



The Vlieseline Fine Art Textiles Award

DESCRIPTION, SUBMISSION AND SELECTION CRITERIA

The Vlieseline Fine Art Textiles Award will be an international juried exhibition open to all amateur and practising artists using textiles as their medium.

Upper Street Events aim is to present work that meets the following criteria and is of a standard that:

- Would be considered as fine art and worthy of premium gallery space.
- Transcends its craft or making process, standing alone as visual art
- Is clearly rooted in and reflecting of the inspiration, source, concept or idea of the artist, with fully resolved composition
- Is rooted within the medium of textiles, meaning that cloth and thread are used as the pivotal materials/media

Both 2D and 3D works are welcome, with the exception of garments unless said garments present as fine art. All disciplines, processes and media are therefore welcome, as long as the key/pivotal materials are clearly rooted in textiles. Without providing an exhaustive list, in terms of process this might include hand and/or machine stitch, weaving, collage/piecing, wrapping or binding, thread 'drawing', surface design, knitting and crochet. In terms of media, other elements can be incorporated such as dyes, discharge media, paint, paper, resin, wax and so forth.

THE JURY & SELECTION PROCESS

Applicants will need to take the above criteria into account as it provides the key guidelines for the selection process, with those bulleted of key importance.

The jury will comprise of established artists working with textiles, an artist working in another discipline, an arts curator, academic or critic and a representative of Upper Street Events. Selection will initially be made from digital images and the jury will get together via video link to build a shortlist. Under normal circumstances successful applicants would be asked to send in the shortlisted pieces, due to the ongoing uncertainty surrounding Covid-19, this may change for 2020 but we will keep shortlisted applicants informed. In order to keep standards high, the organisers and jury reserve the right to decline short-listed works on viewing. Applicants will be informed of the final decision by 19th June 2020.

AWARDS

Entrants selected for the final exhibition will be eligible for two awards within this category:

- Overall Winner
Sponsored by Vlieseline
One piece of work that stands out as fine art
Prize £5,000,
- Innovative Use of Textiles
Sponsored by Her Quiet Materials
One piece of work that clearly demonstrates a particularly complex and/or powerful approach of the use of textiles.
Prize £500

VENUE & DURATION

The Vlieseline Fine Art Textiles Award exhibition would normally be on display at The Festival of Quilts in July/August 2020 but sadly due to to ongoing situation with Covid-19, the has been postponed this year to 2021 . However those selected will still be shown at The Knitting & Stitching Shows in London and Harrogate, so entrants must be prepared for their piece to be travelling for a period of four to five months.

Our long-term aim is to seek a gallery or museum partner to whom the exhibition can travel. Please note that due to venue restrictions it may not always be possible to travel all of the works included in the final exhibition and artists will be advised by email. Return of any works will be arranged at the cost of the Organiser.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Please pay attention to the following information before submitting:

- A maximum of two pieces per applicant can be made
- An administrative fee of £38.00 per entry will be charged
- Submissions will be made online via www.thefestivalofquilts.co.uk OR www.theknittingandstitchingshow.com/london
- Three digital images will be required as part of the submission process:
 - ⇒ One image showing the overall work, ideally as you wish to see it presented.
 - ⇒ Two detail images
 - ⇒ Please ensure images are professionally shot. Good quality images are essential to maximise your chance of selection. Files must be high resolution JPEG or TIFF files, a minimum of 300dpi. The file size should be between 1mb – 3mb (no larger than 8mb)
 - ⇒ Images must be uploaded as part of your entry via the online form

