

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **READY. SET. STITCH - Join the Vibrant Community Textiles Project, Woven Hug at Flowerfield Arts Centre this June.**

#### **RELEASE DATE: Immediate**

Get ready to reconnect, reunite, and reflect with Woven Hug, a participatory textile project at Flowerfield Arts Centre this month. Flowerfield are thrilled to bring this innovative initiative to the community, offering a unique opportunity to be a part of creating an exciting public textile sculpture.

First delivered in Monterrey, Mexico, Woven Hug will employ arpillera, also known as burlap techniques, to craft a textile 'hug' which will embrace the front of Flowerfield Arts Centre throughout the summer months. This project emphasizes sustainability by repurposing recycled materials in response to the environmental damage caused by fast fashion.

Led by artists Tere Chad and Cordelia Rizzo this project has been made possible through partnerships Linen Biennale, Ulster University, Queen's University, and Conflict Textiles, and with generous financial support from the National Lottery through Arts Council England and the Buffett Institute for Global Affairs.

But here's where you come in. Flowerfield invites all residents to take part in free workshops, where you'll design and embroider pieces to be attached to the magnificent outdoor sculpture. You are invited to make this a true community effort and explore various important topics that will be intricately woven into the artwork. During the workshops you will reflect on the post-Good Friday Agreement Northern Ireland society, delve into the rich textile heritage of our region, honour the historical role of women in society, marvel at our breath-taking landscapes, and confront the impact of climate change upon them.

The grand finale will be a striking installation—a pair of embracing arms extending from the first-floor façade of Flowerfield Arts Centre, capturing the essence of unity and belonging. The final piece will be on display throughout July & August.

Flowerfield warmly invites each one of you to be a part of the Woven Hug.

From June 19th to July 5th, there will be free textile workshops for local community groups during the week. Conflict Textiles will lead a special workshop on 27<sup>th</sup> June and Dr. Cliff Henry from the National Trust will give a talk by prior to the community workshop on 22<sup>nd</sup> June. He'll be sharing his passion for 'The Tiny, the Rare, and the Weird Wildlife' at the Giant's Causeway. To get your community group involved in

these workshops, contact [amy.donaghey@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk](mailto:amy.donaghey@causewaycoastandglens.gov.uk) for more information and check remaining availability.

For the public and families, we have exciting drop-in sessions scheduled for Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June, and Saturday 1st, July. Hurry and reserve your spot, as these sessions are free but require advance booking at [flowerfield.org](http://flowerfield.org).

On Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> June there will also be an open air performance by talented Chilean musician Victor Henriquez from 12:30 – 13:30, and mark your calendars for Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> June Tere and Cordelia will take part in a panel discussion with Roberta Bacic (Conflict Textiles), Alison Gault (University Ulster) and Jane McCann (Linen Biennale), discussing and celebrating the vibrant textile heritage of the region and its profound political impact.

Finally, you are invited to the official launch of the final piece on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm.

For more information on Woven Hug please visit [flowerfield.org](http://flowerfield.org) or call Flowerfield Reception on 028 7083 1400.

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