

HONEYSCRIBE



Photo: woolgatheringwriting © Zoë Quick

Friday 18 & Saturday 19 February 2022, 11am-4pm

Artist Zoë Quick will be in residence in Exeter Custom House as part of Honeyscribe's artistic programme, hosting a series of 'wool-gatherings' that invite a sharing of textile skills and stories to explore connections between wool, communities and land.

As an open initial research phase for a longer creative programme being developed with Honeyscribe for Exeter Custom House, Zoë will be investigating the cultural and material exchanges that were involved in making Exeter cloth, and their contemporary relevance.

Celebrating the diverse network of sites, skills, materials and communities that contributed to the Exeter woollen cloth trade in its heyday, Zoë will invite dialogue around a practical sharing of textile skills and stories to explore the agency of wool, and practices of making, trading, wearing, and repairing textiles.

In the context of a globalised textile industry, fast fashion, the challenges facing sheep farmers and urgent issues of environmental and social justice associated with climate change and mass biodiversity loss, this wool-gathering dialogue will begin to consider how regenerative relations between communities and land might be enacted through the making of an 'Exeter Cloth' today.

We are delighted to be collaborating with members of the Devon Guild of Weavers, Spinners and Dyers for the gathering on Saturday 19 February

Drop in and join us in talking, working and learning together about wool, sharing experiences, knowledge and skills to animate the Custom House with textile practices and stories of land and cloth.

Bring along an object or image associated with wool, or any textile projects you have on the go - your spinning, your knitting, your weaving, your darning...

[Exeter Custom House](#)

46 The Quay, Exeter EX2 4AN

Free entry

Generously funded by



Honeyscribe is a small arts charity based in Exeter but working across multiple localities. We create artworks and artistic projects that explore our relationship with the natural world and connect people to the places where they live. Our programme at Exeter Custom House is funded by Exeter Canal and Quay Trust. It seeks to revision the Custom House as a lively site of exchange and creation, illuminating local heritage and environmental stories through a contemporary lens.

www.honeyscribe.org Follow us @honeyscribe

Honeyscribe is a registered CIO Charity in England and Wales: 1165252.

[Zoë Quick](#) is an artist and educator with over 20 years experience of working with cultural archives, landscapes and institutions, in the UK and overseas. Moving between texts and textiles, her work engages performance, storytelling and craft to enact relations between archives, communities and landscapes. Zoë is currently working on a practice-led PhD at The Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London, which summons the old Welsh custom *gwlana* (wool-gathering) as a means to address current debate over the future of the Welsh uplands. A focus in this research are the practices of women, upon whom the British wool trade relied, yet whose stories remain largely undocumented. Following *gwlana*, this research seeks to tell ‘other stories’ of the British wool trade by gathering its wastes: Tracing the stories, songs and skills that travelled on the tides of trade, across borders, between nations, cultures, and languages this research seeks to understand the agency of wool in constructions of identity and practices of belonging, and enact relations between cloth, communities and land today.

Alongside her practice work, Zoë teaches on the Masters in Sustainable Architecture at the Centre for Alternative Technology, Machynlleth, and the Masters in Landscape Architecture at University College London.



Photo © Zoë Quick

Honeyscribe continue their artistic programme at Exeter Custom House with artist Amy Shelton in residence 11, 12, 13 & 20 February 2022