

Fashion & Textiles: Innovation in Sustainability

LCB Depot's exhibition & events programme highlights work from a different creative industry every month. In April 2020 the focus is on fashion and textiles.

Artists and designers from across the country including those based in Leicester and at De Montfort University will explore sustainable practices from bespoke tailoring of long lasting garments to innovative new materials.

To find out more visit lcbdepot.co.uk/event/fashion-2020

#sustainablefashion @lcbdepot

FASHION & TEXTILES: INNOVATION IN SUSTAINABILITY ANGHARAD MCLAREN - DARN STYLISH		
<p>Materials: L: woollen womenswear garment, wool/nylon blend darning yarn. R: woollen menswear garment, wool/nylon blend darning yarn & lurex thread.</p> 	 	 
<p>Angharad is a craft-based textile designer & researcher, whose practice considers the role fashion and textile designers can play in enabling solutions that support consumers to extend the life of clothing.</p> <p>By taking time out to darn and repair we can begin to appreciate the value of slowing down, build better connections with our belongings and reflect on the changes we can make to move towards a more sustainable fashion future.</p> <p>Instagram: @angharadmclaren Twitter: @anghym</p>	<p>Extending the useful life of clothes has been identified as the most significant intervention in reducing the impact of the clothing industry, but many barriers prevent consumers from performing even the most basic of repairs.</p> <p>Mass-produced 'fast fashion' has changed our relationship with clothing – cheap and easy to acquire, we are unlikely to take time to undertake simple repairs or address issues of maintenance, often caused or exacerbated by poor construction and low quality materials.</p> <p>Website: www.angharadmclaren.co.uk</p>	<p>Darning is a technique for repairing damaged or worn fabrics, in these cases by weaving stitched threads across the surface and creating a new layer of woven material that is embedded into the original fibres.</p> <p>These darned garments were created in response to research revealing the negative perceptions of visible repair; they explore decorative darning techniques as an attempt to reframe mending as a badge of honour that adds value through design and communicates the importance of caring for our clothes.</p>

Darn Stylish

Angharad McLaren

Centre: woollen womenswear garment, wool / nylon blend darning yarn. Right: woollen menswear garment, wool / nylon blend darning yarn & lurex thread.

Mass-produced 'fast fashion' has changed our relationship with clothing – cheap and easy to acquire, we are unlikely to take time to undertake simple repairs or address issues of maintenance, often caused or exacerbated by poor construction and low quality materials. Extending the useful life of clothes has been identified as the most significant intervention in reducing the impact of the clothing industry, but many barriers prevent consumers from performing even the most basic of repairs. Darning is a technique for repairing damaged or worn fabrics, in these cases by weaving stitched threads across the surface and creating a new layer of woven material that is embedded into the original fibres. These darned garments were created in response to research revealing the negative perceptions of visible repair: they explore decorative darning techniques as an attempt to reframe mending as a badge of honour that adds value through design and communicates the importance of caring for our clothes. By taking time out to darn and repair we can begin to appreciate the value of slowing down, build better connections with our belongings and reflect on the changes we can make to move towards a more sustainable fashion future.

Artist Bio

Angharad McLaren is a craft-based textile designer and researcher, whose practice considers the role fashion and textile designers can play in enabling solutions that support consumers to extend the life of clothing.

@anghym / @angharadmclaren

Decorative Darning Workshop

FASHION & TEXTILES: INNOVATION IN SUSTAINABILITY INTRODUCTION TO DECORATIVE DARNING

Textiles designer Angharad McLaren will be hosting a darning workshop in Leicester - date TBA soon.

Learn darning techniques to extend the life of your loved garment!
Contact @k_west_design to register your interest.



Angharad McLaren will share examples of her own decorative darning, inspirations and knowledge from her sustainable clothing research.

Once an essential skill to keep clothes in use for longer, darning now represents the antithesis of fast fashion and using 'slow' craft-based techniques to mend your clothes shows a commitment to pushing back against excesses of production and consumption.

Workshop is suitable for knitted or woven garments with small holes, ladders, tears or worn areas.

For further information and to register your interest in the Introduction to Decorative Darning Workshop with Angharad McLaren, please contact Katherine West on kw@madebykatherinewest or Instagram [@k_west_design](https://www.instagram.com/k_west_design)