



CECILIA HEFFER

Petite: Antique Lace

2012 | *Petite Miniature Textiles Exhibition, Wangaratta Regional Gallery, Victoria*

Antique Lace is a series of three lace works that explore notions of the role of mending and reuse in textile history. The idea of ‘making do’ and reconstituting existing textiles resonates with the Slow Design movement current in design practice. The works have been reconstructed from antique lace remnants in a unique machine stitching process. The suite was selected for the *Petite Miniature Textiles Exhibition*, Wangaratta Regional Gallery, 16 June - 22 July 2012, a substantial biennial event that showcases the diversity of approaches current in contemporary Australian textile practice. 118 artists were represented.

Image detail

Antique Lace has been taken apart and reconfigured using a machine stitching technique on a soluble substrate. The repetitive stitching process creates ground netting that holds the shredded lace fragments together and creates a new cloth. The technique demonstrates the potential for a possible solution for up-cycling cloth and has applications for sustainable approaches to the problem of fabric waste. It is a response to a throw away culture. In mending and reusing antique lace it pays homage to the cultural value of historical lace production and the merit of textile conservation, as well as the cultural history, value and esteem of textiles in the past.

The work was selected for the *Petite Miniature Textiles Exhibition*, Wangaratta Regional Gallery through a peer review process. Subsequently, three works were acquired for the Gallery’s collection.

CECILIA HEFFER
Petite: Antique Lace

Image detail



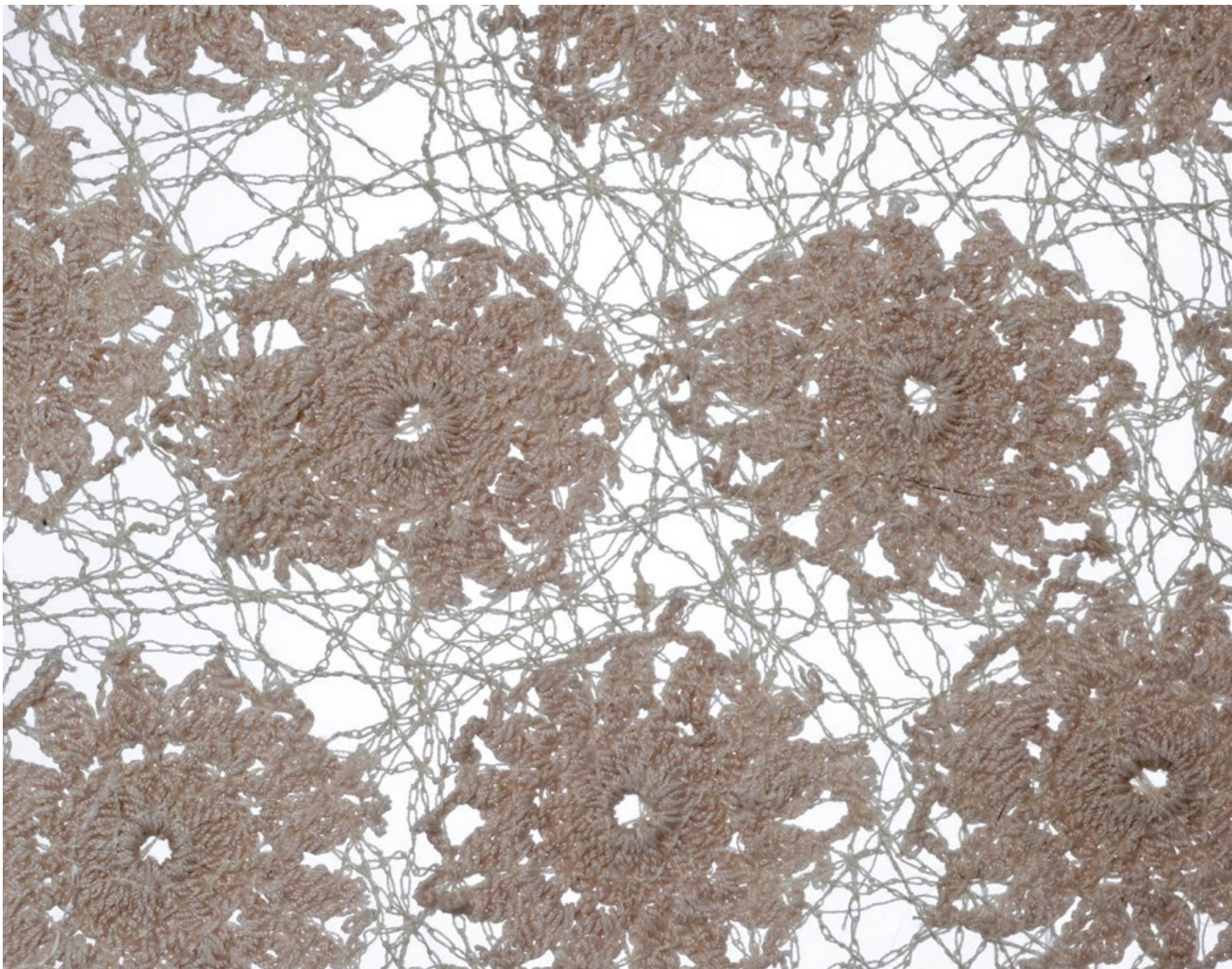
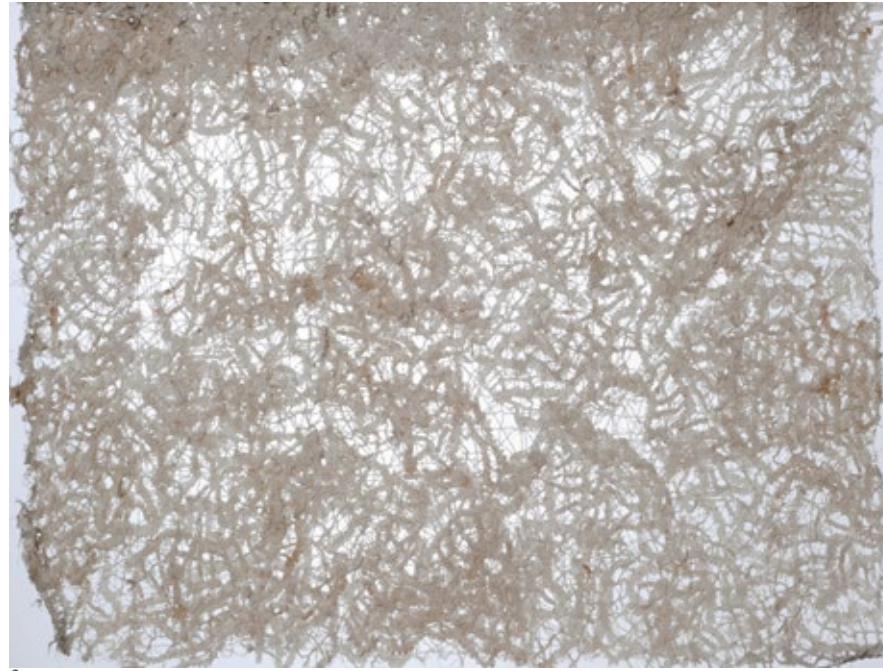


