Nottingham Contemporary

Charlotte Johannesson

Easy Read Guide



How to use this Guide



In this guide, hard to understand words are <u>underlined</u>. We explain what these words mean after they have been used.

The guide starts with an introduction about the exhibition.

After the introduction, there is a section of the guide telling you about different themes in the exhibition.

You can use the contents page to find out which page of the guide information on each theme is found at.

The contents page is on the next page and tells you what page number to turn to for each section.

The page numbers are written at the bottom of each page.

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Introduction



This exhibition is a display of artworks by an artist called Charlotte Johannesson.



Charlotte is an artist from Sweden.



Charlotte has been making art since the 1960s.



We are showing artworks by Charlotte at Nottingham Contemporary from 11 February to 7 May 2023.

Tapestries



Charlotte Johannesson's first artworks were <u>tapestries</u>. Tapestries are fabrics which are hung on the wall. Tapestries have patterns or pictures on them.



Tapestries are made by a process called weaving. Weaving is where threads are wrapped around eachother on a machine called a loom. This makes fabric.



Tapestries are usually decorative and look nice in people's homes.



Charlotte wanted to make new tapestries which were different to the kind of tapestries she had seen before.



She made tapestries that had images and words on them. Sometimes the words are written in Swedish.

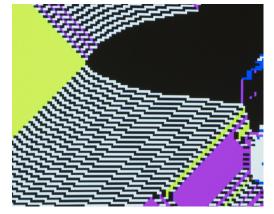


She made tapestries that had images and words on them. Sometimes the words are written in Swedish. The tapestries told stories about politics. Politics is the way that groups of people make decisions. This includes the people in charge making decisions about the rules of a country.

Digital Art



In 1978 Charlotte bought one of the first computers ever made. This computer was called the Apple II Plus.



Charlotte used her computer to make digital versions of her tapestries.



These pictures were some of the first artworks made on computers.



Charlotte printed some of these pictures out to make artworks on paper called plotter prints. These were some of the very first images printed from computers. They took a long time to print, sometimes 20 hours.



In 1981 Charlotte set up a place called The Digital Theatre. This was a place for making art on computers.



Charlotte taught other people how to make art on computers here.



Charlotte was making art on computers before there were computer programmes that make it easy to draw digitally.



Charlotte liked that making drawings on her computer was difficult and slow because it reminded her of making tapestries which is difficult and slow too.



When computer companies created software that made it easier to make digital art, Charlotte stopped making art on her computer.



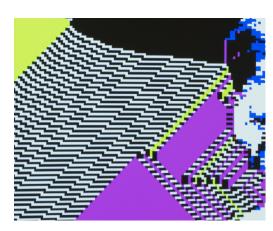
Many years later, Charlotte started to make tapestries again.



These new tapestries were made using a machine which was controlled by a computer.



This was very different to the oldfashioned way Charlotte had made her first tapestries.



The new machine could make tapestries from images Charlotte had made on her computer.

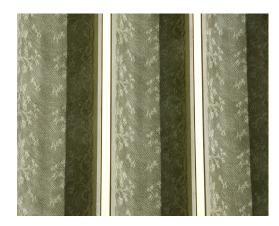


These new tapestries combined Charlotte's weaving and computer art.

Lace



Some of the newest artworks in the galleries are inspired by patterns in lace.



Charlotte was interested in the history of lace-making in Nottingham.



Charlotte learned how to make lace using lots of threads to weave pictures.



One of the new lace artworks shows a picture of Robin Hood. Robin Hood is a famous old character from Nottingham.

The exhibition at Nottingham Contemporary





Some of the artworks in the display are more than 50 years old and some of them are new artworks which Charlotte made for this exhibition.



In the exhibition there are tapestries, digital works and printed pictures on paper which Charlotte made on her computer.



There are also photographs from the 1970s and 1980s which show Charlotte's life.

For More Information



You can find out more about what we do by looking at our website here:
nottinghamcontemporary.org



If you would like to help us show more artworks in the future, please think about giving us some money.

We suggest £5 as a good amount.



If you need more information please contact us by:

Post: Nottingham Contemporary Weekday Cross Nottingham NG12GB



Phone: 0115 948 9750

Email:

info@nottinghamcontemporary.org

Image Credits

Image credits tell us who took a photograph. The image credits for the photographs you have seen in this easy read guide are shown below.

We have to write these in the way they are written below because of special rules. You don't need to read this part of the guide unless you want to. This part of the guide doesn't tell you anything more about the artworks in the exhibition.

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