

PRESS RELEASE: Beautiful Materials Gallery

**Opening announcement of a new Gallery in Scotland, Newton Mearns,
The Avenue Shopping Centre. Launching on Saturday 10 - 4pm, 15 November**

Nicola Atkinson of Beautiful Materials 'The Gallery's mission is to be a public facing art gallery, we aim to reach out to new audiences and provide a clear dialogue and conversation with them about the artists and artworks. It is a busy community hub with many regular visitors who seem actively interested in engagement with new ideas.'

Beautiful Materials is founded by artist Nicola Atkinson who is an internationally acclaimed artist and curator, she is known for recent public artwork in Linlithgow. In her artistic life, she has created one hundred and forty five public art projects, temporary and permanent in villages, towns, cities and museums around the world.

Nicola's interests defy boundaries through socially engaged artworks. They range from designing challenging, inclusive artworks in shopping centres in Santa Monica Place, to being a curator in the artist-run Gallery Bulkhead, to creating recent public artwork in a bus shelter at Linlithgow Cross.

Nicola Atkinson of Beautiful Materials 'A shopping centre can be a thoughtful place, bringing people together to shop, chat and eat out. It's a shared space where one's world is focused, a perfect place to have a gallery and engage with an audience for artworks and ideas. '

The Beautiful Materials Gallery, in the Avenue Shopping Centre space is provided by Outer Spaces, a contemporary visual arts organisation for free. There is no funding for exhibitions. Supported by donations by Beautiful Materials, the public & the artists.

Beautiful Materials aims to support the advancement of the arts through the Avenue Shopping Centre gallery space. It will increase public exposure to, appreciation of, and involvement in the arts. It will provide opportunities of participation for people who might otherwise be excluded.

Opening Hours: Open every Saturday 10 - 4pm.

**VESSELS - A Conservation about Materials, by Nicola Atkinson.
15 November - 6 December 2025.**

An introduction to Nicola's working practice, with never before seen small-scale paintings on repurposed wood panels, which themselves began as discarded loom components. These inform her recent successful solo show in Linlithgow Burgh Halls. In the window exhibition space, her two meter Vessel artwork velvet and georgette hangs gently. Another feature in the Gallery is the miniature model of the fabulous Linlithgow Burgh Halls built in 1670, where 31 wee velvet vessels paintings can be viewed here. It was created by Nicola as part of her show there; she became interested in how we see things everyday. It seems that we are now able to view the whole world in miniature on our phones, why not art.

**PRESENT - Group Show
13 December 2025 - 31 January 2026**

What is being present ? What can be a present? It is a time of year for reflection, for giving, unwrapping ideas. As the new venture in the Avenue Shopping Centre, we thought it would be the perfect way to introduce a selection of artists to the public. An opportunity to support the artists and the gallery, a way of showing mutual thoughtfulness.

Contact: Nicola Atkinson 07453178638 beautifulmaterial@gmail.com

GETTING TO BEAUTIFUL MATERIALS GALLERY IN THE AVENUES SHOPPING CENTRE G77 6AA : Bus 38, Train
Patterton Station & Walking, Bike A77 or Car M77.



Nicola Atkinson's artwork in her Studio

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