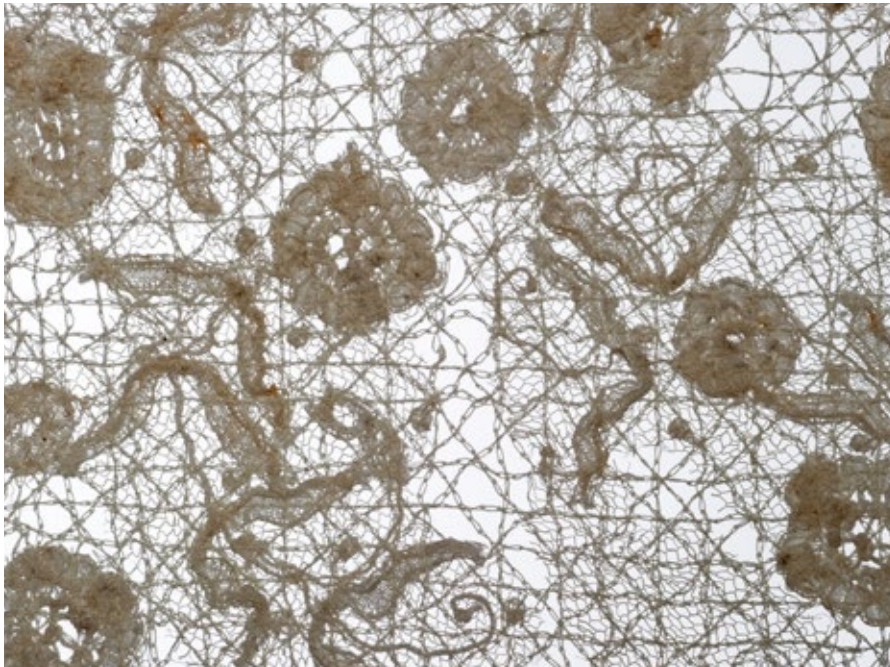
Image detail



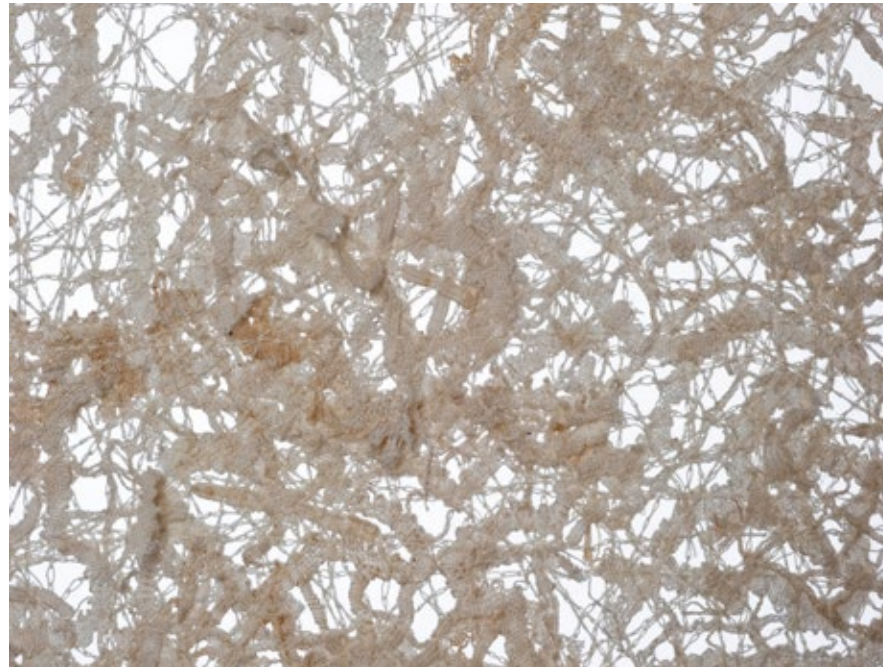
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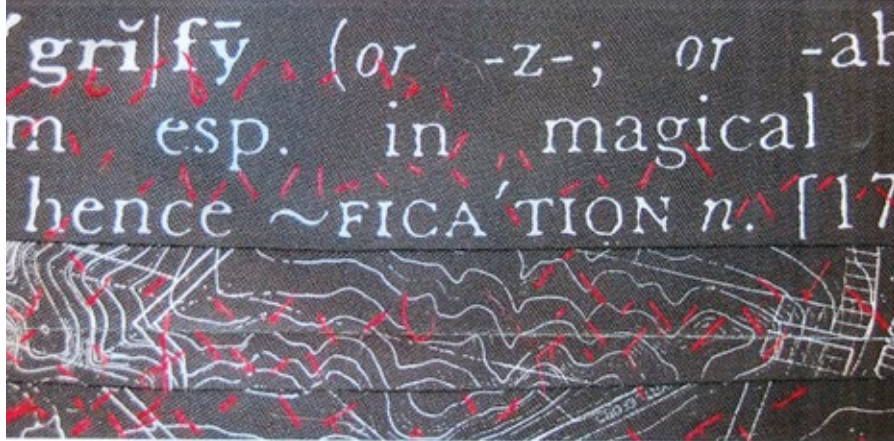
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1-4. Image detail

artists working in textile and fibre
are invited to submit proposals
for artwork to be included
in the exhibition

petite

miniature textiles



to be shown @

Wangaratta Art Gallery

16 June - 22 July 2012

more details overleaf...

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Petite miniature textiles exhibition

Posted: 18/06/2012

Wangaratta Art Gallery 16 June – 22 July 2012

138 works by 118 artists from across the country have been selected for the current exhibition which showcases the diversity of approach in textile artistry. Everything from tapestry weaving, lace, sculpture, applique, assemblage, embroidery, felting, basketry and dyeing are used to create works that are not only decorative but often tackle deep and meaningful themes and ideas. The only stipulation is the size which is limited to a maximum of 30cm in any direction.

The beauty of the landscape and the fragile nature of our environment provide inspiration for many of the works, including those of Dianne Firth's 'Erosion' and Glennis Leary's 'Water from the Desert'. Flora and fauna, anemones, fish, birds or the domestic realm of the home can be found amongst the exhibits.

Yackandandah artist Ali Rowe's series titled 'Egg' explores her personal experience as a mother, following a near fatal car accident and trauma suffered by her son. Egg-like forms symbolise fragility and the delicate hold we have on our children's lives. A tiny woven blanket conveys the care and hopes that we try to cover our children with, while blood-red knots cover one precious egg in an attempt to build up a layer of protection for her child.

Anita Larkin's 'Things that Howl in the Night' and Kirsten Frederick's 'Double Trouble' take on a lighter note and visitors will no doubt find something to appeal in this extraordinary showcase of talent.

Through this exhibition the Wangaratta Art Gallery continues to support textile innovation, locally and nationally, building upon Wangaratta's textiles tradition with regular exhibitions, workshops and projects.

To complement the exhibition a 2 day workshop facilitated by Wagga Wagga artist Julie Montgarrett will explore a number of approaches to textile production such as folding, tracing, printing, fusing and hand and machine stitching to create a series of individual, experimental, small scale paper and textile book forms.

For more information contact the Gallery on 03 5722 0865

Last Updated: 18/06/2012

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Supporting evidence

Weblink:

<http://www.wangaratta.vic.gov.au/council/news/Petite-miniature.asp>