SUBMISSION CRITERIA

- The work must have been made within 24 months prior to 4th May 2020
- The work must not have been shown at any major exhibition in the UK (juried, solo, group or otherwise)
- The work is considered as fine art
- The work transcends its craft or making process, standing alone as visual art.
- The work is clearly rooted in, and reflecting of the inspiration, source, concept or idea of the artist
- The work is clearly rooted within the medium of textile, meaning that cloth and thread play a dominant role
- The work can be 2D or 3D, with the exception of garments unless said garments present as fine art
- Entrants must agree for their work to be available to the Organiser and any exhibiting partner for a period of five months from receipt (from August to December 2020)
- Successful applicants agree to grant permission to the Organiser to photograph the work as necessary, and/or use supplied images for catalogue, educational, marketing or promotional purposes
- The work must be professionally packaged and include:
 - ⇒ The label provided by Upper Street Events with your entry number and indication it is part of FATA
 - ⇒ All hanging devices (wooden battens can be provided but ideally we ask you to enclose, rods, wires or other hanging mechanisms).
 - ⇒ A written explanation, diagram or image that clearly shows how the work is to be presented. The web entry form will ask whether a plinth or special presentation device will be needed, and the dimensions of such. Please note that such devices will be made of wood and painted white.
 - ⇒ Any necessary information or recommendations for re-packing
- The deadline for initial submission of images has been extended to 3rd June 2020
- Applicants will be informed of the judge's decision by Friday 10th July.
- Work selected in round one (based on images submitted) will need to send or hand deliver the piece to Upper Street Events (dates to be confirmed)
- Round two of the judging – the final selection – will take place in August / September but details are yet to be confirmed. We hope to make the final selection from the work itself rather than from photographs.
- Applicants will be informed of the final decision by early September
- Any unsuccessful pieces will be returned by courier at the cost of Upper Street Events
- Successful applicants will have their work stored securely at Upper Street offices and will be collected by Bill Bowden freight logistics for storage until The Knitting & Stitching Show.

GETTING YOUR WORK TO US

On invitation to the short-list, successful applicants will ensure their work arrives in time for the round two judging (date to be confirmed).

- ⇒ Post / courier your work to:
Upper Street Events (Immediate Media)
Vineyard House
44 Brook Green
London W6 7BT

If sending from outside the UK, we advise you to contact our shipper Bill Bowden Event Logistics (email Bill Bowden <bill@billbowden.co.uk>) who can advise on the process and avoiding paying customs duty. Please be aware that if any charges are made for customs, you the maker will need to make payment in full. Any such fees will not be covered by the organisers.

PACKING YOUR WORK

Please ensure your work is packaged adequately for travel between several different venues. It is difficult to advise on the best materials to use without understanding the nature of your work, but we usually advise acid free tissue paper to avoid creasing, plenty of bubble wrap to withstand transportation and strong cardboard for the outside packaging.

If your work is 3D or fragile in nature, we advise you to create a bespoke box or packaging that will protect it in transit (and that can be opened and re-packed numerous times). If there are any specific packing instructions please include with your parcel and also send in advance by email.

Where possible, please avoid using packaging that will tear or get damaged when opening as we will try our best to re-use your packaging after each show. Where possible please use shrink wrap tape instead of brown sticky tape, which can ruin packaging.

We do our best to ensure your packaging is returned to you but please be aware this is not always possible and we cannot accept any responsibility for lost or damaged packaging.

INSURANCE

If you are selected for FATA, you will be automatically covered by our insurance cover for pieces valued up to £1500. The work will be covered from the moment it arrives with us to the moment you receive it back.

Any work which exceeds this value and requires additional insurance can pay to cover their work at a cost to the maker of £10 for values between £1500 – £2000, £20 for values between £2001 - £2500 and so on in increments of £10.

It must be emphasized that, whilst every effort is made to ensure the safety of any entry, it has to be recognised that some risk is inevitable and must be accepted by all entrants.

THE RETURN OF YOUR WORK

Exhibited works will be returned at the Organiser's expense no later than the end of January 2020.

KEY DATES:

3rd June 2020: Submission deadline

10th July: Round one shortlisted applicants advised (by email)

10th July: Declined applicants advised (by email)

August: Round one shortlisted works to be delivered to Upper Street Events in London.

August: Round two of the judging takes place to decide the final selection and the winning pieces