

When Women Rule the World: **Judy Chicago** in Thread

NEW EXHIBITION PROJECT AT THE TEXTILE MUSEUM OF CANADA

February 11 to September 7, 2009

Join us for the opening reception: **Wednesday February 11, 6:00 – 8:00 pm, remarks 6:45 pm**

Guest curated by Allyson Mitchell

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**THE ART GALLERY
OF CALGARY**

When Women Rule the World: Judy Chicago in Thread **The first major survey of this iconic artist's work in textiles**

Best-known for her challenging feminist artworks and large-scale collaborative projects like *The Dinner Party* (1974-1979) and the *Birth Project* (1980-1985), Chicago has spent years breaking down barriers and exploring freedom of expression.

When Women Rule the World: Judy Chicago in Thread surveys some of Chicago's most important and engaging work in textiles, many of which have never been shown in Canada. It features a selection of both key and lesser known pieces from the *Birth Project* (including *Creation*, a more than four-metre long silk and gold stitched tapestry), the *Holocaust Project* (including *The Fall*, a room-sized tapestry exploring the choices we make to heal or destroy) and *Resolutions: A Stitch in Time* (exquisitely crafted and inspiring reinterpretations of traditional proverbs). This exhibition will also **debut a new work**, *What If Women Ruled the World*, a four-banner installation.

A pioneer of feminist art and education, Chicago's legacy as an artist is inseparable from her role and influence on younger generations. As such, the *When Women Rule the World* project includes *She Will Always Be Younger Than Us*, an exhibition of five young artists whose take on feminist art and discourse is inspired by many of the ideas and cultural references found in Judy Chicago's epic installations.

She Will Always Be Younger Than Us

She Will Always Be Younger Than Us brings together five artists whose work counts among its influences the practice of Judy Chicago. **Orly Cogan, Wednesday Lupypciw, Cat Mazza, Gillian Strong and Ginger Brooks Takahashi** are engaged with feminist politics through the language of textiles. Their work ranges from video to embroidery, performance and sculpture with the intention to ignite politics and question culture.

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For additional information, interviews or visuals:

Contact Beth Sharpe, Communications Manager at 416 599 5321 x2239 or bethsharpe@textilemuseum.ca

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Museum Hours
Open 7 days a week 11 am – 5 pm
Wednesdays 11 am – 8 pm



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Programs & Events

Judy Chicago Today: Art, Feminism, and Activism in the 21st Century

Thursday February 12, 7:00 pm, Innis Town Hall

Join renowned artist Judy Chicago in conversation with Maura Reilly, Founder and former Curator of the Elizabeth A. Sackler Center for Feminist Art at the Brooklyn Museum, and Jenni Sorkin, PhD candidate in the History of Art at Yale University. Moderated by Allyson Mitchell.

Advance Tickets: Members & Full-time students, \$20, Non-members, \$25

At the door: Members & Full-time students, \$22, Non-members, \$27

Advance tickets may be purchased in person at the TMC's front desk. Please arrive early, seating is limited.

Needleworker Tour with Audrey Cowan

Friday February 13, 2:00 pm

Audrey Cowan has collaborated with Judy Chicago on her projects since *The Dinner Party*. Join Audrey for a tour of *When Women Rule the World: Judy Chicago in Thread*.

Free with admission.

International Women's Day Storytelling Family Event

Sunday March 8, 1:00 pm

Celebrate International Women's Day with a visit to the Textile Museum of Canada. Longtime storyteller Ruth Danziger will give a reading of Peg Bearskin and other folktales, myths, and stories that feature female heroines.

Members \$6, Non-members \$8, Full-time student & Children \$4.

Advance tickets may be purchased in person at the TMC's front desk. Please arrive early, seating is limited.

Curator's Tour

Wednesday March 11, 6:30 pm

Join Allyson Mitchell in the galleries for a tour of *When Women Rule the World: Judy Chicago in Thread* and *She Will Always Be Younger Than Us*.

Free with admission.

Artist Talk and Knotcraft with Wednesday Lupypciw

Wednesday May 27, 6:30 pm

Alberta artist Wednesday Lupypciw will give a presentation about her work followed by an interactive demonstration of knot-tying techniques.

Members \$10, Non-members \$12, Full-time students Pay-What-You-Can.

Advance tickets may be purchased in person at the TMC's front desk. Please arrive early as seating is limited

Interchange: Craftivism

Friday June 5, 6:30 pm

Join Jen Anisef of Toronto Craft Alert; Cat Mazza, artist and founder of MicroRevolt collective of craftivism; and Anthea Black, artist and writer, for a discussion about craftivism as it pertains to labour practices.

Members \$12, Non-members \$15, Full-time students Pay-What-You-Can.

Advance tickets may be purchased in person at the TMC's front desk. Please arrive early, seating is limited.

Seminar: How to Use knitPro with Cat Mazza

Saturday June 6, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

knitPro is a web application that translates digital images into knit, crochet, needlepoint and cross-stitch patterns. Artist Cat Mazza will discuss its history and political relevance, and, following a demonstration, she will lead participants in using knitPro to create their own knitted or cross-stitched pieces.

Members \$50, Non-members \$65, Full-time students and youth \$40

Advance registration is required, class size is limited. To register, call 416-599-5321 x2221.

Film Screening: 24 Stitches Per Second

Wednesday June 24, 6:30 pm

Frames move through a film projector at a rate of twenty-four per second. See the handiwork and labour of textile art translated into film in this program of short films curated by Allyson Mitchell.

Members \$10, Non-members \$12, Full-time students Pay-What-You-Can.

Advance tickets may be purchased in person at the TMC's front desk. Please arrive early, seating is limited.

Curator's Tour

Wednesday July 8, 6:30 pm

Join Allyson Mitchell in the galleries for a tour of *When Women Rule the World: Judy Chicago in Thread* and *She Will Always Be Younger Than Us*.

Free with admission.

Thrift Tour led by Andrew Harwood and Allyson Mitchell

Saturday August 22, 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Join Toronto Artist Andrew Harwood and *When Women Rule the World* curator Allyson Mitchell for a van/bus tour of Toronto's thrift stores. Discover hidden thrift locations and find textile treasures on this intimate day-long excursion.

Members \$50, Non-members \$65, Full-time students and youth \$40

Advance registration is required, tour size is limited. To register, call 416-599-5321 x2221