

CURRICULUM VITAE



Name:

ELENA SPARKE

My emerging textile art practice investigates within verbo-visual realm, inquiring into transversal points between art and language. Global cultural connection is addressed through revival of heritage. Artistic examination of book form through textile thinking offers tactile alphabets, reflecting complexity of humanness and nature, shared fragility and strength.

My work is informed by rich, multi-ethnic ancestry. Creatively mostly self-taught, I remain passionate about learning in chosen realms of textile art, natural dyeing and artist books. I was initially trained as an economist, gaining MA in Economics and English in Moscow in 1994 and worked in this field in Russia and internationally, until I repatriated to UK through marriage in 1996 and naturalised as British Citizen, where I still reside. Never abandoning natural creativity, I came to actively pursuing professional artistic ambitions later in life, having dedicated important time to raising family. I firmly believe that all my previous experiences, empirical or academic, enrich my narratives, inform a unique voice and who I am today.

Education:

2021 MA Textiles (Distinction), University for the Creative Arts, Farnham, UK.

Exhibitions:

2022 *Turn the Page Artist Book Fair*, The Forum, Norwich, UK.

2021-2022 *50th Anniversary Exhibition* (online and onsite), West Dean College of Arts and Conservation, Chichester, UK.

2021 *Pulling Threads*, MA Textiles Graduate Show, University for the Creative Arts, Foyer Gallery, Farnham, UK.

2021 *Quiet Conversations*, Fabrik Arts and Heritage Gallery, Lobethal, South Australia.

2020 *Out of Isolation*, (online and onsite), Linear Gallery, University for the Creative Arts, Farnham, UK.

Awards:

2021 *Luxemburg Art Prize* , Certificate of Artistic Merit, La Pinacothèque,
Luxemburg.

Commissions:

2020 *Autumnal Dances*, photography backdrop narrative cloth for Matthew Burch
Photography, Farnham, UK.

Professional Membership:

Consuo Textile Art Group, UCA MA Textiles alumnae

European Textile Network

a-n The Artists Information Company

The Textile Society

Contact:

Email: elenasparkeart@gmail.com

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/curator_of_chance/

Website: www.elenasparke.com