

THE WEST DEAN TAPESTRY SYMPOSIUM 2017: Contemporary Art and Tapestry - Artists Meet Their Makers

The Old Library, West Dean College, West Dean, Chichester, West Sussex
Wednesday 19th April 2017, 11.00-18:00

11.00 – 11.15	ALISON BAXTER, Head of Creative Enterprise, West Dean College. An introduction to the Symposium
11.15 - 12.15pm	JO BARKER Artist – Designer – Maker: Ways of Working This presentation will consider the various stages of observation, drawing, designing and making that are pursued in the production of her on-going inky series of tapestries, designed and woven by Jo Barker in her studio in Edinburgh. With over 30 years of experience, Jo is still excited by the medium and the way that it lends itself to the use of rich, luscious colour.
12.15 - 13.00	LIZ COOPER Working Together: The Development of the Exhibition Liz Cooper will talk about her approach to developing <i>Artists Meet their Makers</i> . A major objective of this exhibition is to tell the story of the collaborative processes behind the finished tapestries: the ideas, dialogues and designs, as well as the aesthetic and technical challenges.
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
14.00 – 15.00	MATTHEW COLLINGS & EMMA BIGGS with KATHARINE SWAILES When Collaboration Multiplies Biggs & Collings work together as an artist duo. As well as painting, Matthew Collings is known as a writer and art critic. Emma Biggs is a working mosaicist. In the studio, they draw on some of the skills they've developed elsewhere. Collaboration has ethical, practical, and aesthetic dimensions, but to them, more importantly, it offers a broader scope than either might have if they were working alone. Katharine Swailes from West Dean Tapestry Studio has been weaving a tapestry based on one of their paintings. Together they will discuss the process and discoveries they have made.
15.00 – 15.30	ANNELIE HOLMBERG The Socially Skilled Craftsman Which competences are most important for a skilled craftsman at a

	textile studio? The craftsmen at the studio at Friends of Handicraft, Stockholm, define important competences as connected to the craftsmen's personality. Who can become a deeply skilled weaver or embroider?
15.30 – 16.00	Tea
16.00 – 16.15	<p>EMELIE RÖNDAHL</p> <p><i>Rya</i> Fluffy Resolution – an Introduction</p> <p>Emelie will focus on the tapestry technique of <i>rya</i>, using her first large-scale tapestry in this technique: <i>Return of the Weaver (Weaver begins)</i> as an example, to explore how the effect created can walk between chaos and order.</p>
16.15 – 16.45	<p>MARDI NOWAK</p> <p>Breaking Down the Silos</p> <p>How can we provide a clearer understanding of the medium to a broader audience as well as other contemporary artists? Presenting from an Australian viewpoint, this presentation tackles how we can break down the barriers between art and tapestry creating a continual critical conversation.</p>
16.45 – 17.00	Q&A session led by PHILIP SANDERSON
17.00 – 17.30	Informal visit to the Tapestry Studio
17.30 – 19.00	Private view of <i>Hellreaf II</i> – The Auditorium, The Edward James Studio's, West Dean College