



© Justine Randall sited at Roche Court Sculpture Park courtesy of the NewArtCentre 2025

Press Release

# Justine Randall

## Tapestries

From 29<sup>th</sup> November 2025

New Art Centre, Roche Court, Wiltshire

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*'I use yarn like a painter uses paint or a sculptor uses wood or metal' – Justine Randall*

Roche Court Sculpture Park is delighted to announce an exhibition of tapestries by Justine Randall, which will be on display from 29th November until 1st February. The exhibition consists of a series of five wall hangings, that use the differing weights and textures of yarn to convey the changing quality of light.

The tapestries that are featured in the exhibition are accompanied by three sculptures, *Alter Ego* (1963) by Isaac Witkin, *Diamond Maquette* (1972) by Phillip King and *Vertical Form No. 1* (1963) by Robert Adams. Each sculpture is in conversation with the tapestries, not just through form and colour, but by providing the context of British sculpture in the decades leading up to Randall's studies at the Royal College of Art.

Between 1986 and 1988 Randall studied at the Royal College of Art under Mary Farmer, who oversaw the movement of the Tapestry Course into the School of Fine Art. The fact that Randall was taught in the Fine Art Department, as opposed to a specific Textile Course, can be seen in her use of colour and composition, which has a painterly, abstract quality.

When discussing her decision to work with textiles, rather than painting or sculpture, Justine Randall describes how 'colour seems more real and vital in yarn'. The depth of colour which can be achieved with weaving, in combination with the large scale of these tapestries, grants the pieces an intensity that is rarely achieved in paint.

There is a contrast between the density of the tapestries, and the transient moments of light that they portray. The variations between the intensity of different yarns are each to Randall's specifications. She sources all her wool sustainably from British sheep, and dyes her own yarn, affording her an intimate understanding of her medium. This acute attention to detail results in these beautiful and immersive tapestries.

The exhibition Justine Randall – Tapestries is part of a long history of textile exhibitions at Roche Court Sculpture Park, starting in 2006 with Henry Moore's tapestries, which came directly from his family, followed by an exhibition in 2022 of work by the foremost British textile artist Ann Sutton, that have sought to bring textiles to the forefront of our program.



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### **The New Art Centre**

The New Art Centre and Sculpture Park are based at Roche Court, Wiltshire. Founded in 1958 in London, the New Art Centre gave first exhibitions to many significant Modern British artists. The gallery continues to exhibit the work of emerging contemporary artists alongside British Art from the 1950s to the present. Based at Roche Court for over twenty years, it is a very early example of showing sculpture in one of Britain's most spectacular landscapes on the edge of Salisbury plain. Our gallery spaces, designed by Stephen Marshall, have won numerous architectural awards and the nature of these indoor spaces, which in combination with our sculpture park, allow us to show artwork from the small scale to the monumental. The New Art Centre works closely with many prominent artists including Richard Long, Antony Gormley, Edmund de Waal, Michael Craig-Martin and the Estate of Barbara Hepworth.

Alongside The New Art Centre, we have a thriving and expanding Educational Trust which runs a program of tours and lectures for every age, concentrating on looking, thinking and speaking about art, educating schools and tour groups from here and abroad on the history of contemporary and modern 20th and 21st century sculpture.

The Trust also began the highly acclaimed Articulation Prize which has now been taken over by the National Gallery. The Articulation Prize is a public speaking initiative championing the appreciation and discussion of art for students between 14-23 to develop their confidence and ability to express their opinions, thoughts and reactions, using visual art as a starting point.



Tapestries by Justine Randall and sculpture by Phillip King and Isaac Witkin.

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