



Fairhurst

*DIS*locations

An exhibition of paper art and installation by

JONI SMITH

17th October - 18th November, 2017



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Fairhurst Gallery is thrilled to present the work of Joni Smith, a highly skilful paper and installation artist. Manipulating fragments of maps and atlases, Joni cuts and twists them to create exquisitely intricate artworks. Some of the pieces are constructed from hundreds of paper squares. A combination of darts and twists enable the artworks to be reconnected without glue or tape.

Based in Norwich, Joni completed her masters in 'Textile Culture' at NUA in 2007. In 2015 she cycled 7500 km from Norwich to Croatia and back. "We used a combination of GPS and paper maps to find our way through 14 EU countries; sometimes we had no map at all. We enjoyed a kind of slow travel, where one landscape would seamlessly merge into another." With borders and divisions at the forefront of our thoughts in the current political climate Joni's work is particularly relevant today. She also asks her viewers to re-evaluate our positions as we enter a new technological era, where the idea of a 'map' is being reworked, and renovated into portable, downloadable GPS systems which tell us the route we should be navigating.

Before assembling the works, Joni devises a set of rules to follow and from then on she becomes machine-like in her adherence to them. Through this labour intensive process, as each piece takes shape it is clear to see one world breaking down as another parallel one emerges.

The exhibition will include a site-specific installation, constructed from paper and thread. This will be Joni's first use of machine-cut materials, alongside hand-cut, raising questions of working collectively as a society as well as individually with the intent to reach peaceful solutions.

We are also excited to present a new series of circular 'Colour Studies'. These beautifully executed drawings are based on Joni's 3-dimensional cut and twisted works. A signed, limited edition digital print (pictured) will be available exclusively in the Fairhurst Gallery shop .

For sales & press enquiries please contact:
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Opening Hours: Tuesday - Saturday
9:30 - 17:30
or by appointment

Fairhurst Gallery, Websdales Court, Bedford St, Norwich, NR2 1AR