

PRESS RELEASE

the BRITISH TAPESTRY group SOUTH EAST



The launch of a unique gallery with a unique exhibition

April 6th – 15th 2012, Mill House Gallery, Angmering, Sussex

A magnificent new gallery space is opening for the first time to the public on the South Downs in Sussex. To launch the gallery a rare and unique exhibition of contemporary Tapestry Weaving by the members of the renowned South East British Tapestry Group will be held.

Contemporary tapestry weaving is an exciting art form sharing all the vibrancy and richness of more mainstream fine art media and yet exhibitions devoted to this media are not often held. Sussex has a long history associated with Tapestry Weaving and a large population of Tapestry artists who are members of the British Tapestry Group. For 10 days in April visitors to the newly refurbished Mill House Gallery, set in a stunning hill top location, can experience a wide range of works on the theme of IDENTITY and meet the artists who have created them.

Contemporary tapestry is one of the most effective art media to enhance and display colour and texture. These are prominently displayed in the exhibits.

Facilities at the Mill House Gallery during this event include refreshments, a shop selling weaving yarn and paraphernalia provided by weaversbazaar and demonstrations of Tapestry Weaving. Exhibits will be available for sale as well as small samples of woven work by the artists.

For invitations to the private viewing sponsored by weaversbazaar on April 5th 5.00pm to 7.00pm please contact Jane Brunning – details below.

Please note that due to the unusual nature of the Gallery there is limited access for wheelchairs (ground floor only) and visitors should note that several floors of exhibits will be accessible by stairs only.

About the Mill House Gallery:

Owned by Margaret and her husband Ranjit the mill was built in the 1820's and was a working mill until the early 1870's when it lost its cap and sweeps in a storm. The mill was in bad state when they moved into the Mill House in 2002, and they began the renovation by

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waterproofing the outside, replacing the cap modelled on the only photograph available of the original working mill, and finally restoring the inside. The exhibition space simply designed itself after the renovation! With stairs that hug the walls the mill has five floors, each floor getting progressively smaller as you ascend the tower. The top floor is very small but is a beautiful space with a high domed ceiling. Margaret says "I was delighted when the BTG SE group came to see the mill and were excited by the quiriness of the space, and wanted to use it in April for our first exhibition It will be fun to welcome people to enjoy the weavings and the space".

Mill House Gallery, Ecclesden Lane, Angmering, West Sussex, BN16 4DQ

Contact Margaret Appa on 01903 784413

About the South East British Tapestry Group:

The British Tapestry Group (BTG) promotes and explores the concept of woven tapestry as a contemporary art form. By raising public awareness through its exhibitions and regional activities, the BTG showcases the combination of craftsmanship and artistic inspiration which is translated into woven works.

The British Tapestry Group welcomes professional UK and international tapestry weavers as well as supporting those who are starting on their weaving journey. More information on the British Tapestry Group can be found at www.thebritishtapestrygroup.co.uk

About Tapestry Weaving:

Tapestry weaving is an ancient art form that has been practised continually since early history. It has continued to evolve into the computer age of the 21st century. It is slow art in a fast-paced society. Technical ability is combined with artistic inspiration to produce unique insights that are translated into woven works. The contemporary tapestries in this exhibition respect the traditions and techniques of the past but push the boundaries to create woven art that is of our time, addressing issues of identity in thought provoking, challenging or quietly poetic works. Materials and process are important, with artists utilising the textural and reflective qualities of a range of materials including wool, silk, linen, cotton, paper, nettle and found objects.

About weaversbazaar:

weaversbazaar came out of a shared passion for contemporary tapestry weaving. After much research and exhaustive searches for UK suppliers of high-twist worsted wool yarn and UK precision dyers weaversbazaar was launched!

Over the last 2 years the products and services we offer have grown in popularity: our original range of six colours have grown to 56 in three weights as well as other fibres and weaving tools and kits Our mission is that weaversbazaar becomes the place to find quality weaving yarns and a reliable, personalised service. Beyond this we are both committed to

finding ways to facilitate the growth of tapestry weaving as a contemporary art form. So as a Sussex-based business we are delighted to be able to support the IDENTITY exhibition of contemporary Tapestry in this stunning new gallery.

Lin Squires & Matty Smith www.weaversbazaar.com



Further information for editors:

IDENTITY - An Exhibition of Tapestry Weaving

April 6th – 15th 2012 Mill House Gallery, Ecclesden Lane, Angmering, West Sussex, BN16 4DQ

Opening Times

April 6th & 13th 11.00am to 7.00pm

All other days 11.00am to 4.30pm

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