



Gardens of the Heart
India Flint and friends

23 February to 17 March 2019

FABRIK

This evocative Fringe 2019 exhibition speaks to the shared experience of being human. Themes of nature, family, love, migration, illness and aging, joy and hope emerge from the skilfully sewn text. Over **200 artists** from **22 different countries** have contributed small works to create the installation.

The 'Gardens of the Heart' exhibition is based on the three-line poetry that India Flint has been sharing with workshop students in recent years. The process results in collaborative poetry composed by chance from groups of three people.

India Flint is best known as the originator of the highly distinctive *Ecoprint*, an ecologically sustainable plant based printing process giving brilliant colour to cloth. An internationally renowned artist and author, India Flint's work is represented in collections and museums in Australia, Latvia and Germany.

India has authored a number of books including *Second Skin*, a book about the provenance and prospects of the textiles in our lives and *Eco Colour* which describes the process of botanical alchemy for beautiful textiles using leaves, roots, bark and flowers to colour cloth.

She is also a much sought after teacher, travelling the world to deliver lectures and workshops. In 2018, she launched the School of Nomad Arts, offering online gatherings to share her knowledge of ecologically sustainable textile practices. In 2019, India has exhibitions & workshops scheduled in Canada, England, France, Scotland and the USA as well as Australia.

In February 2018, artists from across the world were invited via a face book page to stitch a line of text along a piece of cloth (450mm x 150mm). They were also assigned a number of dots to include on their work. The pieces of fabric were then stitched together by India and volunteers to form three-line poems. The number of dots (one, two or three) determined whether the text was line one, two or three. The poems have been installed with clouds of suspended flowers donated by local artists, businesses and community members at Fabrik Arts and Heritage, the **emerging art space in the Onkaparinga Woollen Mill** buildings in Lobethal.

'Gardens of the Heart' is a collaboration with **h.ART**, a community led not for profit group with the aim of facilitating and supporting arts activities at the emerging arts precinct in the buildings of the State Heritage listed Lobethal Woollen Mills. Since 2015, h.ART has coordinated 14 exhibitions, including 4 SALA events.

Fabrik Arts and Heritage is an initiative of Adelaide Hills Council and will bring together arts, history, and the community through exhibitions, artist studios, heritage interpretations, artists in residence and cultural events. Melinda Rankin has been appointed the Director and a Business Development Framework is in place. Melinda has secured funding from Country Arts SA for a project which will record and present stories of people who used to work at the old woollen mill during History Month in May.

<https://www.indiaflint.net/>

<https://hillsart.com.au/>

<https://www.ahc.sa.gov.au/visitor/fabrik>

Contact: Melinda Rankin, Director Fabrik Arts & Heritage on 0417 162 520