Here and Now

The National Centre for Craft & Design is a unique and ambitious gallery that seeks to exhibit the most innovative, challenging and accomplished artists practicing within the craft and design arena today.

Exhibition Overview

An international contemporary tapestry exhibition curated by Lesley Millar in partnership with NCCD.

Here and Now is the first major exhibition of contemporary British tapestry for over 20 years. The exhibition will highlight the best of British contemporary work and introduce the work of international artists to a British audience. Alongside the British tapestry weavers, the exhibition will feature those from Australia, Norway, Latvia, Japan and the USA. In this way, the exhibition will demonstrate the breadth of international commitment to contemporary tapestry and the ways in which the narrative heritage of the medium is used to engage with political, aesthetic and personal issues of current discourse.
Here and Now builds on the extremely successful 4 year cycle of international tapestry networking events, that first started with ‘The Fine Art of Tapestry Weaving’ in May 2008, at Australian National University School of Art in Canberra, and more recently with Ori-rhythm II in Kyoto in May 2012. The success of both these events lay not only in the selection of work that reflected the international diversity of contemporary tapestry but also the networking opportunities and sharing of experiences that were created through the visiting and host artists that have continued beyond both exhibitions.
Selected Artists:

- Joan Baxter (UK, b.1972) (www.joanbaxter.com)
- Sara Brennan (UK, b.1963) (http://www.browngrotta.com/Pages/brennan.php)
- Jilly Edwards (UK) (http://www.jillyedwards.co.uk/)
- Yasuko Fujino (Japan) (http://transitionandinfluence.com/gallery/yasukofujino.html)
- Barbara Heller (Canada) (barbaraheller.ca/)
- Fiona Hutchison (UK, b.1958) (http://www.fionahutchison.co.uk/category/tapestry-large/)
- Aino Kajaniemi (Finland, b.1953) (http://www.elisanet.fi/aino.kajaniemi/)
- Ieva Krumina (Latvia, b.1964) (http://webofeurope.eu/artists/25_artist2_krumina_eng.html)
- Rolands Krutovs (Latvia, b.1979) (http://rolandskrutovs.wix.com/art#!/about)
- Ai Ito (Japan, b.1980) (http://yaikora.com/about/)
- Ayako Matsumura (Japan, b.1987) (http://ayakomatsumura.tumblr.com/works)
- Caron Penney (UK) http://www.weftfaced.com/#!/about-us/cb3i
- Erin M. Riley (USA, b.1985) (http://erinmriley.com/home.html)
- Fiona Rutherford (UK) http://www.rutherfordtextileart.com/)
- Kristin Sæterdal (Norway, b.1963) (http://www.kristinsaeterdal.com/)
- Philip Sanderson (UK) (http://www.artinaction.org.uk/artists/philip-sanderson/)
- Saori Sakai (Japan, b.1982) http://www.designdot.co.jp/sakai_09_en.html)
- Tonje Høydahl Serli (Norway, b.1978) (http://www.tonjesorli.com/)
- Pat Taylor (UK) (http://pat-taylor.com/)
- Misao Watanabe (Japan, b.1978) (http://watanabe-misao.net/)

Images: (left) by Valerie Kirk; (right) by Joan Baxter.
In summary, this exhibition aims to:

- Highlight and demonstrate the diversity of approaches within contemporary tapestry in the UK and internationally;
- Underpin the exhibition with audience development through curator and artists talks and exhibitions tours, and workshops;
- Provide networking opportunities.

The curator Professor Lesley Millar, Director International Textile Research Centre, University for the Creative Arts, has a specialist research interest in contemporary textile practice, particularly in the UK and Japan. Over two decades, Millar has researched three specific areas: the transition from traditional practice and its influence on contemporary practice; textile installations within the built environment (the texturing of space); the use of textiles as an expression of cultures.

Who is it suitable for?
Those interested in textiles, tapestries, craft, cultural traditions, social history.

Exhibition size: 200 sq metres.


NCCD will provide:
- All artworks
- Installation guide and condition check file
- Guidance/support by NCCD staff during planning and installation
- Inwards transportation of exhibition
- All exhibition interpretation
- Full marketing pack
- Learning document to develop participative programme.

The host venue will provide:
- Professional installation and de-installation team
- Constant invigilation
- Storage space for packaging and crates
- In-house technical support
- Onwards transport to next venue
- Insurance cover on site and to next venue
- Appropriate lighting facilities and environmental conditions.

Cost: £7,000.

For updates and more information, please contact: touring@nationalcraftanddesign.org.uk