1999) Musee Royal de Mariemont, Belgium and in Paris  
**Contemporary Applied Arts** – London
- 1999 **Royal Museum of Scotland**, Edinburgh
- 2000 **Designer Bookbinders, North America**, USA
- 2001 **International Contemporary Bindings**, Gutenberg Museum, Mainz, Germany
- 2002-03-04- **Room 13**, Travelling Exhibition, beginning in Scotland
- 2004 **Designer Bookbinders, Bibliotheca Wittockiana**, Brussels
- 2005 **Designer Bookbinders** at Flow Gallery, London
- 2006 **Beautiful British Books**, Ashikaga Museum of Art, org.The Tokyo Shimbun (22April -  
 4June); Koriyama City Museum of Art (10 June - 9 July); Chiba City Museum of Art  
 (22July - 27August); in co-operation w. DB, The British Council, Japan Exhibition  
 Committee.
- 2006 **Miniature Designer Bindings**, The Neale M. Albert Collection, The Grolier Club, NY
- 2006 **Ten Bindings for "STONE"**, Keiller Library at The Dean Gallery, Scottish National  
 Gallery of Modern Art, Edinburgh (15 July - 8 Oct) . Solo exhibition.
- 2007 **Damme**, Belgium, with DB
- 2007 **Booker Short List Binding** (Anne Enright, "The Gathering" Booker Prize winner) Guildhall  
 and Victoria & Albert Museum
- 2008 **Miniature Designer Bindings**, The Neale M. Albert Collection. The John Rylands Library,  
 Manchester. 4 June - 18 October
- 2008 **Kyffin - A Celebration**. Touring Exhibition. 7 June - Sept. Gwasg Gregynog; National  
 Library of Wales; Contemporary Applied Arts, London; Stour Gallery; John Rylands  
 Library, Manchester; The Reform Club, London ..(dates for each to be entered)

### SELECTED BOOKBINDING COMMISSIONS

- **BBC's** presentation to Sir Huw Weldon on his retirement
- **RIBA's** Loyal Address to the Queen in her Jubilee Year
- Leaving present to a Director of **Shell Chemicals** from his colleagues
- Personal script of "**Watership Down**" film for the Producer, Martin Rosen, from his wife
- **Parker Pen** presentations to the Prince and Princess of Wales on the occasion of their wedding
- 18 sketch books for **Winsor & Newton** Silver Jubilee watercolour box (box by Sandy Mackilligin). One presented to HRH The Prince Charles.

- 2011 “**The Tulip**”, Anna Pavord. commissioned by Anna Pavord

- **Special Album** (printer, Ian Mortimer) for **H.M. The Queen Mother** from the **Chairman of the Post Office** on the occasion of her 90th birthday
- “**A Keepsake**” - Stamp Album (printer, Ian Mortimer) from the **Royal Mail** to H.M. The Queen’s Private Secretary on his retirement
- **Royal Mail Stamp Advisory Committee “Roll of Honour”** in collaboration with Donald Jackson, Calligrapher to H.M. The Queen
- **Booker** Shortlist binding “Scar Tissue”, author Michael Ignatieff (1993)
- **Booker** Shortlist binding “Grace Notes”, author Bernard MacLaverty (1997)
- **Booker** Shortlist binding “Fasting, Feasting”, Anita Desai (1999 )
- “**From a Satyric Country**” for **Birmingham City Library** (1995)
- Prototype and presentation pieces for various advertising agencies  
Note: see separate list of bindings.
- “**STONE**” Set of ten bindings for private collectors, completed 2006
- “**STONE**”, final two copies currently in progress (2016)

#### SELECTED clients for ILLUSTRATION WORK

- Mitchell Beazley
- Allen Lane
- Habitat
- Collins Conran
- Readers Digest
- Wolff Olins
- Michael Peters & Partners
- Various Advertising agencies (promotions for Shell Chemicals, Carters Seeds, Boots etc.)

#### TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 1967 onwards
- Primary, 5-11 yrs Large scale entries for national competitions. Wrote, directed, choreographed and designed a play for 96 children
  - Private adult tuition
  - Lectures and workshops, UK and abroad
  - Speaker as practising craftsman at two Crafts Council business seminars for students
  - CNA External Assessor, Embroidery, Manchester Polytechnic
  - Lecturer/ Senior Lecturer in charge of Bookbinding and Course Leader of Bookbinding & Restoration, Certificate course, BA (Hons) Graphic Design & Illustration. Involved also in other areas of Faculty of Art & Design, Brighton Polytechnic
  - Organizer “HORIZONS IN BOOKBINDING” international conference and Exhibition, Brighton, 1984
  - Member of international panel of jurors for Exhibition of Bookbinding, Royal Library, Brussels
  - External Assessor, HND2 Illustration Course, Carmarthen College of Technology and Art, Wales
  - Juror on panels for various Crafts exhibitions
- 1990-
- Short courses at Corranbeg Workshops on bookbinding, design and related subjects

- 1992 - Lecture/ workshop tour in New Zealand Feb and March  
 1994 - Lecturer Designer Bookbinders “New Horizons” International Conference, Oxford  
 1995 - Lecturer, Society of Bookbinders Conference, Manchester  
 1990s - Visiting lecturer/ workshops – Printmaking and Visual Communications, Graphic Design and Illustration, BA (Hons) courses, Edinburgh College of Art, Glasgow School of Art  
 - External Advisor MA Illustration student, Edinburgh College of Art  
 2004 - Workshops for ‘13 Hands’ Exhibition, Oban

