



Sorrow and Laughter

Designer: Nicola Slaney

Shape: 265/7 Height: 7"/18cm Limited Edition: 60

The pure white clay body of Nicola's vase brings with it Shakespeare's sorrowful violets framed in soft green leaves at the base whilst speckled snakeshead fritillaries, dressed in rich burgundy colours, dance across the shoulder. In this way, the Moorcroft designer shows to perfection her hallmark combination of colours – white, green, heather-purple, blue and red, all showing how laughter triumphs over sorrow whilst elegant bluebells gaze on the colourful display in wonder on this new shaped vase.



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Thirty years ago, Maureen and Hugh Edwards took the greatest risk of their married life and secured a controlling interest in Moorcroft. If asked, they would deny that they had committed themselves to a whole generation at the helm, but that is what it has turned out to be. The Phoenix Years have passed and the legendary bird itself is in full flight. Today, we introduce what we all hope will be a gesture of thanks to the two people who gave up a great slice of their time and the whole of their successful careers in the Law to serving Moorcroft. Neither has any regret. Their reward, for 30 years loyal service to Moorcroft's art pottery, lies in the plethora of exquisite Moorcroft to have emerged on their watch.

Asked what he would like to see after 30 years this September, the reply from Hugh was typical. "Nothing retro. No reflections on the past. You should know by now that the only interest I have, and have ever had, is in the future". The Moorcroft Phoenix is indeed flying into the future, and this 2016 *Flying Phoenix Collection* has been designed to carry us all with it.



Blue Tulip

Senior Designer: Rachel Bishop

Shape: 159/18 Height: 18"/45cm Limited Edition: 20

From Sally Tuffin back in the 1980s, we had *Red Tulip* and the more sombre *Black Tulip* and from William Moorcroft, a selection of *Blue Tulip* pieces made between 1899 and 1902. Senior Designer, Rachel Bishop, took a leaf from William's book and followed the well-trodden and familiar path to *Blue Tulip* on her favourite and prestigious 159/18 shape, with a hint of Florianesque line work in the framed panels that Rachel favours.



Angels from Heaven

Designer: Emma Bossons FRSA

Shape: 159/10 Height: 10"/25cm Limited Edition: 75

A more graceful flower would be hard to find than the acidanthera with its large, creamy-white petals curtsying to those who pass by, their centres washed with royal purple mixed with heather. Emma first saw and then immediately captured her angels from heaven blooming in all their elegant beauty outside the garden door of Maureen and Hugh's home. *Angels from Heaven* comes as a fitting memorial for thirty years devotion by the couple to an old art pottery.



Hoots at Home

Designer: Emma Bossons FRSA

Shape: 200/15 Height: 15"/38cm Limited Edition: 15

The Hoot family live in a hollow tree deep in the heart of a magical wood. Something has stirred in the undergrowth below and six dark eyes focus in an instant. The sounds fade and Mr Owl hoots to tell the wood's inhabitants that possible danger has passed. In 2007 Emma created *Earth Mother* with birds hidden in trees, and in 2011 her *Moonlight Flight* vase and plaque with Barn Owls was one of the most popular pieces of that year. Today *Hoots at Home* pays tribute to both such pieces, but with far more complex tubelining than ever seen before on this limited edition.



Forest of Flowers

Designer: Emma Bossons FRSA

Shape: 46/10 Height: 10"/25cm Limited Edition: 50

At some time, all of us will have seen clusters of flowering rhododendron bushes the size of small trees clinging to a hillside, filling out a river valley or even splashing gardens in a riot of orange, red, indigo and white. These are Emma's flowering trees – a delight to behold and a memory to savour. This vibrant flower was first brought to life by the Design Studio's youngest member, back in 2003 with her highly acclaimed *Pencarrow* box, and here, over a dozen years later, she has worked her magic again for all to enjoy.



Muscari

Designer: Elise Adams

Shown clockwise from the top

Shapes: 72/6 Height: 6"/15cm • 769/4 Height: 4"/10cm

46/4 Height: 4"/10cm • 372/5 Height: 5"/12cm

Open Editions

So delicate, yet so familiar are these delicate blue muscari. The flowers have been set against a white ground not unlike the white-washed wall where they were found growing in blue carpets – thousands of muscari, all basking in the spring sunshine. Elise has worked with Maureen and Hugh for more than eighteen years, and *Muscari* is her personal tribute to them.



The Gentle Fellow

Designer: Helen Dale

Shape: 8 x 8 plaque

Dimension: 10" x 10" / 25cm x 25cm (incl. frame)

Limited Edition: 100

Nuzzling into the undergrowth, a lone hedgehog sniffs out blackberries, enjoying some of the last fruits of a summer garden. A low-lying, neat, structured nest of twigs, grass, and moss, containing china-blue eggs dusted with brown spots, await the return of an over-enthusiastic mother thrush taking a real chance on her second clutch of eggs. The composition touches the heart through this gentle, little fellow, nestled in seasonal finery, and beautifully executed by the very best Moorcroft artists.



Fluttering Colour

Designer: Vicky Lovatt

Shape: 99/8 Height: 8" / 20cm Limited Edition: 40

A cloud of dark red peacock butterflies flutter up and down a familiar, long-necked Moorcroft vase, their bright blue, white and red wing eyes providing a riot of colour as they swoop and soar in random movement through a field of intricately tubelined bright yellow ragwort flowers. A design that combines colour and symmetry in equal and dramatic measure.

Songs of the Cevennes

Designer: Nicola Slaney

There are some who would say that soaring mountains, vast forests of oak and sweet chestnut never sing, but when you walk among them, you can hear sounds so gentle, so mysterious and so memorable that they reach right into the depths of our human imagination. Robert Louis Stephenson and his famous donkey, Modestine, learned this simple truth when they journeyed through the remote and beautiful Cevennes National Park in the South of France more than a hundred and fifty years ago. Great landscapes really do sing as they reach deep into our subconscious thoughts just as they sang to Nicola Slaney, and Robert Louis Stephenson before her: Nicola converted those sounds into six superb pieces of Moorcroft for the world to enjoy. For the Edwards, this is more than special. They love to escape to the Cevennes to explore its landscapes, flora and fauna.

Shown clockwise from the top

Wild Gladioli

Shape: 365/12 Height: 12"/30cm
Limited Edition: 50

Anemone Hepatica

Shape: JU3/9 Height: 9"/22.5cm
Limited Edition: 50

Rosa Canina

Shape: 201/4 Diameter: 4"/10cm
Limited Edition: 75

Wild Broome

Shape: 32/2 Height: 2"/5cm
Limited Edition: 100

Meadow Thyme

Shape: 223/4 Diameter: 4"/10cm
Limited Edition: 75

Viola Tricolour Cevennol

Shape: 780/4 Diameter: 4"/10cm
Limited Edition: 100

