

BRITISH TEXTILE BIENNIAL

TOURING ARTWORK

Conditions at Present

by Rebecca Chesney

Originally commissioned by the
British Textile Biennial in collaboration with
Harewood Craft Biennial Create/Elevate.

Conditions at Present is a tourable installation by artist
Rebecca Chesney. First presented in 2023 in the grounds of
Towneley Hall and Art Gallery in Burnley, it is currently on show
at Harewood House in Yorkshire until 20th October 2024.

Contact: Jackie Jones, Producer - jackie@britishtextilebiennial.co.uk



Conditions at Present, Harewood Craft Biennial 2024, Harewood House, Leeds - Photo courtesy of the artist

THE SUPER
SLOW WAY

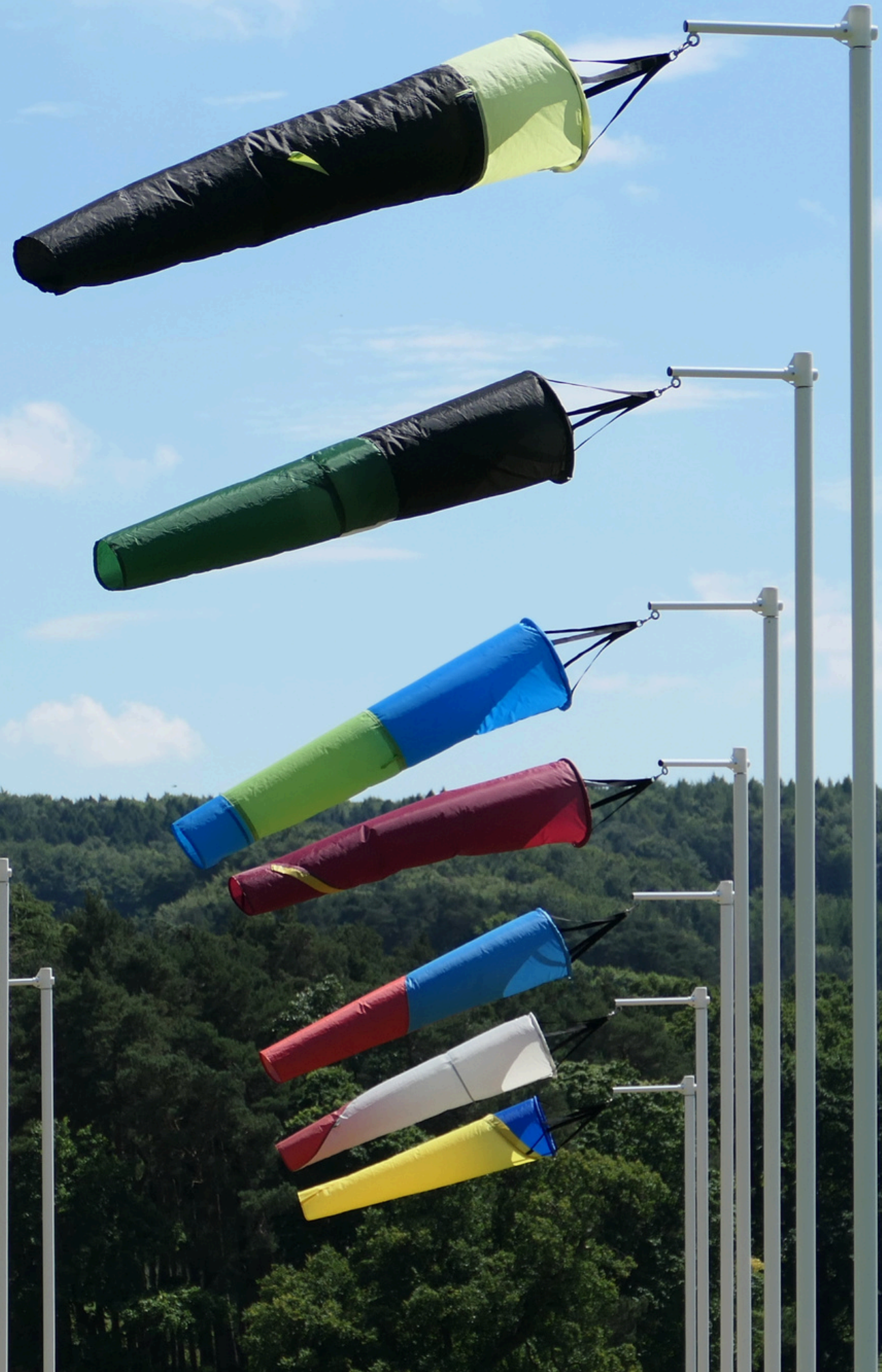


Supported using public funding by
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

About the work:

Tents provide shelter in times of crisis or displacement, but perform a very different role at music festivals where it is more common for cheap tents to be discarded than taken away by their temporary inhabitants. With the growing practice of charities collecting discarded tents for reuse, more are left behind as their users imagine they'll 'go to a good home', without thinking about the social and environmental costs that produce them so cheaply.

Using fabric from discarded tents gathered in collaboration with FWRD Together (Festival Waste Reclamation and Distribution), Rebecca Chesney's field of windsocks serves as an indicator of current conditions; a barometer of the climate crisis of our own making.



The experience:

The installation consists of 25 windsocks on 5 metre masts. The windsocks dance in a light breeze orientating themselves in choreographed unison or behave more individually creating turbulent patterns in changing thermals, gusting winds or gales.

