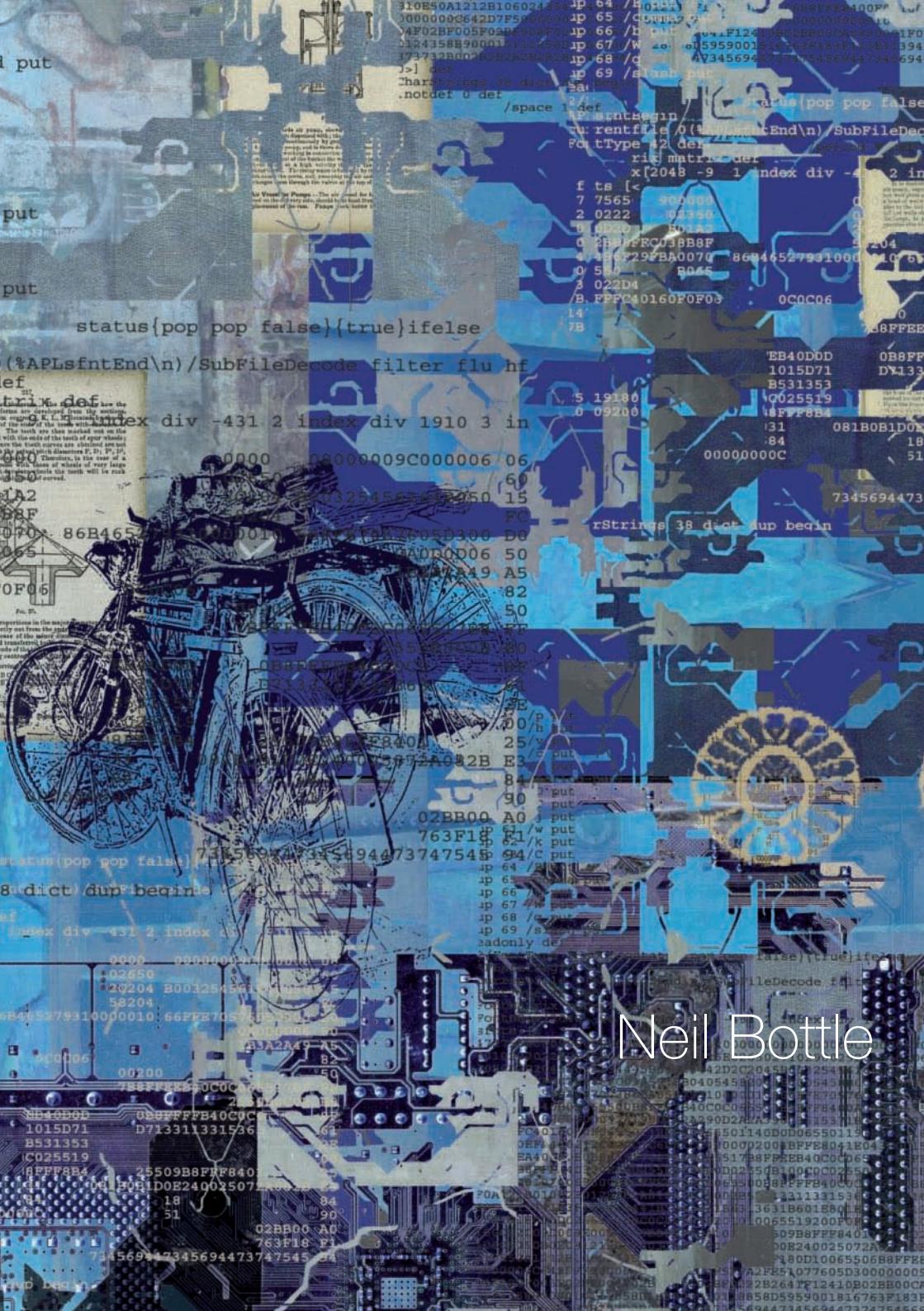


Neil Bottle





Mewn hinsawdd o ansicrwydd economaidd, amgylcheddol a diwylliannol y mae Neil Bottle wedi mentro agor pennod newydd yn ei hanes. Yn ystod yr ugain mlynedd ers pan enillodd Wobr Painter Stainers am Decstiliau Argraffedig y mae wedi bod yn gweithio yn ddiflino yn datblygu a mireinio ei dechneg drwy gyfuno'r traddodiadol a'r arloesol. Yn y bôn alcemydd ydyw, yn arbrofi ac yn cymysgu paent, lliwyn a phrint gan drawsnewid y ddau ddimensiwn yn fyd o batrwm, gwead a liw. Nid oes yma ddim byd rhithiol yn cael ei gyfleo gyda mwng a drychau – ond y mae ei ymchwil ddiddiwedd am berfeithrwydd yn mynnu disgblaeth a gwybodaeth drwyndl am ei ddeunyddiau. Mewn llawer ffordd y mae'r tecstiliau afeithus hyn yn adlewyrchu personoliaeth ac ymarferiad

