



Press Immediate Release: 14.01.14

Select 2014 April 4th – May 31st 2014

Stroud International Textiles is delighted to announce two exciting additions to this year's Select festival.

Designing Craft Crafting Design: Saturday May 17th 2014 Stroud College, Stratford Road, Stroud GL5 4AH

Leading design writer Charlotte Abrahams brings together some of the most illustrious names in the fields of contemporary craft and design for a day of thought-provoking discussion and debate around the subject of Designing Craft, Crafting Design. Highlights include:

- Grant Gibson, Editor of Crafts, discussing the question 'Is the division between craft and design relevant today?' with Chair of Gloucestershire Guild of Craftsmen, Mary Greensted and internationally acclaimed designers Simon Pengelly and Nick Munro.
- Ceramicist Michael Eden in conversation with Harriet Wallace-Jones of textile brand Wallace Sewell, basket maker and willow artist Susan Early and textile printer Stephen Lewis, co-founder of wallpaper and fabric company Lewis and Wood.
- Talks from innovative designers Simon Cox, Tracy Kendall and Fay McCaul.
- A short film in which leading names including multi-disciplinary designer Wayne Hemingway, Ian Rudge, Brand Director of design-led trade fairs Home, Top Drawer and Craft and designer Ella Doran reveal what the terms 'craft' and 'design' mean to them.

The event will be filmed by students from the University of Gloucestershire Film Production department and made available on line via the SIT festival website, www.sitselect.org



Images: Left, Tracy Kendall (photograph Suki Dhanda); right: SCAPA chair by Simon Pengelly

Designing Craft Making for Pleasure April 4th – May 31st 2014
The Wilson Art Gallery & Museum, Cheltenham GL50 3JT

This exhibition of iconic contemporary objects connects fine craft to good design. Displayed across several rooms of The Wilson Art Gallery and Museum each piece has been personally selected by SIT's Creative Director Lizzi Walton and Charlotte Abrahams for the quality of the making and its ability to bring pleasure to our daily lives. Exhibits include work by Ptolemy Mann, Pinch and Tamasyn Gambell.

On April 5th, SIT will host a day of talks in which renowned makers, designers and commentators come together to discuss the connections between craft and design and the importance of aesthetic pleasure. Speakers include leading design writers Charlotte & Peter Fiell, ceramicist Peter Ting, knit artist Freddie Robins and textile designer Ptolemy Mann.

Both these events promise to stimulate and inspire all those interested in contemporary craft and design.

Free high quality, full colour brochure available.



Images: Left, Ptolemy Mann (photograph Alun Callender); right, Twig bench and Cubes by Pinch (photograph James Merrell)

Editors notes:

Designing Craft Crafting Design will run from 9am – 4.30pm on Saturday May 17th 2014 at Stroud College, Stratford Rd, Stroud GL5 4AH. Tickets £85 full price and £35 concessions. Details online from www.sitselect.org

Designing Craft Making for Pleasure runs from 4th April – 31st May 2014 at The Wilson Art Gallery & Museum, Clarence St, Cheltenham, GL50 3JT (01242 237431; www.cheltenham.artgallery.museum)

The talks take place on 5th April at. Tickets from The Guild at 51, 51 Clarence St, Cheltenham, GL50 3JT (01242 245 215) or via Stroud Tourist Office on +44 (0) 1453 760960

Tickets starting at £5 concessions

For more information and images contact Lizzi Walton, Stroud International Textiles (+44 (0)1453 751056; info@stroudsit.org)

About Stroud International Textiles

We aim to raise awareness, increase knowledge and the enjoyment of contemporary textiles and contemporary crafts and to challenge the public's perception of contemporary crafts while increasing active participation in the arts for a wide range of people and abilities. SIT's vision is to act as a catalyst for experimentation and collaboration by promoting an innovative year round programme to the general public that includes high profile exhibitions and learning experiences. Our vision is to support the work of emerging and established artists encouraging them to reach their creative potential. SIT aims to enhance people's lives and bring pleasure through the arts.

About the Select Festival

Now in its eighth year, the Select Festival encourages debate and exploration of the visual arts. Select 2014 will have a mix of exhibitions, talks and workshops from leading international artists and maker, including an exhibition of work from 30 extraordinary designer-makers at the National Trust property Newark Park. The festival is set in the Stroud Valleys stretching to Cirencester and Cheltenham, in the heart of the glorious Cotswolds.