

SIDE GALLERY

ALISON DICKENS



Baskets

Manufactured by Alison Dickens
Produced in exclusive for SIDE GALLERY
London, 2020

1. Reach “Buckled basket”

Dicky Meadows willow with Hambrook
Marshes red

37 cm x 19 cm x 37h cm
14,56 in x 7,48 in x 14,56h in

2. Lean “Buckled basket”

Dicky Meadows willow with Hilary's grey

40 cm x 20 cm x 30h cm
15,74 in x 7,97 in x 11,81h in

3. Tideline “windlown basket”

Whissender willow with steamed and wild
black willow”

56 cm x 38 cm height
22 in x 14,96 in height

Concept

“In the landscape” is a series of sculptural forms which echo the high and low curves of spare open British landscapes: the Yorkshire Dales and Wolds, The Norfolk and Suffolk coasts, estuaries and tidal mudflats; as well as the forms and patterns made by water, wind and waves. The willow vessels are made using the rope-wale (or rope coil) weave, which involves adding a new rod at every stroke and weaving with a bundle of willow. The technique is slow and time-consuming and uses a lot of willow; but creates a sense of movement which evokes the forces and forms that guide Alison's inspiration.

Bio

Alison's baskets take the form of organic sculptural vessels. Based in London her willow is bought from Somerset, her bark and other plant materials are harvested from hedgerows, gardens and roundabouts. Her commitment to basketmaking came after a career in urban regeneration. Since then, Alison has taken many basketry courses and trained for two years on the City Lit Basketry Course, completing in 2017 with an exhibition at Craft Central, Clerkenwell.