

Press Release

Date

27 June 2016

Crafts Council launches Twelve Tall Tales at The Hospital Club on 22 July – 29 August 2016

[Crafts Council](#) and The Hospital Club are pleased to announce the first exhibition of a planned three-year summer residency in The Hospital Club gallery. In this first exhibition, [Twelve Tall Tales](#), 12 artists, makers and designers have been selected by guest curator [Onkar Kular](#) to tell stories through an object they have made.

[Twelve Tall Tales](#) will be launching in the heart of London at [The Hospital Club](#) on 22nd July 2016 with works including;

- [The Welsh Space Campaign](#) by interdisciplinary designer [Hefin Jones](#) proposes that Wales has the capacity to explore space, injecting Welsh culture, skills and traditions into every item needed to establish a national space campaign. The creation of a space suit using fabric woven in the last remaining wool mills in Wales, space clogs, and a pressure system looks at local industries and their craft skills in new wider contexts.
- *Jacket, shirt, and trousers* from the *Imitation, imitation* series by [Zhenhan Hao](#) were made by craftspeople in the Dafen and Jingdezhen villages in China. Hao briefed them to create a textile incorporating their own version of the Louis Vuitton monogram and their favourite animals. The items explore the complexity of imitation culture in contemporary China but represent a positive future where local meets global.
- *I Cling to Virtue* by [Onkar Kular](#) and [Noam Toran](#) is a mixed-media archive of objects, narrative texts and videos of the Lövy-Singh clan, a fictional east London family of mixed Jewish and Sikh descent inspired by mixing the artists' own genealogies with those of affluent 20th century families both real and fictional.

“When we generally talk about storytelling in relation to design and craft we might think of objects or artefacts, such as tapestries or pots that communicate specific narrative images or text to a viewer. We may even think about story in relation to how an object is made. When I was asked to guest curate the exhibition by the Crafts Council I thought it was a wonderful opportunity to examine how a diverse range of contemporary practitioners look at object stories and narrative structures beyond the conventional and in further complex ways.” **Onkar Kular**, guest curator, *Twelve Tall Tales*

“We are absolutely delighted to be partnering with Crafts Council for Twelve Tall Tales, the first exhibition in a three year partnership. This exhibition is a wonderful opportunity for each of 12 artists, makers and designers to tell a story through their work and demonstrate their creative process. It’s incredibly exciting to host such a diverse group of practitioners who represent the pinnacle of the UK’s art, craft and design industry.” **Ali Hillman**, The Hospital Club’s Art Programmer

Stories form part of an object's life, be it a tale told of a treasured heirloom or the information panel sitting next to a museum exhibit. More recently, storytelling has been adapted as a marketing tool, alluding to tradition and authenticity. [Twelve Tall Tales](#) takes a more subtle approach to interrogating storytelling through craft; the selected pieces propose multiple ways of translating fictional, humorous, cultural, political and historical references into crafted objects that speak volumes.

There is also an opportunity to enter our social media competition and win a night's stay at [The Hospital Club](#) and dinner for two people. Enter by saying *what object you would make to help send someone to space?* as well as using #TwelveTallTales and tagging @CraftsCouncilUK. Please [click here](#) for more details.

Ends

To attend the launch and private view of [Twelve Tall Tales](#) at 6-8pm on Thursday 21 July 2016 please RSVP by 11 July 2016 to s_khan@craftscouncil.org.uk.

For more information on the [Crafts Council](#) or [Twelve Tall Tales](#) please contact Sara Khan at the press office on s_khan@craftscouncil.org.uk or +44 (0) 207 806 2518. www.craftscouncil.org.uk / @CraftsCouncilUK / #TwelveTallTales

Images

For high resolution images click here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/9cr8ywrs3b5bydw/AABvgDFu6U8zWcPdazXDhE2Wa?dl=0>

Notes to Editors

- The full list of exhibitors: [Åbäke](#), [Auger-Loizeau](#), [Carl Clerkin](#), [Cecilie Gravesen](#), [Dash Macdonald](#), [Dawn Youll](#), [El Ultimo Grito](#), [Hefin Jones](#), [Hilda Hellström](#), [Martino Gamper](#), [Noam Toran](#), [Onkar Kular](#), and [Zhenhan Hao](#).
- The exhibition is designed by [Martino Gamper](#) with graphics by [Åbäke](#).

About the Crafts Council

- The Crafts Council's goal is to make the UK the best place to make, see, collect and learn about contemporary craft. We believe that craft plays a dynamic and vigorous role in the UK's social, economic and cultural life and that everyone should have the opportunity to make, see, collect and learn about craft.
- The Crafts Council is supported using public funding by Arts Council England. www.artscouncil.org.uk

About The Hospital Club

- The Hospital Club is a unique private members club in the heart of Covent Garden, London, for members of the creative industries. The seven storey building has an award-winning TV and Music Studio, a Gallery, Restaurant and Bars, a Screening Room, Hotel Bedrooms, and the Oak Room, a live performance space.

- The Hospital Club Gallery hosts up to five public art exhibitions each year, with emphasis on supporting emerging artists and digital art.

www.thehospitalclub.com

www.thehospitalclub.com/hotel_rooms

www.thehospitalclub.com/exhibition_shop/exhibitions



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