Street Stories

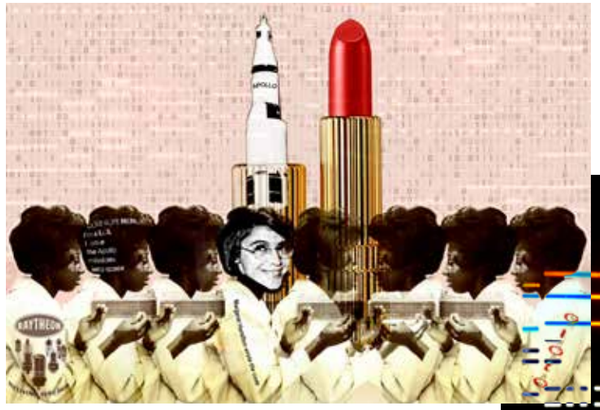
Christina Wigmore

Empty Shop Windows Art Project.
A collaboration with Arch Creative

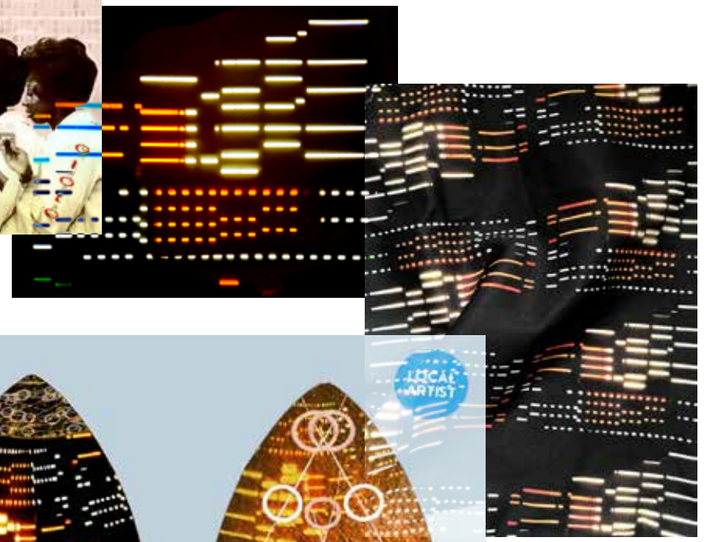
The Liberty Shoe design project was selected for one of a series of 'augmented reality' shop windows in Leicester city centre as part of Street Stories organised by design agency Arch Creative on behalf of BID Leicester, improving the appearance of empty shop units to make the city centre more attractive to visitors. The textile designs have been inspired by Leicester's past garment and shoe industry and the story of the Liberty Shoe factory and Leicester's own statue of Liberty.

The designs come to life as viewers scroll the app over the window designs
https://vimeo.com/417521906/6bb5a14486R

Read the article in Textile, Cloth & Culture here:
https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14759756.2020.1821156



Rocket Round Leicester
Wild in Art/LOROS Public Art Commission
selected as one of 40 national and local artists
for the public art trail around Leicester Summer 2021

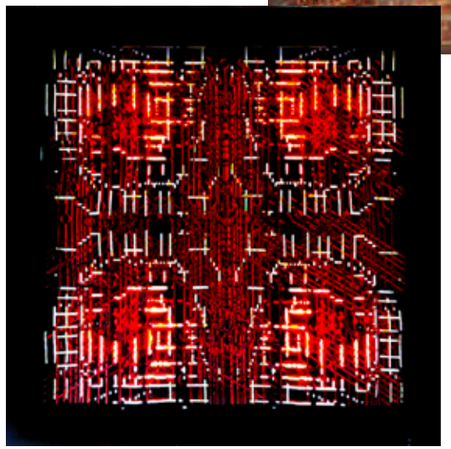


NAME: CHRISTINA WIGMORE
TITLE: WOVEN INTO SPACE
REF: 156

Christina's design captures the story of the space age weavers. Women used their skills to weave the core rope memory for computers that sent the 1960s US Apollo missions into space. Wires were meticulously woven by hand and machine in a Binary pattern which formed the computer programmes. The 0s and 1s of Binary code are reflected in the design with the weaver's hands sending the Rocket into space. Light shines through lines and dots adapted from a repeat textile design. Christina believes the story connects to Leicester's past textile heritage and emerging reputation as the UK's Space City.

