YORKSHIRE YEAR OF THE TEXTILE

CELEBRATING HERITAGE, CREATIVITY AND INNOVATION

The Yorkshire Year of the Textile programme, initiated by the Cultural Institute at the University of Leeds, is inspired by Yorkshire’s rich textile heritage and focuses on creativity, innovation and new research.

The project, funded by Arts Council England, provides a unique platform to support innovative commissioning of a number of textile and public art interventions, literary and performance strands with textiles as their theme, and events aimed at all ages and open to all.
WORKSHOPS

KNIT/LIT WORKSHOPS
Learn to finger-knit and create community knitted canopies at these free workshops* with textile artists Jane Scott and Liz Gaston, while poets reflect on memories of the textile industry and textiles in family life.

Saturday 24 September, 11am–3pm  
Skipton Auction Mart  
celebrating Yarndale

Wednesday 12 October, 12pm–4pm  
Leeds Industrial Museum at Armley Mills  
celebrating UK Wool Week

Saturday 22 October, 12pm–4pm  
Heptonstall Museum

Thursday 27 October, 2pm–5pm  
Made North, Sheffield,  
celebrating Sheffield Design Week

Wednesday 2 November, 12pm–4pm  
Nidderdale Visual Arts in Pateley Bridge

Saturday 26 November, 10.30am–1pm  
Royal Harrogate Pump Room  
celebrating the Knitting & Stitching Show

Look out for our final knit/lit in spring 2017, where we’ll be knitting with metallic threads in a chain-mail inspired workshop at the Royal Armouries.

WEAVER WORKSHOPS – CELEBRATING CARPET MAKING
These free and interactive workshops* celebrate Yorkshire’s carpet-making heritage.

NATURE’S CARPET
Harewood House  
Saturday 1 October, 11am–4pm  
Join artist Sue Lawty for a free drop-in workshop to create a ‘carpet’ made from natural and foraged materials inspired by the rare 18th century Axminster carpet in the Yellow Drawing Room of Harewood House.

MEMORIES OF OUR WOVEN PAST
Bankfield Museum  
22 February 2017, 11am–4pm  
Reflect on your own experiences of textiles, and create a woven piece inspired by Bankfield’s stunning collections relating to the history of carpet-making in this hands-on workshop.

*admission charges to venues may apply

DISPLAYS

SECRETS OF SYNTHETICS
Leeds Industrial Museum at Armley Mills  
from 20 September 2016  
A new focus in the Tailoring Gallery explores suits and ties made from synthetic fibres in the Leeds Museums and Galleries’ collection.

WEDDING DRESSES FROM THE COLLECTION
Royal Pump Room Museum, Harrogate  
15 October – 31 December 2016  
Enjoy a selection of fine wedding dresses on show from the Harrogate Costume Collection.

COLONEL EDWARD AKROYD PERMANENT DISPLAY
Bankfield Museum, Halifax  
Learn about the history of Worsted, the family business Akroyd & Son, and the life of Colonel Edward Akroyd, in this permanent display in Halifax.

www.facebook.com/YorkshireYearoftheTextile
EVENTS

THREAD, PART OF LIGHT NIGHT
Clothworkers Court, University of Leeds
Friday 7 October, 8pm, 8.50pm and 9.30pm
Thread is a synthesis of music, dance and light by SAA-uk, bringing to life Quentin Bell’s ‘Dreamer’ sculpture. Thread is inspired by the Asian workforce of the 1970s and 1980s in the region’s textile industry.

MITZI CUNLiffe: LEGACY AND REPUTATION
M&S Company Archive, University of Leeds
Wednesday 22 February, 1pm
Discover the legacy of glamorous American sculptor Mitzi Cunliffe, whose iconic designs during the 1950s included textiles, public art and the famous BAFTA award.

PUBLIC POETRY PLEASE!
Wednesday 7 December 2016, 5pm–6.30pm
This exciting evening of poetry features award-winning poets Rommi Smith, Linda France and Kate Fox, reflecting on how the Yorkshire Year of the Textile programme has inspired new work.

SONG OF CRIMPOLENE IN KINGFISHER BLUE: ARTIST CHARLOTTE CULLEN IN CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSOR ANN SUMNER
Royal Pump Room Museum, Harrogate
Thursday 1 December, 1 pm
Charlotte will explore her artistic response to a blue Crimpolene dress worn by a member of the Harrogate Choral Society in 1970 on display in the Royal Pump Room Museum.

