

## **KIRK Valerie (Aus)**

### ***"LINING MATERIAL" - paper***

Lining fabric is a layer between the body and the outer garment.

In a presentation I will present the work of emerging artists exploring the space between art, textiles, fashion and craft.

This new area of practice is supported by study in art institutions where the definitions of departments have become blurred and students are encouraged to draw from the widest realm of ideas, contexts, processes and creative expressions. Sculptors explore fabric and the body, painters play with the fluidity of fabric, printmakers draw on the history of textile design for printed fabric and textile practitioners comment on the commercialisation of fashion.

I will explore issues of freedom to cross boundaries in disciplines, appropriate use of materials and processes, conceptual links and questions of craft and skill in making. How do practitioners from disciplines outside textiles view and use textiles? How do they research their topic/method/materials? How in-depth is their knowledge? What are they trying to say by crossing into Fashion/Textiles?

This presentation showcases recent graduates at the most difficult time in their career, when they are between institutional support and the wide world. The work that can not so easily fit into textile design, Fine Art or Fashion Production is more difficult to place in the commercial world. Graduates working in this area need exposure, encouragement and incentives to keep working. How do they see their careers developing? What models can they follow?

Lining in another sense is the unseen inner layer of a garment. Textiles are in such common use in society that they can be invisible. This presentation makes visible the new and exciting areas of practice which provoke further consideration of the textiles, art, design and Fashion issues and crossovers/meeting points in the field.

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