**FIONA RUTHERFORD**

Fiona Rutherford’stapestries are about the emotional impact of colour, creating an immediate sense of energy through a vivid but limited colour palate. She is fascinated by the intimacy of weaving and storytelling, bringing together the past and present to create something new and still unfolding. Highly narrative, her work references people, music words and events that are woven into the fabric. The imagery is a careful balance of patterns, symbols and mark making.

Japanese art and textiles have been a major influence on Rutherford’s work over the past decade and in particular the visual aesthetics of space. Woven strips, based on the obi or kimono sash, became a vehicle for randomly connected imagery suggesting the border of a larger unseen design. These strips could be hung vertically or horizontally in different locations to create a completely different visual effect. Fiona likes to see her work as something constantly evolving into new areas.

**Born** 1953, India

**Education**

1974 BA Hons. General Arts, University of Newcastle upon Tyne

**Awards**

2012 Arts Council Travel Award, Japan

2008 Arts Council/Prospect Travel Award, Australia

2005 Arts Council Research Award, Japan

2003 Arts Council Touring Exhibition Award

2002 Northern Arts Mentoring Scheme

2001 Crafts Council, British Crafts in Japan

1999 Northern Arts, Visual Arts Award

1996 Visual Arts Initiatives

**Selected Exhibitions**

2016 Here and Now: International Tapestry, NCCD, Sleaford

Converge, Visual Arts Scotland, RSA, Edinburgh

2015 New Year Showcase, CAA, London

2013 Small Talk, The 62 Group, Goldsmiths University, London

2012 Ori-Rhythm II, Kyoto Art Center, Kyoto, Japan

62@50, The 62 Group, Holden Gallery, Manchester

2011 COLLECT, Saatchi Gallery, London

Blue, Flow Gallery, London

2010 SOFA New York (Represented by CAA, London)

Bending More Lines, The 62 Group, Rijswijk Museum, Holland

2009 10N/10S La Cite du Design, St. Etienne, France

2008 The Fine Art of Tapestry Weaving, ANU Canberra

Tapestry 08, Bankfield Museum, Halifax

Spectrum, Contemporary Applied Arts Gallery, London

2007 COLLECT, International Art at the V&A, London

2006 The Red Thread, Solo touring exhibition, UK

Penelope’s Thread, Contemporary Tapestry, Victoria & Albert Museum, London

**Selected Publications**

2015 Selvedge magazine, studio feature

2014 Scotland on Sunday, At Home feature

2012 Radical Thread, The 62 Group 1962-2012

American Tapestry Alliance. ‘Following a thread’

2010 British Textiles 1700 to the Present, V&A publications

2009 BBC Radio 4. Woman’s Hour, Knitted Lives

2009 CRAFTS on line, Design Exchange Review

2008 The Fine Art of Tapestry Weaving, ANU School of Art Canberra

2008 American Tapestry Alliance, Review of ‘Different Perspectives’

2008 CRAFTS magazine, Collector

**Collections**

Victoria & Albert Museum, London

Elegan Kobe, Japan

Arts Council England, North East

Paintings in Hospitals, London

Land Securities Trust, London

The Shire Hall Gallery, Stafford