

EDITORS BIOGRAPHIES

SALLY WADE

Professor Sally Wade is Director of Sheffield Institute of Arts at Sheffield Hallam University. Prior to her current role Sally has gained extensive experience in the sector both in the leadership of art and design education and academic development. Sally has made a significant contribution to the development of the Association for Fashion & Textile Courses (FTC) since becoming a member in 1993. She acted as Secretary for a number of years before being elected as Chair in 2008, during which time she has been instrumental in the development of the conference programme for the association, the most recent of which has provided the material for this latest book.

Sally is Chair for the Group for Leaning in Art & Design (GLAD) promoting the development of learning and teaching in higher education. Other activities include external examining, subject review and peer review for the journals Art, Design & Communication in Higher Education and Higher Education Review.



KERRY WALTON

Kerry is currently Programme Co-ordinator for Textiles: Innovation and Design, School of the Arts, Loughborough University. She has had several roles in the department including Post Graduate Research Student co-ordinator, and Programme Leader for the MA Art & Design (Studio Practice).

Trained as a weaver Kerry is principally interested in textile design, construction and associated processes. Current research is based around exploration of the relationships between drawing and textiles, both within her own practice and also concerning the relevance of these issues to a contemporary Textiles education.

Practice led research has developed in a number of directions, with a particular interest in non-traditional approaches, using heat and laser applications. Her interest in applying this research to an industrial context led to a project with Heritage Cashmere funded by a Materials and Design Exchange Spark award, looking at laser applications for natural fibre textiles.

In collaboration with the Textiles Research Group she was involved with developing the Lasers and Creativity symposium held at Loughborough in November 2009, and the Textiles Research in Process symposium, 2011.

Drawing has always played an important part in the development of Kerry's design work, and as a member of the Drawing Research Group she been involved in a number of drawing related activities exhibiting drawing work in the United States and in the UK.

For the past 6 years Kerry has been Secretary to the FTC Subject Association of Courses in Fashion and Textile Design and is a member of its steering group.

DR HELENA RRITT

Helena is a lecturer in the Department of Fashion and Textiles at The Glasgow School of Art (GSA). Responsibilities include undergraduate pathway coordination, facilitating printed textiles learning and teaching, research representation for fashion and textiles and the Centre for Advanced Textiles.

Areas of research activity include the impact of digital technologies on printed textiles; textile design research, practice, scholarship and teaching linkages; utilisation of archive resources by creative practitioners. Current research focuses on the Stoddard Design Library, held by GSA, a unique resource amassed between 1845-2005, used by Stoddard Templeton carpet designers to inspire and aid the design process. The project examines the workings of the Stoddard Templeton Design Studio and how the Design Library was utilised, through analysis of archival material and interviews, culminating in an exhibition in the Mackintosh Museum (November 2013 – January 2014).

Doctoral research used self-case study, survey and interview methods to elicit the multifarious nature of the contemporary textile designer educator role existent in the UK HE sector, specifically in relation to utilisation of digital technology. The critical importance for textile designer educators to undertake creative practice was evidenced, due to the positive benefits attributed to engagement in this activity. Helena has worked as a textile designer on a freelance and commission basis. Collections of interior textiles and products have been exhibited and sold to interior designers, architects and through retailers.

As an FTC Steering Group member, Helena is involved in various Association activities; she also represents GSA on the Scottish Textile Academic Group.