



Charlotte Hodes

Title: Promenade

Medium: digital drawing on cloth

Dimension: 90 x 200 cm

Date: 2010

Statement

The use of the working methodology of collage is evident in 'Promenade' where through the computer, languages of hand drawn, 'cut' and 'paste' and scanned images are brought together in the same space. The drawing is intentionally linear and stark allowing for the negative spaces between the figures to play a role as interval in the drawing.

The composition brings together a number of approaches of representing the female figure. It reads from left to right suggesting a promenade or frieze which in turn suggests the manner in which figures are depicted on Greek vases. Alongside these figures, templates of skirts, as used in pattern cutting, are intertwined.

These templates propose a further way in which a three dimensional form is represented in a graphic form. The source of these templates are the early twentieth century pattern books held at the LCF library archive.

Biography

Charlotte Hodes is a painter whose current practice takes the form of large scale papercuts (digitally collaged and intricately hand cut) as well as ornately decorated ceramic forms. Her subject matter is the female figure juxtaposed with alternative historical representations enveloped by pattern, drapery and contemporary motifs.

Drawing is central to her practice as a thinking process through which she builds an 'archive' of usable visual imagery, both hand drawn and digital. With the collaged work, the cut line of the scalpel blade is an equivalent to the line of the pencil.

Many of her visual sources are drawn from museum collections and archives including; the ceramic factory Spode during artist placements 1998-2004 where she worked from their archive of engravings; the Wallace Collection London where as Associate Artist in 2005-2007 she drew inspiration from eighteenth century French paintings and porcelain and more recently the archive library at London College of Fashion where she has researched the paper pattern diagrams.

Winner of the prestigious Jerwood Drawing Prize in 2006, Hodes' solo exhibitions include Fragmented Images Wallace Collection London 2007, Drawing Skirts University Gallery, Northumbria 2008 and Silhouettes and Filigree Marlborough Fine Art 2009. She is Senior Research Fellow in Drawing at London College of Fashion, University of the Arts London.

<http://www.fashion.arts.ac.uk/lcf-research.htm>

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