

Katharine Swailes

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Feb 2019

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CORDIS PRIZE 2019

**Cordis Prize, Rewarding ambition in contemporary weaving, 16 March – 27 May 2019
Inverleith House Gallery, The Royal Botanic Gardens, Edinburgh**

The Cordis Prize is an initiative of Miranda Harvey and Ian Rankin of the Cordis Trust. It is the world's largest award for tapestry, 'aiming to encourage and reward ambition and scale in the field of contemporary weaving.' The shortlist exhibition is to be held at the stunning setting of Inverleith House Gallery, Edinburgh from 16 March 2019.

We are proud to announce that Katharine Swailes has been shortlisted for her tapestry 'Le Bric et de Broc', an expansive work comprising of nine individual tapestries. Katharine is delighted to be shortlisted for this prestigious prize and looks forward to seeing her tapestry at Inverleith House Gallery.

Le Bric et de Broc

The odds and ends, making the most of a little, but at first it seemed a lot, a whole stairway of yarn to be woven in ever decreasing lengths. Reality changes the dream, six cubes and three panels follow. A descending supply, a rhythm is found through the consistent length of the butterflies of yarn, worked over a weavers hands width. These minimal boundaries create a quite space in which time is given over to the meditative activity, a place of solace and calm, visualised through a harmonious selection of natural fibres that sit well in the hand guided without struggle.

The work is one of solace and meditation. About an act carried out now as it was a millennia ago, a continuity of human spirit.

Swailes re-works and reimagines an ancient traditional craft in a contemporary context of developing a new and abstract personal language in textiles: all addressing the universal theme of time. She has stripped away a visual narrative in these tapestries, to reveal a naked canvas where the trace of the hand is the only visual stimulus.

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If you would like further information about this work please call Katharine Swailes on 07814938241 or Caron Penney on 07970744956 or email contact@weftfaced.com

Images can be provided on request and all photo credits: Steve Speller