

ROBERTSON Jennifer (Aus)

Seeking Sensorial Literacy in Cyber Space– visual presentation

To present a new body of work in triplecloth woven textiles, the outcome of a two year Australia Council Visual Arts Crafts Fellowship. The project was to explore thematic language between landscape, wool and the body. Triplecloth weaving is highly complex, woven simultaneously multi layered, it has the capacity to be three dimensional. The rich form of weaving can literally take form when it comes off the loom, allowing the body intimate interaction. By its nature, the work explores the space between craft, design, art and fashion.

The work was developed using 32 shaft, computerised and semi automated loom, itself a product of re-evaluating contemporary weaving practice. The loom was designed and built specifically to work in the space between art, craft, design, fashion, industry.



Whilst being a traditional process, weaving in the last two decades has seen substantial technological developments. The advent of new computer software for weaving has minimised manual aspects of the labour intensive act of designing and storing designs. It has opened up new ways of working, software enabling the photographic image to be woven across an entire width of cloth. This presents richer, wider creative possibilities yet the big danger is using computer technology as purely visual, graphic, to be driven by the thinking capacity and design processes of the software. This ultimately limits the capacity that it offers.

My work engages in the act of drawing on paper, using photographic research as a starting point, usurping the graphic computer visual for a tactile and handmade language. The work draws on blending traditional aesthetics and present technology, the best of past and present to create lengths of cloth which celebrate the development of a cultural language. Work has been published, exhibited and collected world wide, including Japan, UK, USA and Europe, put into production by NUNO Corporation, 2001.