McMANUS Douglas (Aus)

‘Nano Hills’ – visual presentation

‘With the potential advent of molecular nanotechnology what are the potential future scenarios of textile art practice?

‘Rolling Hills’ Nano Textile Installation is a multi media body of work that explores this hypothetical question using recent developments in the emerging nano scale industry. Through my research I have experimented with current nano product, especially ‘nano wax’ and ‘colour variable pigments’ (CVP), but also with other technologies, such as luminescence (flat light) in exploring creative means of fusing new technology with more traditional methods involved in the textile design process.

"Rolling hills" is an architectonic environmental textile installation inspired by the landscape of Tasmania and Scottish cultural heritage. The idea is use printed CVP (pigments that change colour depending on angle of light reflection) and woven flatlight so the fabrics visual surface would appear to shift on the same surface by varying light source. I am attempting to do this by sequencing patterns using various angled lines to mimic a tartan surface.

By overlaying pattern in this manner, as the angle of light changes each pattern will produce a differing colour hue. The luminescence adds another dimension to shifting surface, but also creates an ambient appearance to the fabric as if it is floating above the landscape.

In collaboration with two electrical engineers in Melbourne we are exploring other conductive materials that can be overlayed on the textile surface. This multi media installation exhibits the computer based models and animations involved in realizing this project. The scale models explore differing possibilities of designing on a large scale with various and hybrid approaches to new technologies.

‘With the advent of molecular nanotechnology what are the potential future scenarios of textile art practice?

‘Rolling Hills’ Nano Textile Installation is a multi media body of work that explores this hypothetical question using hybrid approaches to new technologies including recent developments in the emerging nano scale industry.