TEXERE: SUE LAWTY IN CONVERSATION
The Stanley & Audrey Burton Gallery
University of Leeds
Wednesday 12 October, 12.45pm
Artist Sue Lawty will present her new public art commission Texere, installed in response to Mitzi Cunliffe’s Man Made Fibres and created in association with the poet Helen Mort and the sculptor Dan Jones.

MOON TWEEDS OF GUISELEY: FROM YORKSHIRE MILL TO GLOBAL BRAND
University of Leeds
Thursday 10 November, 6pm
Discover the history of design and innovation at Abraham Moon and Sons of Guiseley in the first of the Cultural Institute’s public lecture series.

TEXTILE THREADS: HOPEFUL SYNTHETICS AND PUBLIC ART
University of Leeds
Wednesday 17 November, 12pm–4pm
As part of the Being Human festival, this tour of public art includes textile-themed works, followed by a panel discussion on sustainable textiles featuring Kate Goldsworthy, whose Man Re-Made Fibres installation is the final commission in the Yorkshire Year of the Textile.

Above: Detail of the blue choir dress at Harrogate’s Royal Pump Room Museum, inspiring Song of Crimpolene, in Kingfisher Blue

www.facebook.com/YorkshireYearoftheTextile
EXHIBITIONS

THE SYNTHETICS REVOLUTION
ULITA – an archive of international textiles
University of Leeds,
until 1 December 2016
Discover the story of synthetic fibres and everyday fashion with this partnership exhibition between The Enterprise of Culture project, ULITA and the Yorkshire Fashion Archive.

CRAFTED FUTURES
Leeds Industrial Museum at Armley Mills
4 October – 28 November 2016
This exhibition featuring work by Elizabeth Gaston and Muriel Rigout innovatively reimagines William Gott’s 1815 Dyehouse Pattern Book, held in the University of Leeds’ Special Collections. There will be a History Threads panel discussion considering the history of the book on Wednesday 19 October, 12.30pm.

THE ETIQUETTE REQUIRED TO KEEP STILL
IS SIMILAR TO PLAYING DEAD
The Stanley & Burton Gallery
University of Leeds
Thursday 3 November onwards
This collaborative installation by textile artist Sarah-Joy Ford and sound artist Alex de Little responds to John Russell’s superb portraits of mill owner John Marshall and his wife Jane, accompanied by recent research into the portraits supported by Understanding British Portraits.

MIGRATIONS
Huddersfield Gallery of Art
22 October 2016 – 21 January 2017
Using multiple textiles as their vehicle, this roaming exhibition brings together a textile author with contemporary artists and designers, who all work at the intersection of cultures. Malika Booker, Cultural Fellow at the University of Leeds, will be resident poet during this exhibition.

SONG OF CRIMPOLENE IN KINGFISHER BLUE
Royal Pump Room Museum, Harrogate
19 November – 31 December
This artistic intervention explores the history of Crimpolene through a blue Choir dress from 1970, with an exhibition featuring work by artist Charlotte Cullen, and a knit/lit workshop and poetry performance by Rommi Smith on 26 November (2.30pm).

A COLOURFUL PAST
Treasures of the Brotherton Gallery
University of Leeds
in February 2017
Find out how over two centuries of dyeing expertise in Leeds was uncovered by recreating natural dyes from recipes in Gott’s Dyehouse Pattern Book, curated by Heritage Dyers Group.

www.facebook.com/YorkshireYearoftheTextile
CULTURAL INSTITUTE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Building on our rich heritage in arts and culture, and our strong foundations in research, teaching and cultural engagement, the new Cultural Institute creates a single gateway for collaborations of international excellence across arts and culture.

For the latest news and updates about Yorkshire Year of the Textile, including details of all events listed in this guide, please like us on Facebook, or email culturalinstitute@leeds.ac.uk to be added to our mailing list.

OUR PARTNERS

With thanks to Yorkshire Year of the Textile partners, funders and supporters.

AW Hainsworth
Avena Carpets
Calderdale Museums
Craven Museum & Gallery
Made North
Harewood House Trust
Harrogate Borough Council
Kirklees Council
Leeds Museums & Galleries
Royal Armouries
SAA-uk
Thackray Medical Museum
Understanding British Portraits network
University of Huddersfield
Z Hinchliffe & Sons