

You are entering a secure zone  
(installation view), 2008, Craig Fisher



# Thread Bare

13 February 2010 >  
25 April 2010

Craig Fisher  
Lucy Brown  
Joanne Haywood  
Judith Dwyer



**Rochester**  
art gallery  
and craft case



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**Thread Bare** presents four contemporary artist-makers who use textiles to explore the human condition and gender-related concerns, relationships between past and present and narratives constructed around personal and cultural identity.

Craig Fisher's sculptural installations question representations of violence, disaster and macho stereotypes. Staged scenes invite the viewer to speculate, as a voyeur, on the artist's intent, as potentially hazardous objects are presented as large, soft sculptures.

Lucy Brown's work explores female identity through themes such as beauty, absence and presence of the body, clothed versus unclothed. Brown meticulously unpicks and reconstructs second hand and vintage garments to create abstract, sculptural works, that evoke heightened nostalgic and physical responses.

Joanne Haywood's bold and eye-catching jewellery draws upon the conflict of opposites



Stage Whisper, 2010, Judith Dwyer

for dramatic effect – skeletal forms and fleshy volumes, the natural and unnatural and the interplay of light and shadow.

Contradictions and ambiguities lie at the centre of Judith Dwyer's work. Embroidery techniques on luxury fabric are combined with cheap and disposable materials to create disconcerting, hampered creatures inspired by Indian pathway icons, pantomime characters and Staffordshire ceramic figures.

### Gallery Activities

#### Craig Fisher In Conversation

*Saturday, 6 March, 1-2pm.*

*Rochester Art Gallery and Auditorium*

Join Craig Fisher for a presentation and talk.

#### Thread Bare family workshop

*Saturday, 10 April, 1-3.30pm*

*Rochester Art Gallery*

Use a range of recycled materials to create your own artworks inspired by the exhibition. With artists Sue Blinkho and Helen Rootkin. All ages welcome. Under-16s must be accompanied by an adult.

Reserve your **free** place for either event by phoning **01634 338319** as spaces are limited.

#### Artist In Residence

Lucy Brown will be in the gallery creating additions to her installation. Contact the Arts Team or visit our website for dates and times.

## Opening reception

You are invited to the opening reception of *Thread Bare* on **Friday, 12 February, 6.30-8.30pm**

**Rochester Art Gallery and Craft Case,**  
Medway Visitor Information Centre,  
Ground Floor, 95 High Street,  
Rochester, Kent ME1 1LX

#### Opening hours

Mon-Sat 10am – 5pm  
Sun 10.30am – 5pm  
Free admission

#### More information:

For further details of events and activities, phone Medway Council's Arts Development Team on **01634 338319**, email [arts@medway.gov.uk](mailto:arts@medway.gov.uk) or visit [www.medway.gov.uk/arts](http://www.medway.gov.uk/arts)