

NORDIC TEXTILE MEETING IN HELSINKI 19-22.3 2015 - THE VALUE OF TEXTILE ART

Organizers: Nordic Textile Art, NTA, www.nordictextileart.net in collaboration with TEXO www.ornamo.fi.

Introduction: Nordic Textile Art wants to create forums for discussions about contemporary textile art. Our 2015 conference is placed in Finland this year. The annual meetings are held circulating in the Nordic countries.

This year's conference theme is The Value of Textile Art. The artistic idea of the project is to shed light upon the theme from different aspects by seminars, workshops, exhibitions and educational visits. The Value of Textile Art is a theme with an extra - Added Values. A clear change in the society can be noted, the interest and knowledge about textiles is increasing. Many artists use either textile materials, textile techniques or textile expressions in their artistry.

Short notes on the speakers

Løvaas & Wagle, (Norway)

It is the materials, techniques and challenges of textiles that constitute the starting point for the work of Løvaas & Wagle, even if it concerns the complexity like the Opera house project, where they made the design a surface covering for sections of the building's facade. Astrid Løvaas and Kirsten Wagle have become one of the most distinguished collectives in Norwegian contemporary art, using untraditional materials like used wool blankets, nylon stockings, raincoats, socks and knitted hats as their starting point. Løvaas & Wagle create tapestries that are visually captivating, beautiful, surprising and rich in references to historical art sources. Løvaas & Wagle have completed a number of public commissions and exhibitions. You can find several books about their work. (Part of the text is from their exhibition at the National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Oslo 2008))

More information: www.lovaas-wagle.no

Britt Smelvær (Norway/Denmark)

Britt Smelvær grew up in Årdal Norway and was educated in weaving. In 1978 she debuted at UKS and has since had many exhibitions and commissions. In the period from 1993 to 1997 she was a professor at the Department of Textile Art School in Bergen.

From classical tapestry weaving to installations and geometrical and ornamental structures, she is a kind of postmodern nomad as art historian Jorunn Veiteberg describes her. She reflects over her work and about the artist who has a astonishing versatility, surprising, dynamic, shape fresh and colorful. She is an artist with great desire and ability to exploration and experimentation. The term textile is highly expanded and stunning images show, among other artworks made of materials like feathers, horsehair, branches, fiberglass, wood and metals. She has completed a numerous amount of public commissions, which she is working on right now in Norway.

More information www.brittsmelvaer.dk

Helena Hyvönen (Finland)

Is textile something more than a material?

Helena Hyvönen has worked as Professor of Textile Design since 1998 at Aalto University School of Arts, Design and Architecture and its predecessors. She has been working in several leadership positions as a principal as well, and her last leadership position was the Dean position of the School until 2014. Helena Hyvönen graduated from the same University in 1974. Her design company Hydestudiot Ltd. (1997–2006) operated in the field of material development, color design, and trend forecasting. Mrs. Hyvönen has designed industrial textiles and unique pieces of textile art which were on shown in various public spaces. During her career she has held numerous positions of trust, for example in the Arts Council of Finland, Turku 2011 Culture Capital Delegation, Board Member of Design Museum, Helsinki and as Vice Chair of the International Design Foundation (WDC12 Helsinki).

https://people.aalto.fi/index.html?profilepage=isfor#!helena_hyvonen

Linda Fagerström (Sweden)

Key note speaker and moderator "The Value of Textile Art" Panel discussion.

Linda Fagerström; art critic, PhD in art history.

More information: www.lindafagerstrom.se

Agneta Hobin (Finland)

Textile artist based in Helsinki. Winner of the The Nordic Award in textiles 2001. Her work takes its inspiration from Finnish nature: its colour, structure and light. The work is architectural in intent, using her understanding of texture and light in her material response to architectural space. www.agnetahobin.fi

Gina Hedegaard Nielsen (Denmark)

Textile artist, editor *Rapporter-fra tekstilernes verden*. Representing Denmark in Nordic Textile Council. www.danskekunsthaandvaerkere.dk/kunsthandaerker/gina-hedegaard-nielsen

Hrafnhildur Sigurðardóttir (Iceland)

Textile artist based in Reykjavik. Winner of the The Nordic Award in textiles 2005. Representing Iceland in Nordic Textile Council.

Sari Syväluoma (Finland/Norway)

Textiles, surfaces, visual concepts and consulting. Based in Oslo. Representing Norway in Nordic Textile Council. www.sari-syvaluoma.com/

Workshop

March 21st Aalto University. School of Arts, Design, and Architecture.

"The Value of Textile - Added value" based on waste and recycled materials.

Designer and pedagogue Laura Isoniemi

Workshop I time: 10 -13 short version

Limited to 11 people

Workshop II time: 10-17 longer version, more objects

Limited to 11 people

Both versions include visual introduction to the waste - material jewellery.

