



Rozanne Hawksley

Main Gallery

3 to 31 August

Rozanne Hawksley is considered to be one of the most innovative leading textile artists in the UK. The fragility of the human condition and the inhumanity of war are the recurring themes in her exquisite creations.

Some images are uncomfortable, but the pathos and the beauty shine through, and you are rewarded with a deep feeling of connection with human fragility and a spirituality that pervades the work. Beautifully crafted, Rozanne's embroidered and stitched pieces sometimes combine fragments of bone, fine thread, found objects and jewels.

She studied at the Royal College in the fifties alongside artists such as Lucien Freud and Francis Bacon, and after a time in America she returned and did a post grad course and later taught at Goldsmiths College in the seventies. Since then she has exhibited internationally although not truly recognised until her fifties. Her contribution to the well-known exhibition *Subversive Stitch* is seen as seminal and she became acclaimed and her work sought after from this time.

Her touring exhibition entitled *Offerings* from Ruthin Gallery was shown in The Mission Gallery in Swansea in 2010 and a superb book accompanied this exhibition which details the history and the influences that have informed her art, from her youth in Portsmouth, where her grandmother sewed sailors collars and where the horrors of war made an impact on her, to the present conflicts that create so much grief and heartache. One of her most famous pieces *Pale Armistice*, a white wreath made of gloves, bleached bones and artificial flowers, is in the collection of The Imperial War Museum and has become totemic of the death toll of the First World War. She has been invited to exhibit there again later this year.

Also on exhibition at Oriel Q, amongst some moving installation pieces, are a selection of drawings and haunting self-portraits that are a reflection of this artist's sensitivity and her awareness of the frail condition of humankind.

Welsh

Oriel Fach

Enjoy a chance to relax and view a video of Rozanne talking about her work, and in conversation with Professor Tony Curtis

Stairs

Photographs by Marlene Wareham



- view -

Main gallery 3D area

Ceramics and jewellery by students and established artists



Pax
2008



Get thee to a nunnery
2006



Our Lady of the Seven Sorrows
2000-2002



Caiphaz, death of nature
2007



We Jolly Sailor Boys Remembering
2003

Contact

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Here is a response to Rozanne's work from one of the visitors to the exhibition.

I would not have such fame
for all that fate has dealt her,
The bones so fine, the thread so taut
heavy chains that bind a book on nails.

Lace that ties that bird crushed flat
dredged up from some distant trauma,
I would not see the things that she has felt
for fear such Art might be predictive.

To hell with formality, screw that crushed
sparrow to hold a glove upon a shard,
To hell with sonnet and classic line
no papal chant, could sustain this angst.

These scraps tell all who can see
no blood yet spilt on any shroud,
not formal, these relics are all hers
the scream the louder for its silence.

Still, no word, concise, no sound
what new Sculpture is here unbound.

Gheonars.