

Nottingham Contemporary

Charlotte
Johannesson



**Easy
Read**

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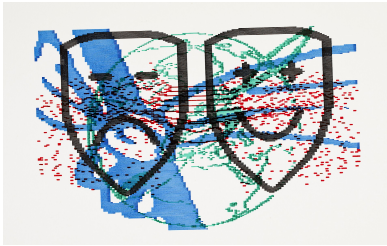
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Underlined
Words

In this Easy Read document, difficult words are underlined. We explain what these words mean in the sentence after they have been used.

Introduction



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



Charlotte is an artist from Sweden.



She has been making art since the 1960s.



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

Tapestries



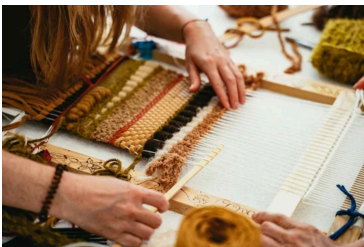
Charlotte Johannesson's first artworks were tapestries.



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 each other 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. The tapestries told stories about politics.

Politics is the way that groups of people make decisions. This includes the government making decisions about the rules of a country.

Digital Art



In 1978 Charlotte bought one of the first computers. 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.



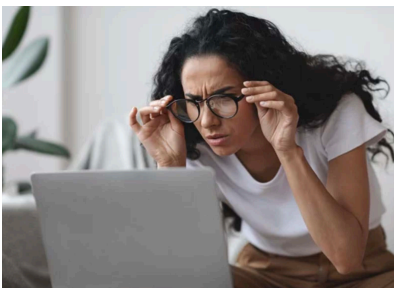
In 1981 Charlotte set up a place called The Digital Theatre.



This was a place for making art on computers.



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



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



She liked that it 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.



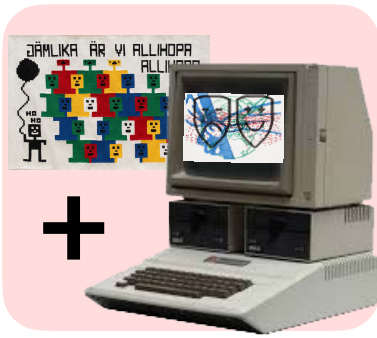
These new tapestries were made using a digital loom controlled by a computer.



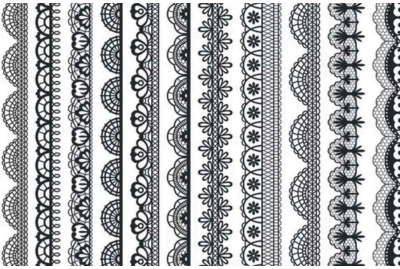
This was very different to the old-fashioned loom Charlotte had used in the 1970s when she made her first tapestries.



The digital loom could make tapestries from the images Charlotte had made on her computer.



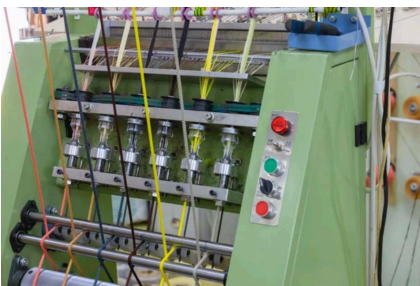
These new tapestries combined Charlotte's weaving and computer art.



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



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



Charlotte learned how to make lace using a machine. The machine uses 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.

In The Galleries



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 £3 as a good amount.



If you need more information please contact us by:

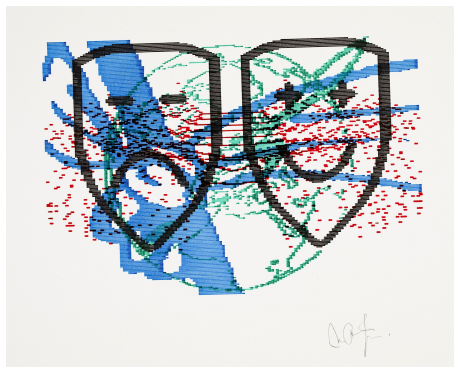
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Artwork Credits

Artwork credits tell us who made an artwork and when they made it. The artwork credits for the artworks you have seen in this easy read guide are shown below.



This is an artwork by Charlotte Johannesson. The title of the artwork is Digital Human. This artwork was made between 1981 and 1986. The artwork is a digital artwork which Charlotte made on her computer and then printed out on paper. This type of print is called a plotter print.



This is an artwork by Charlotte Johannesson. The title of the artwork is Jämlika är vi allihopa. This is written in Swedish and means "we are all equal" in English.

The artwork is a tapestry made out of wool. Charlotte made a tapestry with this picture in the 1970s but this one is a new version made for Charlotte in 2020 by a person called Tiyoko Tomikawa.