#### SELECTED PUBLISHED REFERENCES, MEDIA APPEARANCES

- 1973 Article by Marigold Coleman, **Crafts** magazine, issue 1  
 1974 Interview by Mavis Nicholson, **Thames Television**  
 1974 Book, **The First London Catalogue**, Edward Lucie-Smith  
 1974 Article, **Inhabit** magazine, February  
 1975 Book, **European Illustration 74/75**, ed. Edward Booth-Clibborn, Constable  
 1975 Book, **New Directions in Bookbinding**, Philip Smith, Studio Vista  
 1975 Book, **World of the Makers**, Edward Lucie-Smith, Paddington Press  
 1975 Included in **Vogue**, ‘Spotlight’ September 15th issue  
 Article, **100 Idees**, Paris Match, January  
 1975 Book, **British Bookbinding Today**, pub. K.D.Duval  
 1976 Book, **European Illustration 75/76**, ed. Edward Booth-Clibborn, Constable  
 1977 Article, **The Surrey County Magazine**, May/ June  
 1977 Article, **RIBA Journal** volume 84, number 10  
 1979 Booklet, **Work in Progress**, The Crafts Council  
 1980 Article by Lesley Adamson, **Guardian**  
 1980 Interview, “**In the Making**” series, **BBC2**  
 1981 Catalogue entry, **Making Good - New Craftwork from the South East**  
 1982 Bindings featured, Take Hart series, **BBC**  
 1984 Article, **Designing**, number 6, Summer  
 1984 Article, **Crafts** magazine, March/April  
 1984 Book, **Fine Bookbinding in the Twentieth Century**, Roy Harley Lewis  
 1984 Article, **World of Interiors**  
 1985 Article, **The New Bookbinder**, volume 5  
 Interview, Arcade series, **TVS**  
 1987 Review, **The New Bookbinder**, Designer Bookbinders, Leighton House, London  
 1987 Book, **Paper Pleasures**, Faith Shannon, pub Mitchell Beazley  
 Reprinted as **The Art and Craft of Paper** in several languages, 1990, 92, 94  
 1988 Article by Dorothy Harrop, **The Book Collector**, volume 37, number 3  
 1988 Two reviews, **Crafts** magazine, number 91, March/April  
 1990 Catalogue entry, **Recent Bindings**, Sally Lou Smith/Sonnets from the Portuguese  
 1992 Interview regarding lecture/workshop/exhibition, **Radio NZ**  
 1992 Review, **Crafts** magazine, March/April  
 1992 Article, **The New Bookbinder**, volume 12  
 1993 Article, **Crafts** magazine, May/June  
 1993 Book, **The Best of British Women**, The Best of British Publications, 1993  
 Article, **The New Bookbinder**, volume 14  
 Re-screen x 2 “**In the Making**”/ Bookbinding **BBC**  
 1999 Book, **The Crafts in Britain in the 20th Century**, Tanya Harrod. pub. Yale University  
 2000-2001 Catalogue, **Designer Bookbinders in North America**, Travelling Exhibition  
 2004 **The New Bookbinder** Vol 24, 2004  
 2004 The British Library National Sound Archive “**National Life Story Collection - Crafts Lives**”  
 2004 **Handeinbande** - Internationale Beispiele aus den Jahren 1970 bis 2000, Vorgestellt von der Vereinigung ‘Meister der Einbandkunst’. Maximilian-Gesellschaft, Hamburg 2004.

- (exhibition at Gutenberg Museum, Mainz)
- 2006 Interview **BBC Radio 4 “Open Book”** 9 July & repeat 13 July.  
Interview **Radio Scotland “The Radio Cafe”** Mon 17 July pm & eve repeat.
- 2006 Catalogue **“STONE Ten Bindings”** Pub: Kulgin D. Duval and Colin Hamilton, National Galleries of Scotland, Edinburgh
- Misc.- **Postcards**, published by Crafts Council, Artists Cards, Designer Bookbinders. Various catalogues; articles written by FS
- 2014 Book, **“Hymne a la Reliure, Memoires d’un Relieur”**, August Kulche. Biblioteca Wittockiana , Brussels

### MEMBERSHIPS, PAST AND PRESENT

- Present Designer Bookbinders (Fellow since 1968), President (1987-90), Honorary Fellow (2013)  
The Society of Bookbinders (Member)
- Past Design and Arts Direction (Member - elected 1975)  
Association of Illustrators (Member, Vice-Chairman)  
Crafts Advisory Committee - now the Crafts Council of England and Wales (Member, Main Committee, Member and Chair of various sub-committees)  
British Crafts Centre (Acting Chair, Member, Council of Management)  
Surrey Crafts Association (Member, Chair)  
Crafts Committee, The Scottish Arts Council  
Alumni member, The Scottish Arts Council

### WORK REPRESENTED IN THE FOLLOWING COLLECTIONS

Windsor Royal Library  
The British Library  
Hornby Library, Liverpool  
John Rylands Library, Manchester  
Lilly Library, Indiana, USA  
Crafts Council, London (also included in CC slide Index of Selected Makers)  
South East Arts Association, Tunbridge Wells, Kent  
West Surrey College of Art, Farnham  
Carlisle Museum and Art Gallery – Tullie House  
Royal Philatelic Museum, London  
Birmingham City Library  
Musee Royal de Mariemont, Belgium  
Various private collections UK, USA

updated 12 April 2016