The aim of this workshop is to understand, handle and to work with the value of textile materials. The added values are recycled materials, what extra value the forgotten and forsaken materials give to a piece of jewelry or art.

The memories and meanings are and can be hidden in the material choices, in the worn way they exist. When old and recycled materials are bound together with different textile- or contemporary techniques, new inventions and new meanings are born. The experiment starts with material choices.

The materials we use in the workshop are waste materials, left over textile and other materials, which can be further worked on or just put in to another meaning. We have also old books available that can be used and worked out to jewelry with different methods.

The element of play and exploring is present in the workshop. Also the materials can be worked out with paints etc.

The work itself can be small or big, depending on the time available.

We gather a collection of the works done during the workshop to be presented at an exhibit.

One important target is to get familiar with each other by working together and to widen our own knowledge and to see what others do. Also through understanding each other and to have new contacts in our field.

Networking session

Aalto University. School of Arts, Design and Architecture. March 19th

Short presentation of the school by Maarit Salolainen

Pecha Kucha Night; 6 minutes presentations, for participants at the meeting as well as students of Aalto. Laura Isoniemi will be hosting the Pecha Kucha at Aalto University.

Pecha Kucha 20x20 is a simple presentation format where you show 20 images, each for 20 seconds. The images advance automatically and you talk along to the images.

Do you want to make a presentation of your work or organisation? Please send your slides to info@nordictextileart.net. Last date March 2nd.

Visits and excursions (optional)

Textile Walk. March 19th,

Textile walk will take us to see some of the most interesting pieces of textile art in public premises in the heart of the City of Helsinki.

The participants of this tour will see 3 - 4 creations of different artists from different periods of time.

The walk will be guided by a textile artist from TEXO and it starts from Nordic Culture Point at 14.30

Marimekko, March 19th

Would you like to see how the colours and patterns of Marimekko are printed and what else happens inside the headquarters of the design house? Now you have the opportunity to do so. Lunch will be served by the Restaurant of Marimekko Factory with a reasonable price. Maria Härkäpää, Coordinator of Marimekko Archive, will be presenting Marimekko and its production during the visit to Marimekko. You can also visit the factory shop of Marimekko.

The visit starts at from Nordic Culture Point at 9.30

SKY Studio (SKY Suomen Käsityön Ystävät/Finska Handarbetets Vänner) Artistic The visit is hosted by **Sirpa Linnanmäki** CEO of SKY Suomen Käsityön Ystävät with **Elina Helenius** artist designer www.kasityonystavat.fi/fi/etusivu

Excursion to Hämeenlinna/Tavastehus. Sunday March 22nd

Visit to Wetterhoff Cultural Center the venue for the Nordic Textile Meeting 2018. Departure for Hämeenlinna 10:00 by bus or train and back to Helsinki via the Airport. Limited group. The visit to Hämeenlinna lasts 3-4 hours (until 14.00 or 15.00). Direct bus to the airport from Hämeenlinna 14.00 or 14.15 - Airport 15.30 and Hämeenlinna 15.15 or 15.30 - Airport 16.45.

Wetterhoff is 130 years old Brand for a Cultural Centre, a Company, Handicraft and Design Education, and a Foundation fostering the cultural heritage of Fredrika Wetterhoff, founder of a Handicraft School for women. www.wetterhoff.fi

The curated exhibition Mini Textile.

March 20st Opening at Nordic Culture Point.

Curated Mini Textile Exhibition is a starting point for a series of exhibitions which will be presented also in Tampere Arts and Crafts Center Verkaranta and in the Craft Museum of Finland in Jyväskylä. It's also an introduction to TEXO's 60 year celebrations in 2016.

The Curator of the Exhibition is Textile Artist Heli Tuori – Luutonen. Mini textiles from The Blue Planet workshop at the Nordic Textile Meeting in Copenhagen 2014 will also be presented in Nordic Culture Point.

TEXO

The Finnish Association of Textile Artists TEXO was founded in 1956.

It's members are textile artists and designers, whose professional field encompasses art textiles, industrial product design, handcrafted items, teaching and working for trade and PR. TEXO's 60th anniversary in 2016 will be celebrated by the Finnish Textile Triennial in Tampere.

TEXO's chairperson Juha Laurikainen, board member Laura Isoniemi.

ORNAMO is the second oldest existing organisation for designers in the world.

ORNAMO is a member of NORDIC DESIGN IMPACT, aiming at promoting Nordic Design in the world. ORNAMO has over 2100 members. There are five organisations within ORNAMO, one of them is TEXO for textile artists and designers.

See also www.ornamo.fi

Nordic Textile Council

NTC is a reference group to NTA's Nordic unity. The NTC acts as representatives of NTA in their respective countries. NTC involves two people from each Nordic country.

Nordic Textile Art. www.nordictextileart.net



MED STÖD FRÅN ESTRID ERICSONS STIFTELSE, LARS HIERTAS MINNESFOND,

Kulturkontakt Nord