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Barber, Claire

Crafting the Community III

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Crafting the Community III

Claire Barber



Fig.1 Crafting Community exhibition,
North Light Gallery Huddersfield, 2011
Curated by Year 2 students, Textile Crafts
Department, University of Huddersfield.

Introduction



Fig.2 The Sleeping Bag Project, Knitting and Stitching Show, Harrogate November 2012. Curated by Claire Barber, Charlotte Cullen and June Hill and developed by Year 2 students, Textile Craft Department, University of Huddersfield.

Our Philosophy



Fig. 3 The aftermath of Leeds Music Festival, 2011.

A short plotted history of Crafting the Community



Fig.4 *The Sleeping Bag Project*, Knitting and Stitching Show,
Harrogate November 2012. Curated by Claire Barber, Charlotte
Cullen and June Hill and developed by Year 2 students, Textile Craft
Department, University of Huddersfield.

snap shots – regional, national & international recognition



Fig. 5 *The Sleeping Bag Project*
Claire Barber and Dr Rowan Bailey presentation
The Subversive Stitch: Politics of Cloth Symposium
Victorian and Albert Museum, Nov 2013

Small beginnings



Fig. 6 & Fig. 7 Claire Barber personalising salvaged and washed sleeping bags from Leeds Music Festival, 2010.

A 'moral holiday'



Fig. 8 The aftermath of Leeds Music Festival, 2011.

What difference could such a thing make?

“The bottom line,” Werner Herzog has said “is the poet must not avert his eyes – you have to take a bold look about your environment – about what it is around you – even the ugly things, even the decadent things...You can look at the New York telephone directory and think you have all the information on those people that you need, but I want to know what do they dream? Do they cry into their pillow at night?” (Herzog 2011)

Nishida's fold

Robert Clarke states in his paper for Outside:

In his account of pure experience, Nishida refers to the double fold of the outside and the inside of consciousness in which experience is akin to two sides of a single piece of fabric. One side of the fabric is consciousness of the self, and the other is consciousness of the world; but world and self are of one and same piece of cloth, wholly interdependent and woven from the same threads. Therefore, pure experience is synonymous with direct experience. When one directly experiences one's conscious state, no subject or object yet exists, and knowledge and its object are completely integrated. This is the purest form of experience (Nishida, 1960).



Fig. 9. Personalised sleeping bags presented to St Stephens Shelter, Bradford, 2010.

The nature of conversations



Fig. 10 Second year textile crafts students, talking with Juli Thompson, Manager of the InnChurches homeless Centre, Bradford, 2010.



Fig. 11 Claire Barber and Rowan Bailey at the Lee Mills Knitting and Crochet Archive, 2012

Conversations with the hierarchies of place



Fig. 12 You Are the Journey, a public artwork by Barber and Webb (R.A.Webb and Claire Barber collaboration), sited on the front of the Hythe Ferry Ten Journey ticket.



Fig. 13 Hythe to Southampton ferry and pier train commute.



Fig. 14 'Stitch the Line', Barnsley Station, 2013

Engaging with uncertainty



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NEW! The Dream Rocket



Achieve a Dream!



The Dream Rocket Mission Statement

The Dream Rocket aims to connect art and education through a global collaborative initiative. It will inspire participants to consider, express, and explore their dreams for a better future using Dream Themes such as Energy, Space, Peace, Science, Recycling, etc. The Wrapping of the Saturn V Rocket will recognize the power of global collaboration, and in turn, The Dream Rocket hopes to inspire individuals all over the World not only to dream, but also to recognize their power to pursue their dreams.

About US

The International Fiber Collaborative (IFC) was founded in 2007 by artist Jennifer Marsh. It is a non-profit organization that promotes global collaborative public art initiatives, a marriage of art & education. The IFC prides itself in being a



Fig. 15 The Dream Rocket Project, The International Fiber Collaborative,
www.thedreamrocket.com/

Encourage new debate into the institution

Conference: 'Outside: Activating Cloth to Enhance the Way we Live' (2012)

<http://www.hud.ac.uk/research/researchcentres/cricp/events/outsideactivatingclothtoenhancethewaywelive.php>

The screenshot shows a web page from the University of Huddersfield. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Courses, Undergraduate, Postgraduate, International, Research, Services to business, Former students, and About us. Below this is a dark blue header with the University of Huddersfield logo and the text 'University of HUDDERSFIELD Inspiring tomorrow's professionals'. The main content area has a white background and features the event title 'Outside: Activating Cloth to Enhance the Way We Live' in a large, bold font. Below the title is a link 'Back to news index - Events' and the date 'Mon, 24 Oct 2011 15:31:00 BST'. The text describes the event, mentioning Key Note Speaker Professor Jennifer Marsh and her involvement with the International Fiber Collaborative. There are two images: one of a colorful, multi-story building covered in fabric (The Gas Station, IFC) and another of a red, abstract sculpture (Lise Bjerne Linnert, Fences Project). Below the images are captions: 'The Gas Station, IFC' and 'Lise Bjerne Linnert, Fences Project'. A sidebar on the left contains a list of navigation links: Introduction, Staff, Outputs, Impact, Environment, Projects, External Relationships, and Research Home. At the bottom of the sidebar is a 'Quick Links' section with links for News, Jobs, Campuses, Finance, Accommodation, Open Days, Scholarships, Students' Union Fees, and Careers Placements.

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Outside: Activating Cloth to Enhance the Way We Live

[Back to news index - Events](#)
Mon, 24 Oct 2011 15:31:00 BST

The day will be introduced by our Key Note Speaker Professor Jennifer Marsh flying in from US to discuss her involvement with the International Fiber Collaborative. Professor Marsh presents an exploration of art in the public realm and in a global world. Audience members will be challenged to connect, debate and influence the vision of social inclusion and access to the visual arts within our community and beyond.



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The Gas Station, IFC

Lise Bjerne Linnert, Fences Project

This will be followed by the writer and curator June Hill, a rare opportunity to hear her discuss her

Introduction
Staff
Outputs
Impact
Environment
Projects
External Relationships
Research Home

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What is the impact for students?



Fig 16 Emma Swinnerton presenting mindful stitch workshops at V & A, London, Nov 2013



Fig. 17 Second year textile crafts students talking with Juli Thompson, Manager of the InnChurches homeless Centre, Bradford, 2010.

What now?



Fig. 18 The Sleeping Bag Project
Claire Barber and Dr Rowan Bailey presentation
The Subversive Stitch: Politics of Cloth Symposium
Victorian and Albert Museum, Nov 2013

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Dr Robert Clarke

Volunteers at Lee Mills knitting and crochet archive

Rowena Chantler, community rail office, Penistone Line
Partnership

Gaby Young and Juli Thompson