

Stroud International Textiles

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Stroud International Textile Festival May 1 – 23 2010



Norma Starszakowna – studio image

The 2010 International Textile Festival is building on the success of the previous four years with an exciting and stimulating programme of exhibitions, talks, workshops, events, performance and opportunities for debate and discussion, spread over the 23 days.

Committed to bringing the diversity of textiles and textile art to new audiences, to broadening the vision of textiles and contemporary crafts, to surprise and stimulate, and to challenge the accepted view of textiles while linking to the traditional

The festival celebrates contemporary work from established and emerging artists ensuring that the festival remains fresh and never stands still.

In 2010 Stroud International Textiles will be celebrating 5 years of steady growth and success. Attracting a mix of artists, writers, travelers, historians and collectors the Festival promises to be the most exhilarating to date.

In addition to the main programme there is a growing education programme for all ages that extends beyond the festival throughout the year.

With over 165 people participating, 24 venues, Universities presenting cutting edge student work. Artist in Residence – **Deirdre Nelson** will be researching the Museum in the Park's unique collection over a 6 month period. She will be creating a new body of work and holding Open Sessions within the Museum.

The festival promises to be an eclectic mix of stimulating and high quality excitement. Artists from Ireland, Scotland and the Scottish Highlands are appearing building strong connections for this year and the future.

Recognising the wonderful talent that the Edinburgh School of Art has brought to the art world we are excited to have work from five world class artists who studied at the world famous school. Contemporary tapestry is represented with work from **Sara Brennan** and **Jo Barker**; textile installations from **Henny Burnett**; painted textiles from **Kate Blee** and wearable jewellery sculpture from **Angela O'Kelly**.

Keeping the Scotland link alive in the Museum Foyer is printed and embellished cloth hangings from **Norma Starszakowna**

Festival Highlights:

Bournemouth University of the Arts – Fashion & Textiles students collected the spun woollen cloth from a local Stroud Mill, Millikens, who make the woollen cloth used for tennis balls and billiard tables. The students have dyed, embellished, stitched, designed and created new costumes. See the display in Moonflower window in Stroud Town centre.

Bath Spa University 2nd Year Textile students were inspired by the Museum and have created a diverse and original body of work exhibited in venues around the town.

Manchester Arts University embroidery graduates and Winchester College of Art graduates have work in shop windows throughout the town.

Keynote lecture from **Jessica Hemmings** titled 'Material Activism.'

World Textile Weekend 15th & 16th May – see and buy stunning textiles from around the world.

Other highlights for 2010 is the new partnering with the Highlands of Scotland and Cork Textile artists. Both are offering exhibitions, workshops and talks

The studios of textile artists, Matthew Harris, Tim Parry Williams and Nick Ozanne, will be open.

The festival has expanded its talks and opportunities for discussion and informal debate.

One special illustrated talk will be from Mary Schoeser who will present 'Clans, Kirks, Cows & Calico' discussing the influence of Scottish Turkish red dyeing and printing and the influence on American history. **Carole Waller & Ray Walker** will discuss their clothing collaboration.

Norma Starszakowna and Mary Schoeser will be 'In Conversation' an informal talk & debate.

Jo Barker and **Sara Brennan** will be discussing their work and contemporary tapestry today.

These are just a few of the 25 speakers at the festival.

A two Day Conference on 'Slow Textiles' will take place over the weekend of 8th and 9th May. Speakers include **Dr Emma Neuberg, Clara Vuletich, Philippa Brock** and **Rebecca Earley** who all are at the forefront of textile recycling and new technologies. Chairperson **Helen Carnac**. Discussion and workshops over an inspiring weekend.

Innovative leading artists, writers and scholars will offer workshops with **Dionne Swift, Sarah Beadsmoore, Gizella Warburton, Anne Rogers** and the **Cork Textile Group**,

"I come back every year and every year it just gets better and better" Festival visitor

"What a joy and an inspiration this festival is. It is the highlight of my cultural calendar" Festival visitor

This press release is a taster for this year's dynamic International Textile Festival.

For a free Festival Guide out Mid March contact the Festival office by e mail or phone.

A Limited edition catalogue will be for sale.

For more information contact the office on 01453 808076 / 755421

For updates on the festival go to
www.stroudinternationaltextiles.org.uk/textilefestival2010.

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Fuller details and images can be supplied on request from the festival office

Press Details:

For images contact the festival office

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