

## TAYLOR Barbara (UK)

### ***arttextiles and textiles on site:***

*arttextiles3* survey of British artists referencing textile, and site specific commissioned works to be launched in Bury St Edmunds in September 2004

The presentation will document the development of these two associated projects which have been seminal in Britain in drawing out and encouraging artists to challenge and extend their practice. The presentation will explore the ways in which artists, since the first survey selection in 1995, can be seen to work less **with** textile than **through** textile. The use of textile media and techniques was prevalent amongst applicant artists in 1995. Since, there has been a development towards a situation where artists are referencing textile in increasingly diverse and sophisticated ways.

The submission from 450 artists to exhibit in *arttextiles3* reveals this trend, and we can see a significant response from fine artists who would not have considered the project previously. This exciting range of submissions has been stimulated by the choice of selectors: Sarat Maharaj, co-curator Documenta XI; Jonathan Watkins, Director, Ikon Gallery; Susan Hiller, artist, DAAD Fellow, Berlin; Sarah Quinton, Textile Museum of Canada.

`The Space Between` will be directly after the selection for *arttextiles3*, in March 2003, and the commissioned works will be well underway. Selection will be followed immediately by a seminar for invited participants (organised in partnership with Goldsmiths College, University of London) who will have access to the artists` work and debates pursued during selection. A transcription will be posted on the internet for comment between selection and the exhibition launch in September 2004. The proposed presentation will include images and reports from this seminar.

Barbara Taylor is the Director of the Bury St Edmunds Art Gallery Trust in Suffolk, England.

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