

Stroud International Textile Festival: 1 – 21 May 2009

Contemporary textile heavyweights, Michael Brennand-Wood; jewellery designer, Susan Cross and Nel Linssen with internationally renowned willow artist, Mary Butcher.

Just a few of the 75 plus names appearing in the 2009 Stroud International Textile Festival. Come and see emerging new talent alongside cutting edge thinkers and designers.

The UK's only annual international textile festival, Stroud International Textiles Festival (SIT), hosted in the town of Stroud in the Cotswolds from 1-21 May 2009 will celebrate the contemporary field of textiles and the related applied arts.

2009 will enjoy willow sculpture, leading jewellery design and live performance and a new installation from **Studio Seven**, who have rapidly gained fame for their innovative work.

The Festival is a mix of exhibitions, workshops, talks, performance events and debates that takes place in the glorious Stroud Valleys in Gloucestershire. With established international artists and speakers alongside new talent this unique Festival has 21 days of textile and related arts events bursting at the seams.

Stroud Textiles like to tease and challenge the conventional view of textiles, and have built a reputation for innovation and new ideas.

With this in mind the 2009 Festival is linking through to sound, and musical scores, and the influence that this discipline has on the visual arts.

Appearing in the Festival will be jazz visionary, **Keith Tippett**, who will perform with **Julie Tippetts**. Edgy improvised sound to stimulate and excite - this is a rare opportunity to catch one the UK's most exciting jazz performers.

Exhibitions will include world renowned artists such as **Michael Brennand-Wood**, **Margo Selby**, **Hilary Bower** and **Matthew Harris**. Willow artists **Tim Bridgeman** and **Mary Butcher** will challenge our concept of willow weaving and basket making. Jerwood Prize acclaimed artists Susan Cross and Nora Fok will be part of the new to 2009 Jewellery Showcase. SIT will also promote and profile the work of emerging new artists such as **Rachel Gornall** and **Ruth Waller** working in collaboration with **Lee Hewett**.

Workshops include the latest printing techniques run by **Dawn Dupree**, who is celebrated for her funky, cutting edge Urban Landscapes designs and willow sculpture with **Mary Butcher**. Debate and discussion led by two of the UK's most progressive textile tinkers who research into new materials and new and exciting ways of using new, sustainable materials.

Levitt and Bernstein, architects for the new Colston Hall build will be 'In Conversation' with the two textile artists who have been commissioned to produce new work for Colston Hall in Bristol.

Talks to stimulate from scholars and writers offer debate and inform on contemporary textile innovations including environmental issues, architecture and the crafts, historical perspectives, ethnic world textiles.

Community and artist led projects events exhibitions give edgy creative energy to the 21 days of contemporary diversity.

This is too exciting to miss

See you in May!

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