



Drawn to Ohio

Textiles by Shelly Goldsmith

27 November 2015 > 13 February 2016

Free admission

The exhibition *Drawn to Ohio* is collated from work made over the last seven years, in which **Shelly Goldsmith** explores both the geographical and emotional distance between Goldsmith's home in Ramsgate and Cincinnati, Ohio, where Goldsmith's parents live. This on-going theme has re-occurred in Goldsmith's work for many years, expressed through a series of textile based pieces.

The work draws both upon the high incident of dramatic meteorological events that prevail in this area of the US and our relationship with the clothes we wear and the emotions and memories that these garments are imbued with: themes constant in Goldsmith's work.

The work presented for *Drawn to Ohio* uses a palette of textile traditions and new media, ranging from charcoal drawings, hand stitching to digital printing on pre-constructed garments and photography. Pieces are presented as installation works as well as wall- hung pieces and limited edition prints.

Works such as *Internal Storm*, a large textile installation comprising a reclaimed wedding dress and circular steel table references the radio broadcast during Ohio's Super Outbreak where it is reported that ten tornados hit the Xenia area in one day. The surviving Yellow Springs wedding dress gifted to Goldsmith is transformed by woven text tape stitched to the interior surface, and is dramatically installed with meteorological and geographical references in mind. In this and other work in this exhibition, meteorological events are used as a metaphor for emotional states.

The exhibition includes recent pieces from the current Arts Council and UCA funded research project *Locus of the Dress*, which explores the Locus of Control, a concept within clinical psychology, especially personality psychology. This work manifests through a series of drawings hand rendered and digitally applied to the inside and outsides of the dress form.

A collection of related and contextual objects and images taken from Goldsmith's collection and Rochester's Guildhall Museum accompany the work in the gallery.

Exhibition workshop

Stitching Time

Sat, 6 Feb 2016, 10.30am - 3.30pm

A mixed-media creative textiles workshop with stitchist Alison Blackburn. The session starts with a gallery talk then a walk to the Guildhall Museum for the workshop. Suitable for adults and young people aged 11+ (some basic hand sewing ability is required). Recommended donation of £10 per person on the day is requested.

We apologise but the Guildhall upstairs space has no lift and so is not accessible to wheelchair users.

For more information or to book a place please contact the Arts Team **01634 338319** arts@medway.gov.uk.

Invitation

You are invited to meet the artist at the opening reception of *Drawn to Ohio* on **Thursday, 26 November 2015**, 6.30-8.30pm. No need to book, just come along.

Rochester Art Gallery and Craft Case,
Medway Visitor Information Centre, Ground floor,
95 High Street, Rochester, Kent ME1 1LX

Opening hours*

Mon to Sat 10am – 5pm
(closed on Sundays from October – March)

For information about exhibitions and events visit www.enjoymedway.co.uk

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*Opening times may vary during bank holidays, please check in advance.