

Weekend Masterclass: Decorative Ceramics

Dates	Saturday 11 and Sunday 12 October 2025
Times	10.30–16.30 BST
Location	At the museum (Learning Studio and Exhibition Galleries)
Tutor	Joanna Veevers
Level	Introductory



Installation photo of *The Great Beauty*, Grayson Perry, 2024

Course Description

Join us for two creative days exploring art and design, with artist Joanna Veevers. Begin by developing your ideas through line drawing and monoprint, before moving into clay. Joanna will guide you through specialist ceramic techniques, helping you to create up to three decorative works, such as a tile, a small panel, or even a wearable miniature. Inspiration will come from Grayson Perry's exuberant artworks in our current exhibition, *Delusions of Grandeur*, alongside selected objects from our collection that capture the imagination.

At the end of the course, your work will be dried, and taken away to be fired. You'll then be able to return to the museum to collect your finished pieces at a future date.

Saturday

Following a morning visit to the *Grayson Perry: Delusions of Grandeur* exhibition to gain context and inspiration, we'll start to explore design ideas through line drawing and monoprint, prior to working in clay. Joanna will teach you a technique for making ceramic pieces that are slip cast in semi-porcelain, and decorated with coloured slips. The technique will involve carving and engraving outlines into a smooth plaster surface, then applying layers of colour by painting prior to casting in clay.

Sunday

Having prepared your designs and drawings on plaster slabs, on our second day you'll be able to release them from the moulds as tiles and panels, by casting them in a semi-porcelain slip. Building on the knowledge and ideas you've already developed, you'll be invited to consider making second pieces from your moulds, or to create new designs in order to make small wearable items such as the miniatures seen in both the exhibition and our collection.

Course Tutor

Joanna Veevers studied Printed Textiles at Manchester School of Art and Ceramics at the Royal College of Art. Her practice includes making ceramic tiles, assemblages, mixed media works on paper, and drawings. She has taught for many years, currently delivering short courses and workshops in museums, colleges and schools.

Previous Skills, Knowledge or Experience

None required. This course is designed as an introduction to the subject.

Equipment and Materials

Please wear clothes suitable for using messy materials. All materials and equipment are provided.

At the end of the course, your work will be dried, and taken away to be fired. You'll then be able to return to the museum to collect your finished pieces at a future date.

Joining Information and Format

For ages 18+. This masterclass will take place in the Learning Studio, Lower Ground Floor as well as galleries throughout the museum. We recommend participants bring a packed lunch. When walking through the museum, food must be packed away in a bag and liquids carried in a sealed bottle, flask or travel mug.