yr artist – cymysgedd o ddylanwadau pensaerniol a geometrig wedi eu cyfuno gydag arwyddion a symbolau yn cael eu hategu gan wrogaeth i dreigl amser. Y mae'r cymysgedd hwn effalai yn adlewyrchu penderfyniad Neil i leoli ei stiwdio ddylunio ar arfordir dwyrrain Caint – mangre lle mae'r tyndra rhwng tirwedd elfennol ac adfywiad dinesig yn cyfuno i greu undod cydnaws drwy gyfrwng tecstiliau unigryw. Y mae'r casgliad newydd hefyd yn cofleidio'r anghyffredin gan edrych ac adlewyrchu naws gynnwl hanes oesol tecstiliau sydd ynddo ei hun yn storï o ddatblygu ac arloesi dibendraw. Y mae dyluniadau digidol ag â llaw yn cael eu gosod ochr yn ochr â phletiadau – ac y mae cynildeb y dyluniad yn arddangos hanesyn cymhleth mewn gair a rhif sydd yn awgrymu arallfyd 'Y Matrix'. Ac eto y mae'r lliwiau priddlyd – y terracota deifiol, gwyrdd crin, lafant niwlog a fflach o las tanbaid yn ein hatgoffa bod Neil wedi cipio bywiogrwydd diwylliannau eraill yn sgil ei ymweliadau â'r Dwyrrain Canol a'r India. Y mae'r golygfeydd ysgig, y synnau, yr arogleuon, yn cythryblu ac yn cyffroi'r synhwyrau.

Ers 2007 y mae Neil wedi manteisio ar haniaeth ac y mae ei waith yn dangos ei fod wedi ymadael â chynnwys a thechneg ei dyluniadau ffiogol cynharach. Y mae'r ymchwil ddibaid hon am bosibiliadau creadigol sydd eto i'w darganfod drwy gyfuniad o ymagweddau uch-dechnegol yn arwain Neil i gyfeiriadau newydd. Fel y mae ei waith newydd yn torri tir newydd y mae Neil yn ein gwahodd yn eiddgar i ymuno ag o ar daith newydd. Fel y dywed yr hanesydd Americanaidd Ruth Schwartz Cowan 'Y mae technoleg wedi bod yn rhan o ddynolaeth ers dechreuan dynolryw ... er pan rwbiwyd dwy garreg yn erbyn ei gilydd gan greu gwreichion.' Y mae Neil yn mwynhau gwthio terfynau technoleg yngyd â'i waith artistig – dylem ymuno ag ef yn ei waith ymchwil.

Sue Prichard
Curadur Ffasiwn Tecstilaidd
Amgueddfa Victoria ac Albert

uchod: Casgliad TechnoCraft: croglun (manylyn)
de eithaf: Casgliad TechnoCraft: croglun (manylyn)
Wedi ei gyllunio drwy gyfuniad o dechnegau digidol, patrwm digidol wedi ei argraffu'n ddigidol ar gotwm a sidan ei orffen â llaw.

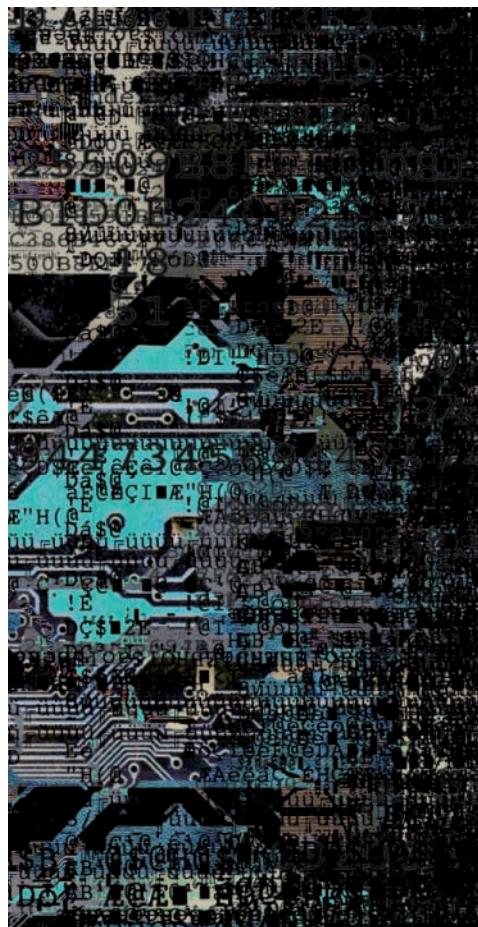
canol: Casgliad TechnoCraft: Sgarff pletiog. Wedi ei gyllunio drwy gyfuniad o dechnegau llaw a digidol, patrwm digidol wedi ei dorri'n ddigidol a'i argraffu gyda llifun darluniol, gwaith llaw a plethio â llaw.