The masts are placed 3.5 metres apart allowing visitors to enter, wander and explore the installation. Over 20,000 visitors experienced the artwork at Towneley Hall during the British Textile Biennial in October 2023.



Hire packages:

This artwork is available for a 1 – 3 month hire anywhere in the UK. Please contact us to discuss hire options.

Space required:

The installation requires a 23 x 23 metre grass plot, free from floods. The footprint of the artwork is 15 x 15 metres with a boundary of 4 metres around to avoid overhanging trees.

Safety assurance:

The windsock masts and rotating 360 degree swivel arms are supplied by windsock specialists and designed and tested to relevant BS standards to withstand year round UK weather. All items are industrially manufactured from strong but lightweight aluminium with maintenance free gloss white finish. The masts are attached to shorter scaffold poles sunk 2.5 feet (75cm) into the ground and secured to be tamper proof and of sound structural integrity.

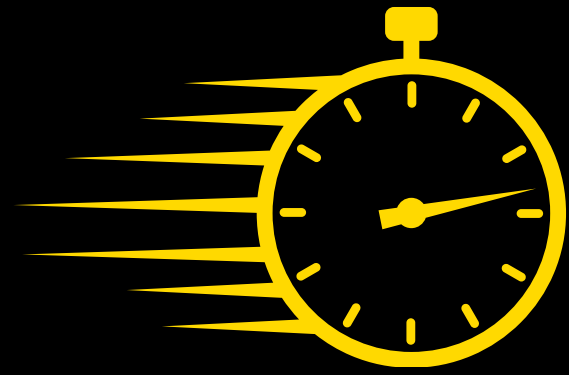


Further Resources:

A short film about the making of *Conditions at Present* was made by Huckleberry Films which is available here: <https://britishtextilebiennial.co.uk/films/>

Rebecca Chesney was in conversation with Amber Butchart (dress and textile historian) and Dr Mila Burcikova (Centre for Sustainable Fashion) for the Cloth Cultures podcast, which is available to listen to here: <https://britishtextilebiennial.co.uk/podcasts/>





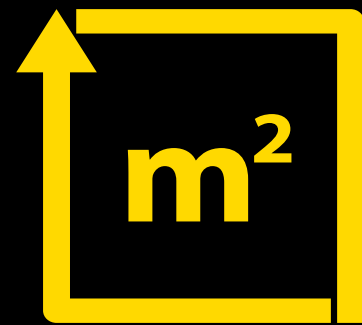
SET UP TIME

Install 1.5 days
De-install 1 day



CREW

4 people



SPACE REQUIRED

23 m x 23 m



FULL SPECS

Please contact
jackie@britishtextilebiennial.co.uk