Haptic & Hue

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Below left:

Barbara Brown 1960s, Rolf Mahrenholz National Portrait Gallery

Below right: Galleria 1969 Screen Printed Cotton



Happy Birthday Barbara Brown!

The Golden Girl of Heals.

A documentary film

Haptic & Hue and Gray M.C.A have collaborated to make a documentary film about the visionary textile designer Barbara Brown in celebration of her 90th birthday.

Barbara Brown was one of the most renowned textile designers of the mid 20th century. Her strongly geometric work was the very essence of 60s art and style. In celebration of her 90th birthday Haptic & Hue and Gray M.C.A have produced the first documentary about this leading twentieth century designer. In it, Barbara talks about her life, the influences that led her to become a textile designer and the ideas she wanted to express. At the Royal College of Art in the 1950s she sold her first design from her final degree show to the celebrated Heals' buyer Tom Worthington. Her work, which drew on ideas from Op Art, opened the eyes of buyers worldwide to innovative modern British textile design, earning her the title 'The Golden Girl of Heals'. Available from January 2023 onwards.

Film Quotes:

Dame Zandra Rhodes: "She looked very exotic. She wore black jet jewellery and her hair was sort of probably Victorian style. And I think I was very, very influenced by her in my in my early school days. I would say that Barbara's responsible for me being a textile designer."

Barbara Brown: "I just loved doing sculpture and I loved drawing. But they said, no, you're a woman. You can't do sculpture. You have to be a textile designer, you know, you did what you were told then. And so I became a textile designer."

Ashley Gray: "There are key people at key moments who are able to personify critical moments of cultural change. And to my mind, Barbara is that personification".



Film Details:

- A full colour documentary film presented by Jo Andrews
- The film is 35 minutes
- Interviewees: Barbara Brown, Dame Zandra Rhodes, Founder of The Fashion & Textile Museum, London, Ashley Gray, Gallery Director Gray M.C.A

Film Hire and Availability

The film is available in a variety of packages and is suitable for Museum Friends, Societies, Art & Textile Schools & Universities, Galleries, Trade organisations and Groups

Film Packages and Downloads: Single Screening Only

- Film Hire Only (£250 per screening of film)
- Film Hire with live Zoom Q & A (£250 for one screening of film + £100 per panelist)
- Film hire with live Q & A (£250 for one screening of film + £350 per speaker + travel)

If you are interested in screening the film please contact:

- Jo Andrews contact@hapticandhue.com
- Ashley Gray gallery@graymca.com

Below left: Recurrence 1962, Screen Printed Cotton, Heal Fabrics

Below right: Spiral, 1969,

Screen printed Cotton, Heal Fabrics

About Haptic & Hue

Haptic & Hue is a popular podcast that looks at the different light textiles cast on the story of humanity. It is hosted by Jo Andrews, a handweaver and former TV and radio reporter. Haptic & Hue looks at how fabric traditions have grown up and the innovations that underpin its creation. It thinks about the skills that go into constructing and designing textiles and what they mean to the people who use them. Jo has made a number of episodes about mid-century modern textile designers and the way they changed society.

www.hapticandhue.com | Instagram: @hapticandhue

About Gray M.C.A

Gray M.C.A is the international leader in the specialised subjects of 20th century fashion illustration and modern textiles. The gallery curates important exhibitions, represents the estates of some of the most celebrated 20th century artists and delivers a lecture programme showcasing the finest examples of fashion illustration and modern textiles by the masters of the genre. *The Drawing on Style & Styled by Design* exhibitions held by Gray M.C.A in London, New York and Palm Beach have become prestigious events for international collectors and followers of fashion, textiles and fine art.

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Film Preview (click here)