In a climate of economic, environmental and cultural uncertainty, Neil Bottle has embarked on a new chapter in his career. In the twenty years since he won the Painter Stainers Award for Printed Textiles, he has worked ceaselessly to develop and refine his technique, combining the traditional with the innovative. Bottle is, at heart, an alchemist, experimenting and mixing paint, print and dyes transforming the two dimensional into a world of pattern, texture and colour. This is no illusion created with smoke and mirrors – Bottle's constant quest for perfection demands both discipline and a rigorous knowledge of his materials. In many ways these exuberant textiles reflect both the artist's personality and his practice – an eclectic mix of architectural and geometric influences combined with signs and symbols underpinned by textual homage to the passing of time. This mix is perhaps a reflection of Bottle's decision to site his design studio on the East Kent Coast – an area where the tensions created between elemental landscape and urban regeneration combine to create a harmonious whole personified by his unique and limited edition textiles. His new collection also embraces the exotic – examining and reflecting the subtle nuances of the world's shared textile history, in itself a story of continuing development and innovation. Hand and digital design are juxtaposed with an experimentation pleating process – the subtlety of the design revealing a complex hidden narrative of words and numbers which stir memories of the futuristic world of 'The Matrix'. Yet the earthy colours – the pungent terracottas, parched greens, misty lavenders and flash of vibrant azure remind us of Bottle's recent sojourns in the Middle East and India and the vitality of experiencing new cultures – the cacophony of sights, sounds and smells which both excite and confuse the senses.

Since 2007 Bottle has embraced abstraction, his work reflecting a departure in both content and technique from his earlier, more figurative designs. This relentless pursuit of the creative possibilities still to be discovered by a combination of the artisan with high tech applications is leading Bottle in new directions. As his new work explores new terrain, Bottle offers up a passionate invitation to join him on his journey of discovery. The American historian Ruth Schwartz Cowan states 'Technology has been a fact of human life as long as they have been human lives ... since



man rubbed two stones together to make a spark'. Bottle delights in pushing the boundaries of technology and his artistic practice – I think we should join him on his quest.

Sue Prichard
Curator of Fashion Textiles
Victoria & Albert Museum

above: *TechnoCraft Collection: Wall hanging (detail)*
far left: *TechnoCraft Collection: Wall hanging (detail)*

Designed with a combination of hand and digital techniques, digitized pattern cutting digitally printed on cotton and silk, hand finished.

centre: *TechnoCraft Collection: Pleated scarf*. Designed with a combination of hand and digital techniques, digitized pattern cutting digitally printed using dye sublimation, hand made and hand pleated.

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Am fwy o wybodaeth am Neil Bottle
ewch i www.neilbottle.com

For further information on Neil Bottle
visit www.neilbottle.com



Ruthin Craft Centre

The Centre for the Applied Arts

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Tel: +44 (0)1824 704774

Open daily from 10.00am – 5.30pm.
Free Admission. Free on-site parking.
Visit our website for exhibition information
www.ruthincraftcentre.org.uk

Ruthin Craft Centre is part of Denbighshire County
Council and is supported by the Arts Council of Wales.

clawl: *Casgliad TechnoCraft: Croglun* (manylyn)
Wedi ei gynllunio drwy gyfuniad o dechnegau gwaith llaw a
digidol a'i argraffu'n ddigidol ar gotwm a sidan.

y plyg: *Casgliad TechnoCraft: Sgarff pletiog*
isod: *Casgliad TechnoCraft: Sgarff pletiog*
Wedi ei gynllunio drwy gyfuniad o dechegau gwaith llaw a digidol
a'i argraffu gyda llifun darluniol gwnaed â llaw pletiwyd â llaw.

cover: *TechnoCraft Collection: Wall hanging (detail)*
Designed with a combination of hand and digital techniques,
digitally printed on cotton and silk, hand finished.

fold: *TechnoCraft Collection: Pleated scarf*
below: *TechnoCraft Collection: Pleated scarf*
Designed with a combination of hand and digital techniques, digitally
printed using dye sublimation, hand made and hand pleated.

