



# Dovecot Tapestry Studio



## Press Release

### Linder and Dovecot create rug for *British Art Show 8*

British artist Linder will exhibit a rug created in collaboration with Dovecot Tapestry Studio's Jonathan Cleaver, Dennis Reinmüller and Vana Coleman at the *British Art Show 8* opening in Leeds City Art Gallery on 9 October 2015 and touring to Edinburgh, Norwich and Southampton. Linder and Dovecot's rug is a new piece specifically created to feature as a main exhibit throughout the *BAS8* curated by Anna Colin and Lydia Yee.

Linder has applied the principles of collage to the design of a rug for *BAS8* titled *Diagrams of Love: Marriage of Eyes*. The technique of collage is included in Ithell Colquhoun's *Children of the Mantic Stain* essay as one of the many techniques that can create 'mind pictures'. The diagrammatic template for the rug is in the shape of a spiral and it incorporates the patterns of two 1970s carpets found in the late Rebecca Levy's apartment above Raven Row gallery.

*Diagrams of Love: Marriage of Eyes* will be exhibited in different conflations within the gallery spaces of the four host cities of the *BAS8*. The carpet will also migrate from the gallery for one evening in each of the four host venues to become a choreographed element in the *Children of the Mantic Stain* ballet. Linder has worked in collaboration with dancers from Northern Ballet and the award winning choreographer Kenneth Tindall to explore how dance may be created from a series of chance happenings. The fashion designer Christopher Shannon has designed his first costumes for ballet, translating the esoteric mid-century writings of Ithell Colquhoun into clothes that could have been worn in Birkenhead clubs in 1992. In Los Angeles, the film and narrative composer Maxwell Sterling has created a score that applies the principles of the mantic stain technique to compose a series of musical motifs that each influence the other horizontally as well as vertically. The *Diagrams of Love: Marriage of Eyes* rug will migrate from the gallery to become an integral part of the choreography of *Children of the Mantic Stain*.

Linder was approached by Dovecot in 2013 via an introduction from Andree Cooke, to collaborate in the creation of a rug which involved an explorative journey between the artist, Reinmüller, Cleaver and then Coleman, beginning in early 2014. This collaborative project with Linder was made possible by initial investment from The Dovecot Foundation and Creative Scotland and is in partnership with Hayward Touring British Art Show 8.



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## Dovecot Foundation

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### **Dovecot Tapestry Studio opening times:**

Tapestry Studio Viewing Balcony: Monday to Saturday 12-3pm

### **British Art Show:**

Leeds Art Gallery - 9 October 2015 to 10 January 2016

Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art | Inverleith House, Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh | Talbot Rice Gallery, University of Edinburgh - 5 February to 2 May 2016

Norwich University of the Arts, Norwich Castle Museum and Art Gallery | Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, University of East Anglia, Norwich – 24 June to 4 September 2016

John Hansard Gallery, University of Southampton | Southampton City Art Gallery – 1 October to 8 January 2017 (TBC)

### **Northern Ballet performance:**

*Children of the Mantic Stain*, Broderick Hall, Leeds City Museum, 20 November 2015

**Interviews may be conducted with Linder Sterling, Jonathan Cleaver and Dennis Reinmüller.**

**A transcript of an interview with Cleaver and Reinmüller is also available on request.**

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### **Press release image credit:**

Linder Sterling, *Diagrams of Love: Marriage of Eyes (detail)*, 2015, rug created at Dovecot Tapestry Studio with Jonathan Cleaver, Vana Coleman and Dennis Reinmüller, image courtesy Dovecot Tapestry Studio, Stuart Shave/Modern Art, photo credit Michael Wolchover.

### **More images here:**

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/w4fcx2ssqsfmcdp/AABYwvUN2Rxn30-cKDpcp7IGa?dl=0>

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### **About Linder**

Linder is an internationally celebrated artist who brings together the languages of graphic design, popular culture, high fashion and fine art in the production of photomontages, performances and installation. Initially playing a key part in the 1970s punk scene in Manchester, Linder is widely known as the creator of the photomontage used for the Buzzcocks' debut single *Orgasm Addict* 1977. A large scale retrospective of Linder's work was held at the Musée d'Art de la Ville de

Paris in 2013, travelling to kestnergesellschaft, Hannover, followed by solo shows at Tate St Ives, The Hepworth Wakefield and Blum & Poe Los Angeles. Last year Linder made a series of photomontages for *Archi Dior*, Dior's High Jewellery collection and in June this year she collaborated with Maison Margiela, Brussels for a solo show at dépendance gallery during *The Belgians: An Unexpected Fashion Story* at BOZAR. Ridinghouse have recently published a new monograph featuring Linder's photomontages from 1976 to 2015 which includes an interview with the artist and Professor Dawn Ades.

#### **About Dovecot Studios**

##### **Dovecot Gallery**

Dovecot Gallery is a landmark centre for contemporary art, craft and design built around a leading international tapestry studio. Occupying an extraordinary building in the heart of Edinburgh, the Gallery works to programme, commission and produce exhibitions and events for audiences and clients who share Dovecot's passion for making and the creative arts.

##### **Dovecot Tapestry Studio**

Dovecot Tapestry Studio is a world-renowned producer of hand-woven tapestry and gun-tufted rugs. Continuing a century-long heritage of making and collaboration with leading international contemporary artists, the Studio weavers are dedicated to producing extraordinary and engaging works of art by commission from private and public collectors from across the globe.

##### **Dovecot Foundation**

Dovecot Foundation exists to champion Dovecot Tapestry Studio and its place in the world of contemporary art, design and making. The Foundation puts the Studio at the heart of this mission in supporting the Dovecot Apprenticeship Programme, collaborations with leading artists from around the world and development of cultural and educational partnerships. Ultimately, the Foundation seeks to bring the innovative work of contemporary artists and makers to a wider audience.

##### **History**

Dovecot Studios was founded in 1912 by the Marquess of Bute, a patron of the arts. The first weavers at Dovecot, Gordon Berry and John Glassbrook, came from the renowned William Morris Studios at Merton Abbey in Wimbledon. Dovecot's first commission was for a series of monumental tapestries for the Marquess' own home at Mount Stuart on the Isle of Bute.

In 1946, the Studios were incorporated as The Edinburgh Tapestry Company. Dovecot soon became established as a leading contemporary fine art tapestry studio, with works commissioned for major public, corporate and academic institutions worldwide. As a key player in the renaissance of tapestry in the 20th century, Dovecot's Master Weavers worked with many leading contemporary artists including David Hockney, Henry Moore, Frank Stella and RB Kitaj.

Dovecot's Master Weavers continue to work to commission, producing tapestry and tufted rugs for private and public collectors. Major tapestry projects include Alison Watt's *Butterfly* for Scottish Opera's new Theatre Royal, Peter Saville's *Monarch of the Glen* and Magne Furuholmen's *Glass Onion*. Working with artists such as Ron Arad, Linder Sterling and Garry Fabian Miller on recent rug commissions have further tested the boundaries of creativity and play with what the process allows.

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