Eyes of Skin: Andrea V. Wright

18.05 - 02.06.2024 contact@thorpstavri.co.uk

THORP STAVRI

Eyes of Skin invites its audience on a transformative exploration of the intricate relationship between personal style and artistic expression. This dynamic exhibition showcases a shifting collage of works spanning several years, featuring site-specific pieces stripped from their original context alongside reworked and hybrid structures that illuminate Wright's expansive interest in complex abstract narratives.

In her studio, Wright operates on instinct, engaging in a constant dialogue with surface, structure, and materiality. Her works are characterised by a layered juxtaposition of contrasting materials, resisting adherence to any singular making process or style.

Each piece within Eyes of Skin seeks to encapsulate a rich assemblage of materials, embodying both bodily and architectural metaphors. Skin is interpreted in its broadest sense—as perception, protection, vulnerability, and memory—revealed through imprints, drapes, and folds. Organic and geometric references intertwine, unveiling skeletal substrates softened by the gentle ripples of fabric.

By integrating digital technologies with handmade and appropriated objects, the exhibition delves into the permeability and interactions between the body and architecture, exploring the tensions inherent in our ever-changing constructed environments.

Drawing inspiration from her immersion in 1980s and 1990s fashion and street culture, Wright infuses her practice with elements such as dressmakers' pins, clips, trims, and tape, weaving a tapestry of visual complexity that hints at a temporal quality—fragile connections on the verge of dissolution.

At its core, Eyes of Skin invites tactile engagement, transcending mere sight to unravel the intricate layers of texture, depth, and emotion embedded within our surroundings. By reimagining skin as an active participant in shaping our emotional landscape, Wright challenges viewers to embrace the profound interconnectedness between self and environment.

Spanning the gallery space and a dedicated residency area, the exhibition evolves over its two-week duration, offering glimpses into the artist's creative process through meticulously curated displays and spontaneous interventions. Each moment marks a shift in aesthetic and ambiance, inviting viewers into a dynamic dialogue between creator and audience.

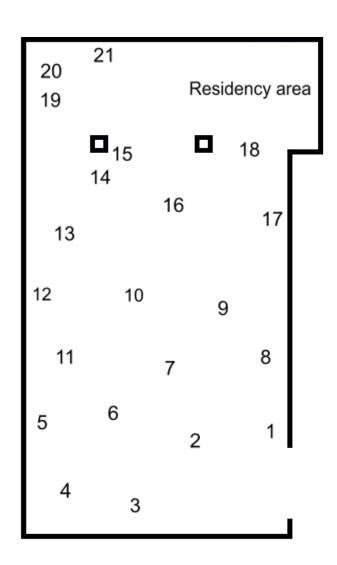
Andrea V. Wright is a multidisciplinary visual artist based in Somerset, UK. She graduated from Chelsea College of Art & Design before establishing a career in fashion, styling, and music, and completing an MFA at Bath School of Art & Design. Wright has been selected for the Jerwood Drawing Prize 2017, the Royal Society of Sculptors Bursary Award 2017/18, and the Ingram Collection Purchase Prize 2019.

In 2021 Wright was awarded an AN Bursary for the PADA residency in Lisbon, Portugal, culminating in a solo exhibition at the Foundry Gallery, London. Wright is currently a mentor for the MASS Sculpture School.

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1. **FUTURE ISLANDS I** (2023)

Plywood, Mesh. PVC, Paint, Rubber, Clips 160h x 80w cm

2. **NERVURE NOIR** (2019)

Steel, Paint. 154h x 44w x 35d cm

3. SMILE FOR A VEIL (2021)

Accreted Latex, Pigment, Rubber. 540h x 175w cm

4. **HEART OF GLASS** (2024)

Plywood offcuts, Faux Leather, Leather, Paint, Canvas, Metal, Mesh, Pins. 170h x 350w x 60d cm

5. ASHES (2024)

Latex, Rubber, Foam, Plywood, Leather, Paint. found Objects. 176h x 54w x 20d cm

6. FLUID (2024)

Steel, paint, latex. 195h x 84w x 70d cm

7. THE CELL (2018)

Wood, accreted Latex, Pigment. 230h x 145w x 145d cm

8. ETAGE II, IV, V, IX (2019/20)

Accreted Latex, Pigment, Scaffolding. 240h x 115-116w cm (each)

9. NERVURE BLANCHE (2019)

Steel, Paint, accreted Latex. 154h x 44w x 35d cm

10. WHITE LINES (2024)

Steel, paint, chamois leather. 90h x 140w x 190d cm

11. WARM LEATHERETTE (2024)

Plywood offcuts, Faux Leather, Leather, Paint, Canvas, Metal, Mesh, Pins. 180h x 35w x 60d cm

12. GOLDEN BROWN (2024)

Latex, Bleached Denim, Salvaged Jacket, Cord, Clips, Steel, Pigment, Canvas, Rubber, Pigment, Gauze, Clips. 174h x 74w x 48h cm

13. LEPLACE (2018)

Accreted Latex, Pigment. 470h x 140w cm

14. 15. RITUAL ASSIMILATION / RITUAL ASSIMILATION II (2021/22)

Plywood, Canvas, Steel, Gesso, Latex, Paint, rubber, PVC, Pins, Clips, Dog Collar, Polystyrene, Mesh, Coat hanger, PVA, Castors.

196h x 82w x 38d cm (each)

16. SPINE (2024)

Steel, plywood, latex. 116h x 140w x 44d cm

17. NERVURE SUPPLE (2023)

Latex, Calico, Pigment. 85h x 25w cm

18. FREEDOM OF DISASSOCIATION (2021)

Accreted Latex, Pigment. 290h x 140w x 20d cm

19. SEMBLANCE IV (2023)

Plywood, Paint, Thread. 190h x 20w cm

20. SHIELD (2021)

Plywood, leather, vinyl, canvas, paint, sheepskin, metal, pins, rubber. 102h x 49w cm

21. SPELLBOUND (2024)

Plywood, Faux Leather, Dowels, Paint, Leather Cord. 152h x 61w cm