

**UNC Center for Craft, Creativity and Design**

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**North Carolina International Textile Design Conference**

Hendersonville, NC - *Inspired Design: Jacquard & Entrepreneurial Textiles* Conference will feature speakers from around the world who are leaders in the field. The conference will take place in Hendersonville, North Carolina with an opening reception Wednesday January 7, 2009 followed by the conference Thursday, Friday, and ending at 1pm on Saturday, January 10, 2009. The Conference, limited to 250 attendees, will be held on the Blue Ridge Community College Campus.

The opening of the conference will begin with a reception and exhibition of work of textile designers speaking at the conference, at the Center for Craft, Creativity, and Design, in Hendersonville, the conference host. The conference is divided into a half-day focus on each of five textile design growth areas. Three to four speakers in each of the five areas will give presentations as a panel, followed by break-out sessions featuring each individual speaker.

**I. SMART TEXTILES**

*Also known as intelligent textiles and electronic textiles, or e-textiles, they can be designed to sense and react to environmental conditions. **Passive smart textiles** sense the environmental condition or stimuli; **active smart textiles** sense and react to the condition or stimuli; very smart textiles can sense, react, and adapt themselves accordingly; and **intelligent textiles** are capable of responding, or activated to perform, in a pre-programmed manner.*

**SPEAKERS:**

- **Matilda McQuaid**, Deputy Curatorial Director, Cooper-Hewitt National Museum and author of *Extreme Textiles, Designing for High Performance*.
- **Joanna Berzowska** Assistant Professor of Design and Computation Arts, Concordia University, and research director XS labs, Montreal, Canada
- **Rachael Wingfield**, Research Fellow and Lecturer, University of the Arts London, and founder of loop.pH

## **II. PERFORMANCE AND INTERACTIVE TEXTILES**

*Interactive and performative textile design and research involves molecule-sized computers, sensors, and electronic devices that can be directly integrated into textiles using nanotechnology. Performative textiles are extensions of works of art that may serve as materials for costume and stage design, dance, and other performances where flexible circuitry is woven into the fabric, programmed to respond in real-time to stimuli.*

SPEAKERS:

- **Janis Jefferies** Professor of Visual Arts and Artistic Director of Goldsmiths Digital Studios at Goldsmiths College, University of London
- **Christy Matson** Assistant Professor in the Fiber and Material Studies Department, The School of the Art Institute of Chicago
- **Barbara Layne** Professor of Studio Arts, Concordia University in Montreal, Quebec. director of Studio sub Tela in the Interactive Textiles and Wearable Computers at Hexagram: the Institute for Research and Creation in Media Arts and Technologies

## **III. BOUTIQUE CLOTHING**

*Fashion boutique, limited edition or one-of-a-kind designs are the high end of the fashion market. Some of the designers featured formed their own entrepreneurial design and production business, others design the fabric for specific fashion design houses.*

SPEAKERS:

- **Jill Heppenheimer** owner of Santa Fe Weaving Gallery for 30 years
- **Tim Parry-Williams** Senior Lecturer of Woven Textiles, Bath Spa University, Bath, UK and Associate Designer for Fabtex Co., Ltd, Kiryu, Japan
- **Pauline Verbeek-Cowart** Associate Professor at the Kansas City Art Institute

## **IV. EXCLUSIVE INTERIOR TEXTILES**

*Even though much manufacturing of interior elements has moved to China, India and South America, the textile designers in this section are capitalizing on the demand for high-end unique designs. There is a growing niche market for unique and personalized fabrics for interiors.*

SPEAKERS:

- **Anna Zaharakos** founder Studio Z, Grand Rapids, Michigan
- **Jennifer Robertson** Lecturer in the Textiles Workshop, School of Art, Australian National University, Institute of the Arts, Canberra, Australia

- **Ismini Samanidou** designer in residence at the University College Falmouth, Falmouth, UK
- **Catharine Ellis** Head of Fiber Program for 30 years (recently retired) Haywood Community College, North Carolina

#### **V. PUBLIC AND CORPORATE TEXTILE COMMISSIONS**

*Fine art textiles extends beyond dealers catering to an international collectors' market and craft trade fairs like EXPO Chicago, EXPO New York, and COLLECT in London. Corporate commissions favor large textiles for corporate and financial centers. Public art commissions are arguably the largest source of commissions for artists in the United States*

#### **SPEAKERS:**

- **Mary McElwain** President, McElwain Fine Arts, St. Louis, Missouri
- **Kari Merete Paulsen** 2005 graduate and emerging artist from Bergen, Norway featured in the 2007 Fiberart International Exhibition of Contemporary Fiber Art
- **Bethanne Knudson** founder of The Jacquard Center in Hendersonville, North Carolina

In addition to the above speakers, Keynote speakers include **Joan Morris**, Dartmouth College and textile designer for *The Lion King* on Broadway; **Michelle Fricke**, fiber artist and Professor of Art History, Kansas City Art Institute; and **Grace Bonney**, founder of *Design\*Sponge*. Attendees will receive a copy of the 56 page four-color publication accompanying the exhibition.

Thursday and Friday conference days will end with limited optional tours of The Oriole Mill or downtown Asheville. Registration for the Conference prior to October 1, 2008 is \$250 for professional artists and \$50 for registered college students; after October 1, the registration increases to \$300 and \$75. Ten percent of the conference was filled by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Registration brochures can be downloaded from our website at [www.craftcreativitydesign.org/education/textiledesign](http://www.craftcreativitydesign.org/education/textiledesign) or mailed from The Center for Craft, Creativity and Design by calling 828-890-2050 or emailing [dmagie@craftcreativitydesign.org](mailto:dmagie@craftcreativitydesign.org).