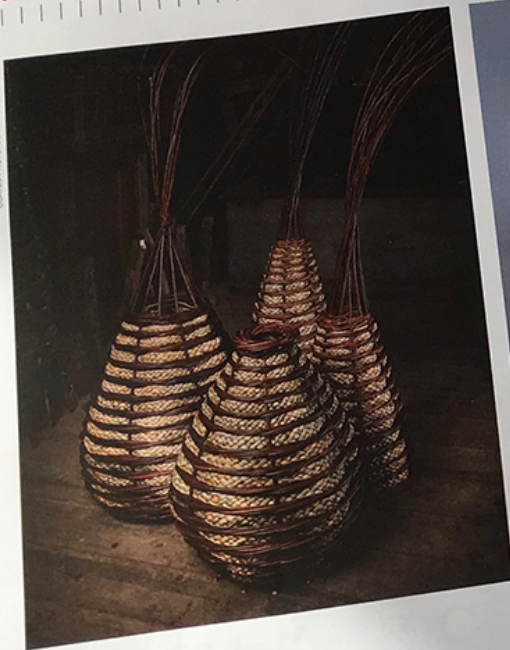


## FRONT

COATES PHOTO: SEVA PANHATTI LLOYD



Clockwise from top: Windswept vases and vessels, Mandy Coates, red willow and plaited rush, 160cm tall; Green Stained and Natural Porcelain Flow Pots, Fenella Elms, each 30cm tall (showing at Ceramic Art London); A Thing of Beauty is a Joy Foverer, Alan Kitching (showing at Pick Me Up)

### Willow talk

Mandy Coates's basketry takes centre-stage at Ruthin Craft Centre this spring (until 17 April). Focusing on a body of work from the past six years, the show explores her practice – based in the Elwy Valley in north Wales – of growing and harvesting her own willow and then creating both functional and decorative structures. Coates's work ranges from log baskets and trugs to larger sculptural pieces incorporating found wood. According to Philip Hughes, director of Ruthin Craft Centre: 'Mandy has the ability to capture both the intrinsic beauty of the materials and display her impressive range of making skill with some style. This is a special years to her oeuvre has evolved over recent years to where it sings out.'



### Pressing matters

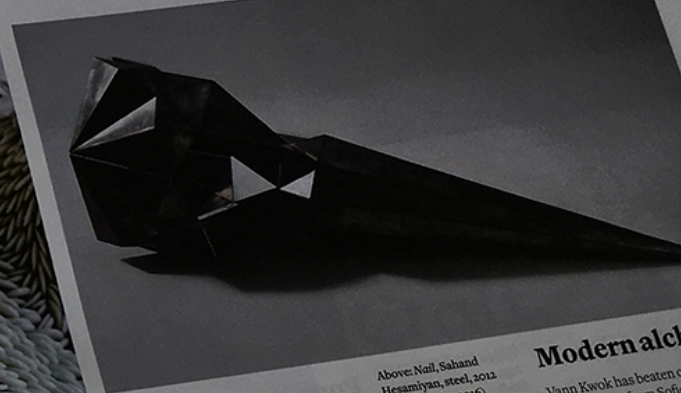
Fans of letterpress should head to Pick Me Up: Graphic Arts Festival for a retrospective of printmaker and typographer Alan Kitching. The festival, at London's Somerset House, 21 April – 2 May, includes the best emerging graphic artists and collectives as well as workshops, but undoubtedly the draw this year is Kitching. With over 100 prints on show, *Alan Kitching: A Life in Letterpress* charts the six decades of his career, and part of his studio is installed to show visitors his process in action. Other things to look out for are the Hackney-based group of ceramists Clay Collective, and Beach London which will show *Cuckoo's Nest*, a space celebrating cultural traditions across the British Isles, from May Day clothing to Morris dancing dolls. [pickmeup.somersetshouse.org.uk](http://pickmeup.somersetshouse.org.uk)

### Central ceramics

Ceramic Art London has a new home. Now in its 12th year, it will take place at London's Central St Martins, 8-10 April. However, some things don't change and once again the show, organised by the Craft Potters Association, will provide a platform for emerging and internationally successful ceramic artists, with prices ranging from £30-£10,000. Visitors will also be treated to an exhibition of work from CSM's current ceramic students, as well as a diverse range of talks, demonstrations, film screenings, debates and panel discussions. Peter Beard, chair of the show's organising committee, believes: 'As a world-leading centre for art and design, CSM is the perfect venue for Ceramic Art London's artists to showcase their latest work.' [www.ceramics.org.uk](http://www.ceramics.org.uk)

### Prize assets

There were over 280 nominations for this year's Jameel Prize, an award for contemporary artists and designers inspired by Islamic traditions of craft and design. Whittled down to a shortlist of 11, the fourth edition of the prize – with a £25,000 award – includes examples ranging from paper collage to calligraphy and ceramics from such far-reaching countries as Afghanistan and Thailand. Sahand Hesamiyan is a sculptor who takes inspiration from Iranian architecture, while Ghulam Mohammad builds up complex paper cut-outs of Urdu script and embellishes them with gold leaf and ink. This year the Jameel Prize will not be held at the V&A but Istanbul's Pera Museum, from 8 June to 14 August, and the winner will be announced in June. [www.peramuseum.org](http://www.peramuseum.org)



Above: Nail, Sahand Hesamiyan, steel, 2012 (Jameel Prize 2016)  
Top: Galaxy Ring, Samsung Project, Yann Kwok, silver, brass, resin, buryrate tube, Perspex, 2015

### Modern alch

Yann Kwok has beaten off competition from Sophie Christopher Thompse Vones to win the pre Foundation Jeweller designer, who also from Swarovski ar belt, describes hi alchemy'. 'It rep exists between the laws of na picked up he a ceremony Faulks at L According modern the cate focus t effect www