

ART AS FASHION OR FASHION AS ART – ANNE DAMGAARD

Aug 6, 2019
Maxine Trowbridge



Anne Damgaard, *The Eternal Moment*, 2017

As New York Fashion Week calls it a wrap this September, Dallas' style aficionados will experience fashion as an alternative form—like visual art. A first for art space SITE131, as Joan Davidow director and curator of the gallery, debut's a fashion presentation titled *How Fitting It Is*, featuring Danish textile artist Anne Damgaard.

A visual artist based in Copenhagen, Denmark, Damgaard, graduated from the Danish School of Art and Design in 1997 and pursued her fascination with textiles as an artist and a designer. Utilizing the unique properties of fabrics as her medium of choice—Damgaard works with delicate gauzes, creating layers of movement in light and dark that transcend textiles into a form of expression. Never imagined as actual items of clothing, these works of art, architectural sculptures, are the assimilation between the form of the female body and textiles.

The juxtaposition between fashion designers and visual artists who specialize in textiles is quite fascinating to me, and a few of my favourite notables include the indomitable Dutch designer Iris van Herpen (previously exhibited at the Dallas Museum of Art in 2017). Korean installation artist Do-ho Suh works in nylon and silk sculptures with threaded works on paper, and I love the work of Japanese artist Chiharu Shiota who works with yarns in large-scale installations and threaded works on canvas.

The creations by British artist Benjamin Shine are genius; he works in tulle and has gained recognition in the fashion industry, specifically collaborating with John Galliano for Maison Margiela, with this piece shown below recently acquired by the MET. Lastly, I would be remiss if I did not mention the legendary American artist Sheila Hicks who is currently on exhibition at the Nasher Sculpture Center. Renowned for her work in textile, colour, form and sculpture, I had the pleasure of meeting Hicks at the 2017 Venice Biennale, softly spoken and witty to boot it was mesmerizing to absorb her colourful inspiration.

Experience the culmination of art as fashion for yourself at *How Fitting It Is*, and join hosts Joan Davidow and Seth Davidow, for a fashion presentation featuring Danish artist Anne Damgaard on Friday, September 13, from 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

Sponsored by Heritage Auctions, the evening will commence with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres and the presentation will begin at 7:30 pm. Tickets are \$50 each or \$1310 for the Haute Sponsorship (x4 tickets), for more details visit Eventbrite. Proceeds will benefit SITE131, a vital non-profit art space presenting young talent from Texas, U.S. and internationally.

Following the event, SITE131 opens its fall exhibition titled STRUCTURED, which features Danish artist Anne Damgaard, Hungarian artist Zsofia Schewger, American artists Richard Tuschman and Colombian artist Cristina Velásquez, on Saturday, September 14 from 5:00 – 8:00 pm, and shows till December 14. Site131 is located at 131 Payne Street, Dallas 75207, site131.com.