

Ismini Samanidou

On Friday 1st March at 4.15 pm Ismini will give a Booth Talk on our stand, First Floor 6.4. In 2014 Ismini spent three months at the Josef and Anni Albers Foundation as their first ever weaving artist-in-residence, where she had unprecedented access to the archive of Anni Albers' work and writings. During her residency Ismini restored three of Albers' looms, one of which was shown at Tate Modern's major retrospective, along with a film of her weaving on it. Her time at the Foundation inspired a new stage in her own practice of experimental work in drawing, photography and hand weaving. In this talk, Ismini will discuss the methods, approaches and processes involved in her work as a weaver working across art, design, making and teaching and how Anni Albers continues to inspire her practice today.

Ismini Samanidou was born in Athens and studied in London at Central Saint Martin's College of Art & Design and the Royal College of Art between 1996 and 2003. Working with photography, drawing and weaving, her portfolio includes work developed for exhibitions, commissions and industry in both small-scale work and extensive installations. Ismini's practice crosses the boundaries of art and design, using both digital technologies and traditional craft techniques to explore how materials can articulate narratives and space. She is interested in the way that textiles cross cultural and political boundaries whilst sharing a common autonomous language of making across the world. Her work is in the collection of V&A, London and has been shown at *Collect* by Petronilla Silver three times.

Selected Exhibitions

- 2019 *Collect* at The Saatchi Gallery, represented by Petronilla Silver, London, UK
- Assemble*: Collyer Bristow Gallery, London
- +9, Kerameikos, Athens
- The Garden of Eden*, Haslach, Austria
- 2018 *The most real thing*: New Art Centre, Roche Court, Salisbury
- Perspective*, curated by Petronilla Silver at 8 Holland Street, London
- You can go anywhere from anywhere*: Project 78, St Leonards On Sea
- 2016 *Weaving and We*: Hangzhou Triennial of Fiber Art, Zhejiang Art Museum, China
- 2014 - 2015 *Les Fils Des Possibles*: Espace De L'Art Concret, Mouans Sartoux, France
- Collect* at The Saatchi Gallery, represented by the Petronilla Silver, London
- 2013 *Topography*: the Elisabeth Shaw Gallery, Utah, USA (Solo)

- Topography*: The Center for Craft Creativity and Design, North Carolina, USA (Solo)
- Collect* at The Saatchi Gallery, represented by the Wills Lane Gallery, London
- Sound Matters*: touring show, UK
- Mark-ing: Libby Sellers Gallery, London
- 2012 *Topography*: The Crafts Study Centre, Farnham (Solo)
- Collect* at The Saatchi Gallery, represented by the The Wills Lane Gallery, St Ives, Cornwall
- 2011 *Craft Code 001* – New Ways of Making, The Wills Lane Gallery, St Ives, Cornwall
- Texmedin Design Challenge*: exhibition of winning textiles in France, Italy, Spain and Greece
- Mark-ing*: exhibition of British Design as part of the Tokyo Design Festival, Japan
- Les Vent Fresh*: Shukuko Voss Tabe, Paris, France
- 2010 *The 13th International Triennial of Tapestry*, Lodz, Poland
One of 4 textile artists selected to represent the UK
- The Warp and the Weft*, Wales
- Binary Fiction: Digital Weaving* 2010, Nebraska, USA (exhibition and conference)
- 2009 *Jerwood Contemporary Makers Exhibition*, Jerwood Space London, Dovecot Edinburgh
- JacquArt*, (exhibition and ETN conference) Haslach, Austria
- Inspired Design, Jacquard and Entrepreneurial Textiles, N Carolina, USA (Touring exhibition and conference)
- 2009 - 17 Exhibited by Petronilla Silver at Wills Lane Gallery, St Ives and at Cape Cornwall, Cornwall
- 2008 *Making it Digital*, showcase during Hidden Art Open Studios, London
- Curated*, Hidden Art Cornwall Design Fair at Godolphin House, Cornwall
- Stroud Textile Water Festival, Stroud, Gloucestershire

- 2007 *I love Design with Fuse*, at Partridge Fine Art gallery in Mayfair, London
- Curated, Hidden Art Cornwall Design Fair* at Godolphin House, Cornwall
- Autonomic* at Metropolitan Works, London
- Collect* at the V&A Museum, represented by the Lesley Craze Gallery, London
- 2007 - 17 Exhibited by Petronilla Silver at Wills Lane Gallery, St Ives and at Cape Cornwall, Cornwall
- 2006 *Curated, Hidden Art Cornwall Design Fair* at Godolphin House, Cornwall
- Salone Satellite*, Milan Furniture Fair, Italy
- Collect* at the V&A Museum, represented by the Lesley Craze Gallery, London
- 2005 Shine at Black Swan Arts, Somerset
- Kaunas Textile Biennial, Kaunas, Lithuania
- 100% Design*, Decorex International, London
- Visions in Textiles*, Izmir, Turkey
- Designer Crafts* Exhibition, the Mall Galleries, London
- 2004 Chelsea Crafts Fair, Chelsea Town Hall, London
- The Highland Craft Exhibition, Scotland
- 2003 The Revenge of the Spider Solo Installation in the enamel factory in Kea, Greece

Public Collections

- The Worshipful Company of Weavers
- Permanent textile collection at the Victoria and Albert Museum
- Central Saint Martins Archive Collection
- National Grid Transco Collection

Commissions

- 2017 - 2018 The Post Building: working collaboratively with Allford Hall
Monaghan Morris architects on the development of large-scale textile surfaces for the reception area, London
- 2016 Rathbones: Site specific pieces for the main reception area, London
- 2015 Fulham Wharf: Site specific pieces for the main reception area, London
- 2014 National Theatre textile commission: Site specific pieces for the new mezzanine restaurant
- 2013 Sound Matters: commissioned by the Crafts Council to work with sound artist Scanner to develop new works for a touring exhibition exploring sound and making
- 2009 Jerwood Contemporary Makers Award: Commissioned by the Jerwood to develop Timeline, a site-specific large-scale installation. Awarded funding from Grants for the Arts supported by Arts Council England
- 2007 Histories at Godolphin House: Commissioned by the Crafts Council to create site specific works for Godolphin House, Cornwall
- 2006 Allen & Overy: Site specific pieces for a new Norman Foster office building, London
- 2004 The Worshipful Company of Weavers Wall Hanging Commission, permanent V&A Textile Collection

Residencies

- 2016 Weaving Futures: London Transport Museum Textile Residency (invited)
- 2014 Josef and Anni Albers Foundation: artist in Residence (invited), Connecticut, USA. Supported by the Arts Council Grants for the Arts, the Worshipful Company of Weavers, the Whitworth Art Gallery.
- 2012 Place Making: a residency pairing makers and architects at the Historic Dockyards in Chatham, Kent. Run by the Crafts Council and the Kent Architecture Centre
- 2009 - 2010 British Council residency in Bangladesh: Invited to travel to Bangladesh and work within University and Industry environments on a cultural exchange program.

Awards

- 2006 The Crafts Council Development Award

The John Dunsmore Scholarship: Research scholarship to look at different craft techniques and cottage industries in Sarawak, Malaysia

2002 George Spencer scholarship: working with the Mitchell Denburg textile mill in Antigua, Guatemala

Consultancy Work

2003 - present Chris Farr Cloth, Oyuna, Calvin Klein, DKNY, Marks & Spencer, George Spencer Designs