About the artist
Christina's design process involves building layers of imagery created by projecting light sources through everyday objects. With a DIY/punk attitude to exploring what can be created from what you have to hand, re-using and repurposing materials is an important driver for the work: reducing waste and ensuring sustainability. Her inspiration comes from what's happening in society, stories of people, place and connections and the unexpected and absurd in life, art, performance and film. Christina likes to create work with and for the community and explores emotional attachment to objects, the psychology of nostalgia and the sense of wellbeing.

artsthread.com/profile/christinawigmore/

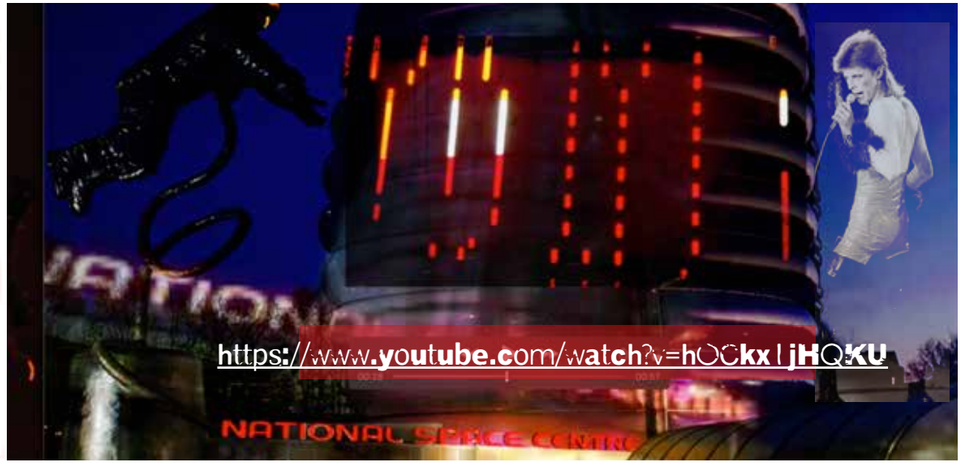


LCB Depot Fashion Season Exhibition
April 2021

Christina Wigmore is showcasing combined physical and digital pieces, inspired by sustainable design methods and the women weavers who used their textile skills to weave the complex binary code wire looms for the computers that sent the 1960s Apollo rockets into space.

The main piece really comes into its own at night. Once the textile design was printed, a heat tool was used to create holes ito thread fibre optic cable with LED lights through.

It has an accompanying film projection which shows that a textile design doesn't need to be physically printed or woven – it can also be a design projected onto different interior or exterior surfaces.
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPSy-mY7pQ7I&t=9s



The Design Problem

An Emotion-led Design Solution

Emotional connection to a place, building, object, event inspires the design aesthetic & process; the layers of a story are uncovered and reflected in the design of the textile or product

Design in response to nostalgic connection

Longevity of use & minimum enviro/social impact

The adaptable design and process = minimal social and environmental impact - product has longevity and value beyond its initial purpose

A laser cut textile window panel can become a table surface trapped between acrylic and wood. The tiles on an acrylic table surface can be repurposed into table or drinks coasters

Commission created or orders made to demand

Bespoke pieces or off the shelf product is ordered by client through commission or on-demand product via website & made to order using waste, vintage or recyclable materials

For on-demand ready designed products - option of renting and/or network of local designer/maker/craftspeople given construction diagrams/patterns to cut & make product - saving transport costs & providing work in local communities

Eco/ waste materials easy to repurpose

Manufacturing waste fabrics recut using laser processes or overprinting. Bio and eco fabrics. Greencast acrylic that can be 100% recycled, wood from sustainable and local sources

Recyclable or waste materials used with simple construction methods so that products are easily recycled or re-constructed. Register of local makers.

