



Show5 – Ann Sutton

Crafts Council Gallery, London N1 T: 020 7278 7700,
23 October 2003 - 18 January 2004 • Gracefields Arts
Centre, Dumfries, T: 01387 262084, 30 March – 15
May 2004 • Langworthy Gallery, Salford, T:0161-736-
2649, 29 May – 18 July 2004 • The Potteries Museum
and Art Gallery, Stoke on Trent, T: 01782 232323,
20 November 2004 -9 January 2005 •

One of Britain's most renowned weavers, Sutton has taken the role of artist, consultant and designer. In chronological order this exhibition defines her work.

Early works, devoid of colour, are timeless and intriguing. Perspex sheets interlaced with nylon monofilament, such as *Counted Weave*, 1969, float opposite knitted hanging lights.

In contrast, the next chapter of Sutton's work is dominated by a rainbow spectrum exploring constructivism and the idea that 'colour, area, form and material can be linked logically'. The exhibition reveals examples of her investigation of weave structures and systematic themes. For personal research or manufacture they vary dramatically in visual flow. Often conventional woven studies such as *Increasing Spectrum Bands* 1986, have a more pleasing visual resonance than experiments with unexpected materials where visual appeal has been excused to make way for their conception.

The introduction of computer-aided design to woven textiles brought Sutton back to the 'magic of structure'. *Six layers of Linen, Rotating* 1995, shows the subtle shifting of colours throughout layers of open weave. Gem like in quality, they evoke the clarity of the monofilament pieces of almost thirty years earlier. ●●● Ptolemy Mann