

ARP-Fellowship 2018

Pencil to Paper

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The fellowship was centred around Sophie Taeuber-Arp's text 'Remarks on Teaching Decorative Design' which formed the foundation for a series of eight drawings on paper. The work was exhibited at Glasgow School of Art and was a part of Glasgow International programme from the 19th April to the 7th of May 2018.

Please see a 33 pages pdf file 'Pencil to Paper' for documentation of work and text 'Notes on Sophie Taeuber-Arp's Instructions'.

It also formed a vehicle for engaging with the knowledge on one can gain from working with materials, it's properties and actions to see if I could gain new insight to Taeuber-Arp's work. And, particularly, a question I am very interested in: how does Taeuber-Arp's knowledge of cross stitch, tapestry weaving and textile design inform her later work?

I think the use of graph paper is a key; the underlying grid structure which Taeuber-Arp used in planning her textile design. The use of graph paper in the early part of the century in textile education is an area I would like to explore more.

It was wonderful to see work by Taeuber-Arp first hand and equally wonderful was being able to use the library. It was very helpful and interesting to see Taeuber-Arp's work in context of her fellow students in the book 'Die Staatliche Kunstgewerbeschule zu Hamburg, Oktober 1913' and as well in 'Die Kunstgewerbliche Arbeit der Frau in der Schweiz' to see what was produced at the time. I am mainly familiar with catalogues in English so it was fresh insight to see catalogues in German and French on Taeuber-Arp and come across new texts and reproductions.

A follow on from my fellowship is to publish a book based around the instruction of Taeuber-Arp in English and German. I am very happy that Walburga Krupp has agreed to write a text looking at Taeuber-Arp's work and the work of her students under the aspects of the exercises.

I very much enjoyed being in Berlin and was able to see exhibitions, the 'Neolithic Childhood. Art in a False Present, c.1930' at the Haus der Kulturen der Welt was outstanding and will inform my work.

I would like to thank Jana Teuscher and Cole Collins for wonderful company and special thanks to Jana for all the help and support.

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Glasgow School of Art
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