

## **RACHEL MULLIGAN AMGP, MA, BA (HONS)**

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## **BIOGRAPHY**

Rachel Mulligan is a stained glass artist. She originally studied Fine Art and specialised in printmaking, particularly etchings and linocuts. Having graduated in 1987 she returned to her hometown of Richmond-Upon-Thames and set up as a printmaker. When she discovered stained glass in an evening class a couple of years later she was instantly enthralled.

By the age of 30, Rachel had studied stained glass at Central St Martins, had an M.A. in Public Art from Chelsea and had set up her first stained glass studio with help from the Princes Youth Business Trust. Almost immediately she was given a commission for a school in Sunderland, and has worked to commission ever since.

Artistry and craftsmanship are equally important to Rachel. She designs and makes her windows using traditional techniques, and some she had innovated herself. She works from a purpose built studio in her garden in Godalming, Surrey.

The changing seasons are a recurring theme. Her depiction of the Labours of the Months, now in Godalming Museum, is a contemporary take on a medieval subject. The panels were purchased with a grant from the V&A.

In 2014 Rachel won the Surrey Artist of the Year award, and it made her re-evaluate her practice. Instead of taking on so many commissions, Rachel set aside time to explore subjects that fascinate her and tell stories in glass that she wants to share. In her recent series, the Seven Ages of Man, Rachel again turned to the seasons to link Shakespeare's words to the story of her father's life.

Rachel is an Associate of the British Society of Master Glass Painters (BSMGP) and regularly contributes to their publications.