

AMANDA HARAN | CONTEMPORARY COMMUNITY TEXTILE ARTIST

Amber Valley, Derbyshire, UK

Professional Summary

Contemporary community textile artist working with flax, heritage, sustainable fibres, community storytelling, and socially engaged making. My practice centres on participatory creative listening and textile processes that connect people with place, wellbeing, and shared identity.

Selected Education & Professional Training

IOSH Managing Safely, HSQE	BSc Hons Textile Design & Design Management, UMIST
Level 3 Certificate In Counselling, Salford City College	Community Engagement & Inclusivity, Make/Shift Programme
Nature Connectedness & Wellbeing, University Of Derby	Sustainable Textile Practices & Flax Processing, Flaxland Thrupp
Carbon Literacy For Creatives, Creative Carbon UK	Evaluation For Arts, Culture & Heritage, University of Leeds

Selected Employment

- 2025 to Present | Evaluator Make Shift Amber Valley
2023 to Present | Freelance Contemporary Community Textile Artist (East Midlands)
2021 to 2023 | Community Engagement Co-ordinator, Herbert Art Gallery & Museum, Coventry
2018 to 2023 | Freelance Community Participatory Artist (West Midlands)
2012 to 2019 | Self-Employed CAD Embroidery Designer
2015 to 2016 | Website Co-ordinator EYFS Resources
2004 to 2015 | Company Secretary, TP Properties Housing Association
1995 to 2004 | Activities Organiser to Director of Operations, Paragon Care
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Selected Community Projects & Textile Installations

- Community Flax Garden | Hyper-local sustainable fibre growing and heritage-led initiative
International Women's Day Clootie Event | Community stitching, storytelling and mass participation showing
Herbert Art Gallery Community Garden | Co-designed, built and planted by families and growers
Walking Forest | 10-year art project connecting activism, natural forest networks, and community
Coventry Banner Turner Prize 2021 | Civic programme, large-scale collaborative textile created with community
groups during Array Collective's winning year
Sew What Arts Council England-funded Mindful Stitching Project | Reaching over one hundred women
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Creative & Professional Skills

Textile and fibre-based practice	Creative wellbeing and trauma-aware approaches
Workshop design and delivery	Heritage-informed engagement
Intergenerational co-creation	Project planning and evaluation
Public speaking and artist talks	