FULLER CRAFT MUSEUM'S UPCOMING EXHIBITION:

*The Red Dress*

13 years. 50 countries. 374 contributors. Millions of stitches. 1 red dress.

*The Red Dress*, conceived by British artist Kirstie Macleod, provides an artistic platform for women around the world, many of whom are vulnerable and live in poverty, to tell their personal stories through embroidery. Covered in millions of stitches, *The Red Dress* is weighted as much by the threads and beads that adorn it as it is by the individual and collective stories that each stitch represents.

Since 2009, *The Red Dress* has traveled the globe and been worked on by 365 women, 7 men, and 2 non-binary artists from 50 countries. Of those, 139 commissioned embroiderers were compensated for their work and continue to receive a portion of all ongoing exhibition fees and receive proceeds from The Red Dress Etsy shop sales. The rest of the imagery was added by audience members at various exhibitions and events around the world.

Embroiderers include female refugees from Palestine, Syria and Ukraine; women...
The Southern Vermont Arts Center is thrilled to be the first US venue ever to host the Red Dress,” said Alison Crites, Manager of Exhibitions & Interpretive Engagement at SVAC. “The project’s focus on building connections through transcending borders will expand in deeply meaningful ways as new audiences have the opportunity to engage with the multitude of stories reflected in the dress’ artistry.

All participants were encouraged to create a work that expressed their own identities and in some way referenced their culture. Some used specific styles of embroidery practiced for hundreds of years within their family, village, or town while others chose simple stitches to convey powerful events from their past. Many are rebuilding their lives with the help of embroidery by using their skills to earn a decent and consistent living.

The Red Dress’ 14-year creation journey is now complete and a new phase of the project is underway: exhibiting the dress all over the world.

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The exhibition includes a special audio experience, narrated by Kirstie Macleod, describing the evolution of the project over more than a decade and including the stories of some of the participants. In addition, community members are invited to stitch their stories onto a white calico dress, made by the same dress maker as The Red Dress, which will be part of the exhibition.

The Red Dress exhibition will be on view from Saturday, July 1 to Sunday, September 24, 2023 in SVAC’s Elizabeth de C. Wilson Museum. The project’s founder, Kirstie Macleod, will speak to the public as part of SVAC’s opening festivities. Following its debut at SVAC, the dress will travel to The Frick Pittsburgh (October 7, 2023–January 28, 2024) and Fuller Craft Museum (February 17–May
“The Frick is honored to partner with Kirstie Macleod, SVAC and Fuller Craft to bring *The Red Dress* to North America. It’s an extraordinary work of collective art and a compelling example of embroidery as a form of self-expression and female empowerment,” said Dawn Brean, Chief Curator & Director of Collections.

“Fuller Craft Museum is honored to host *The Red Dress* from February – May of 2024. For millennia, women have been the culture bearers in society, yet often their labor and knowledge remain invisible. *The Red Dress* engages craft processes to amplify global voices and represent female identities using a simple needle and thread. Fuller Craft eagerly anticipates bringing this extraordinary work to our galleries and our community.” – Beth McLaughlin, Artistic Director & Chief Curator, Fuller Craft Museum

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About Fuller Craft Museum

Fuller Craft Museum is New England’s premiere destination for contemporary craft, and one of a select few museums dedicated to craft in the United States. Through exhibitions, education, public programs, and a robust permanent collection of nearly 900 objects, Fuller Craft challenges perceptions and builds appreciation of the material world. Embodied by creative aesthetic, concept expression, and cultural meaning, Fuller Craft serves as a public resource to chronicle, interpret, and present contemporary craft in its many forms. Fuller Craft Museum also offers a wide range of classes for children and adults. More information about Fuller Craft Museum can be found on fullercraft.org

Fuller Craft Museum
455 Oak Street, Brockton MA | 508.588.6000 | www.fullercraft.org
Open Tuesday-Sunday, 10AM-5PM | Admission is Free

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About The Frick Pittsburgh

The Frick Pittsburgh offers authentic experiences with art,
The Southern Vermont Arts Center (SVAC) is a multidisciplinary arts organization in Manchester, VT with a mission to promote and nurture the arts. SVAC strives to provide opportunities for local and regional artists, to introduce the wider community to artwork and performances of national relevance, and to engage diverse audiences. To do this, SVAC creates a community space for the arts through exhibitions, events, performances, classes in a variety of media for children and adults, and an opportunity to explore the 100+ acre campus and sculpture park. Enjoy lunch, brunch and dinner at SVAC's curATE café! Check the SVAC website for current hours. Reserve your table through OpenTable or call 802.362.9100.

Southern Vermont Arts Center
860 SVAC Drive • Manchester, VT • 802.362.1405 • www.svac.org
Gallery Hours: Tuesday-Sunday 10 a.m.–5 p.m. Closed Monday

History and nature that inspire and delight. Visitors of all ages and backgrounds are warmly welcomed to explore collections of fine and decorative arts, vehicles, historic objects, and buildings – including Clayton, the Frick family home and only intact Gilded Age mansion remaining from Pittsburgh’s Millionaire’s Row – left as a legacy to the people of Pittsburgh by Helen Clay Frick, daughter of noted industrialist and art collector Henry Clay Frick. Alongside these treasures, the Frick offers an active schedule of temporary exhibitions and programs, typically welcoming more than 144,000 visitors annually to our 5.5-acre garden campus in the heart of Pittsburgh's East End.

Information about The Frick Pittsburgh is available online at TheFrickPittsburgh.org.