



Françoise Dupré: étoile (star)

3 August - 2 September 2012



The Gallery @ Idea Store Whitechapel presents an exhibition by Françoise Dupré. The artist brings together aspects of craft and fine art in installations which celebrate the potential of everyday materials.

Elements of sculpture, crafts and design are all present in Dupré's hybrid creations. Her work uses techniques such as stitching and looping to transform the apparently mundane into exuberant and hedonistic objects and installations.

The artist often collaborates with different communities in participatory projects where the heritage and skills of the participants are integral to the result.

For this exhibition, Dupré is presenting 'étoile (star)' (2007-2012), an existing installation which has been adapted to suit the dimensions of the gallery wall. Typical in its fusion of traditional techniques and an eclectic range of materials - including woven and printed polythene from carrier bags, pieces from a PVC tablecloth and acrylic mirror discs, amongst others - the installation alludes to a variety of influences, such as floral and geometric patterns and ornate ironwork.

Dupré will also adorn some of the gallery's concrete columns with a version of 'crafting', an ongoing installation which has been adapted for the space. Plastic bottle tops, elastic cord, lycra fabric, plastic rings, threads and webbing are amongst the materials used to create enticing clusters of colour around the columns, hanging just beyond reach.

Françoise Dupré was born in France and lives in London. She is Senior Lecturer in Fine Art at Birmingham City University and has recently completed a commission for Vital Arts at the Antenatal Department, Royal London Hospital. Dupré will have a solo show at La Vitrine, Paris, later this year. Recent solo exhibitions include 'autre mers' (other seas), Women's Library, London Metropolitan University (2011); 'Spirals', Lion Brand Yarn Studio, New York (2011). Recent group exhibitions include 'States of Being: Constructing Identities', 198 Contemporary Arts and Learning, London (2012); 'Mailles', Maison du Danemark, Paris (2011).