

RICHARD MCVETIS: Shaped by Time

5th April - 30th July 2022

Crafts Study Centre, Farnham, Surrey



The Crafts Study Centre is delighted to announce the first solo show of British textile artist Richard McVetis, curated by Director of the International Textile Research Centre Professor Lesley Miller. The exhibition will feature works from over the last ten years of McVetis's career, including two- and three-dimensional textiles. At the centre of this exhibition will be a new configuration of his installation 'Variations of a Stitched Cube', shortlisted for the 2018 Loewe Craft Prize, that examines the systems in which we measure time.

For over a decade, McVetis has had a preoccupation with the repetitive nature of a process, exploring the subtle differences that emerge through ritualistic and habitual making, and intrinsic to this practice, is hand embroidery. His process is labour intensive, and the inscribed stitches mark the rhythms of the hand, a delicate performance of obsessive intricacy, refinement, and physical activity. Meticulously drawn and stitched, McVetis records and maps time and space through multiples of dots, lines, and crosses, visualising and making time

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tactile and tangible. They record human presence, time and decay, each stitch or line acting as a marker for lived time, an embodiment of thought and patience. The exhibition comes together to form a visual portrait of the artist, a meditation on process shaped by time.

McVetis is interested in how a process and stitch can reveal a world seen from within, from a scale that can tell us much more about ourselves and about our relationship to time and space. Jordana Martin, the editor of the online journal, Tatter, writes, 'McVetis finds this (stitch) an apt metaphor for human life. What we present to the world, the front of the embroidery, is curated and tidy. A persistent collection of careful footsteps. A map of where we have been. As our marks dive back down to the underworld, we find the more complicated, breathing, connective tissue. A dense chaos, partnered to the intentional front, vital to its success.'

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ABOUT THE ARTIST

Richard McVetis graduated in Constructed Textiles from the Royal College of Art in 2008. Since completing his BA in Embroidery at Manchester Metropolitan University in 2005, he has been short-listed for several distinguished prizes, including the Jerwood Drawing Prize, UK, 2011 and 2017; and the international Loewe Craft Prize, 2018. In addition, McVetis has shown work nationally and internationally at several exhibitions, including The British Textile Biennial, Rossendale, UK, 2021; RENEW at Kettles Yard, UK, 2019; Loewe Craft Prize, The Design Museum, London, UK, 2018; Collect Open, Saatchi Gallery, UK, 2017; 'Form + Motion' – a major exhibition with British Council and Crafts Council for the Cheongju Craft Biennale, South Korea, 2017. Recent collaborations include commissions for fashion and lifestyle brands COS and TOAST.

ABOUT THE CRAFTS STUDY CENTRE

The Crafts Study Centre is a specialist university museum open to the public as well as a research centre and home to internationally renowned collections of modern British craft.

The Crafts Study Centre's acclaimed collections include modern and contemporary calligraphy, ceramics, textiles, furniture and wood as well as diaries, working notes and photographs of makers of the 20th and 21st centuries.

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NOTES FOR THE EDITOR

Exhibition:

Richard McVetis: Shaped by Time

Exhibition dates:

5th April – 30th July 2022

Venue:

Crafts Study Centre
University for the Creative Arts
Falkner Road
Farnham
Surrey
GU9 7DS

Opening times:

Tuesday to Friday 10am - 5pm, Saturday 10am - 4pm, Sunday and Bank Holidays - closed

<https://www.csc.uca.ac.uk>

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