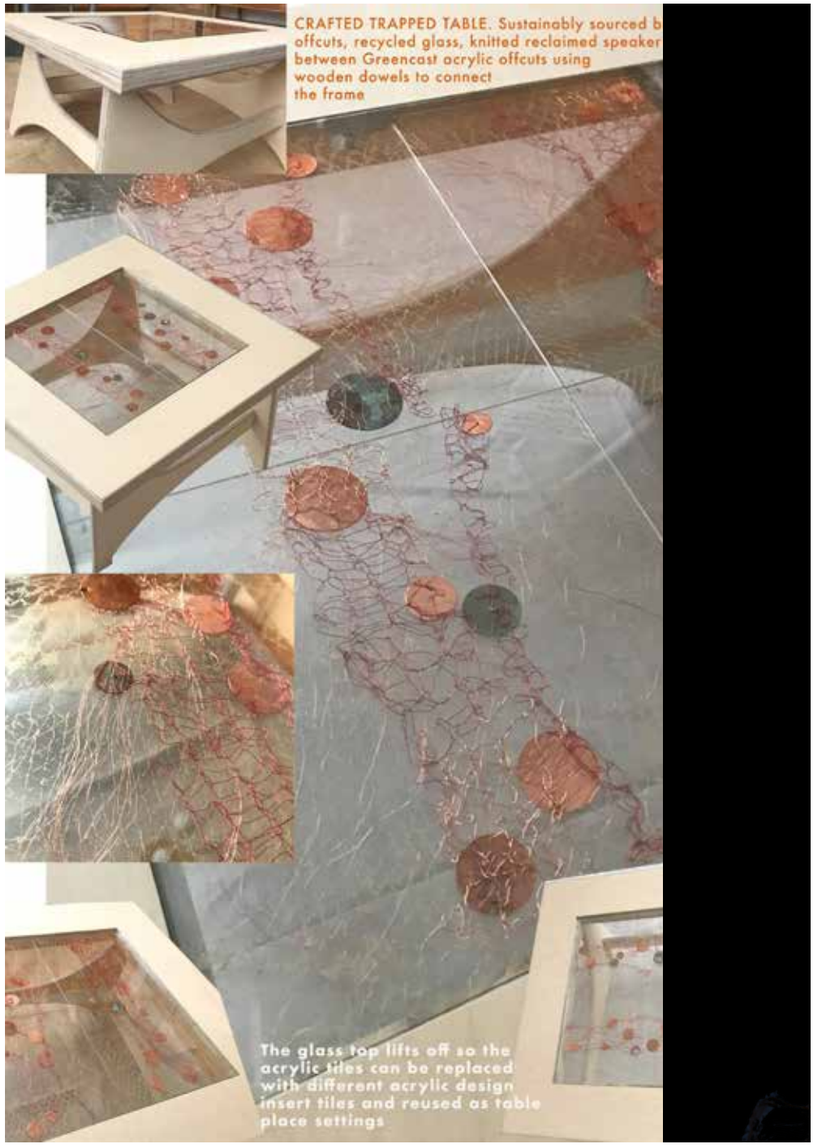
Durable repurposing options a key driver/USP

Package/envelope provided with all re-use/recyling options and DIY repurposing instructions and/or how products can be sent to a local designer/maker for re-crafting for a second life. Option to resell to raise funds for charity.

Information on options for reuse, recycling and repurposing or reselling provided with commission or orders and highlighted as a USP in marketing

Client enjoys their product for many years

The personal and emotional connection to the object and it's story makes the client/ consumer more likely to keep the object for longer and hand it on to others or follow the repurposing/redesign options



USING THE SUSTAINABLE DESIGN MODEL TO CREATE A CRAFTED TABLE FROM RECYCLED & WASTE MATERIALS IN COLLABORATION WITH LOCAL SUPPLIERS & MAKERS