BEWARE OF EMBROIDERY

This exhibition featuring five embroidery artists will be held at PM Galerie in West London (Pitzhanger Manor, Walpole Park, Mattock Lane, W5 5EQ) from 15th Jan. until 27th Feb. 2010. The artists involved are Kate Pelen, Louise Riley, Tilleke Schwarz, Laura Splan and Tamar Stone. For more information: Zoe Archer, e-mail: zarcher@ealing.gov.uk; www.ealing.gov.uk/pmgalleryandhouse.

'GRADA' EMBROIDERY EXHIBITION IN BRUSSELS

From 29th October until 29th December 2009, the Brussels Musée du Costume et de la Dentelle (rue de la Violette 12, B-1000) features an exhibition entitled “GRADA - Ecriture féminine secrète (Women’s Secret Code)” dedicated to historic embroideries by Croatian women, adapted to modern fashion. The word GRADA denotes the decorative elements on the woollen fabric used for traditional national dress in the Dalmatian hinterland, up to south-west Bosnia.

A CASHMERE DREAM

This exhibition, originally entitled “Rêve de Cachemire, cachemires de rêve - Le châle imprimé, un joyau textile alsacien (A Cashmere Dream, Dreams of Cashmere...)” is at the Musée de l’Impression sur Etoffes, Mulhouse, Alsace, from 13th November 2009 until 16th October 2010. It will present cashmere products from the museum holdings, arranged by Christian Lacroix. Production of printed woollen fabrics for clothes and ties saw its heyday in Alsace in the 19th century; cashmere shawls were sold all over the world. Manufacturers included the Steinbach-Koechlin, Thierry-Mieg and Hofer-Grosjean companies. The eponymous 180-page catalogue, priced €28, was published by IDL’ édition. (www.musee-impression.com).

The Hand & Lock Embroidery Prize

The annual embroidery prizes awarded by Hand & Lock, the hand embroidery company, were presented on 31st October 2009 during a conference and fashion show at Glasgow’s Caledonian University. In the “Students” category, First Prize went to Beatrice Newman/UK, Second Prize to Aisling Egan/IRL, Third Prize to Claire Goodwin/UK and the Commendation to Maria Toledo/UK. In the “Embroidery Designer” category, prizes were awarded to 1) Lucie Bourreau/F, 2) Renée Lindell/UK, 3) Yumiko Komai/Japan and the Commendation to Theresa Alexander/USA. In addition, the Swarovski Prize was presented to Claire Goodwin, named above, the Special College Prize to Nottingham Trent University and the Australian Prize to Karin Torrisi.

The prize brief for the tenth edition of the competition, held in 2010, has already been posted on the website. Both categories are open to participants from all over the world; in addition, the “Embroidery Designer” category is open to all age groups. Themed “Militaria”, the deadline for submissions is 31st March 2010 (http://www.handembroidery.com).

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