

CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS

FREDDIE ROBINS UK

Multimedia artist Freddie Robins’ practice is a sophisticated subversive exploration of meaning and making that fuses multiple textile techniques into pieces that reveal the traditional categories of art, craft and design for the outmoded definitions they are. Meticulously crafted, there is both wit and terror in the work as Robins continues a long history of artists disrupting hegemonic gender bias and value-based assumptions regarding domestic vs gallery craft by using soft materials and techniques in hard ways.

freddierobins.com



TRACY WIDDESS USA

Inspired by B-grade 1950s cult sci-fi, Tracy Widdess is an artist after our own geek hearts. Creating outstanding wearable and object-based works bordering on mad genius, her brilliant ‘brutal knitting’ project has been running for nearly a decade. Driven by both her own imagination and the illustrations of outsiders, her pieces are equal parts creepy and hilarious. By cleverly manipulating the best of both hand- and machine-knitting techniques, she brilliantly brings these ‘creatures from the dark side’ to life in the most tactile of ways.

brutal-knitting.tumblr.com



ISABEL BERGLUND Denmark

Textile designer and artist Isabel Berglund confounds categorisation, creating a range of knitted works from isolated objects to immersive installations. Her bricolage-based, mixed-media pieces result in strangely anthropomorphic objects, her use of monochromatic colour regally architectural, and her smaller scale exhibition works, placed within the context of the clinical gallery space, disturbingly alien. Berglund produces pieces that are brilliant in both conception and execution.

isabelberglund.dk



MANDY MCINTOSH UK

Highly skilled, politically charged and socially engaged artist Mandy McIntosh is a multimedia artist and knitter whose work is site specific — either geographically or anatomically. Her diverse artistic output playfully confounds cultural traditions through skewed and over-sized use of surface patterning and structures such as intarsia and cabling, while her insertion of subcultural vernacular as graphic text make possible poignant high/low contrasts between notions of public art and wearable design.

ham-and-enos.org.uk

