

Call for Papers and Exhibition/Workshop Proposals

"Doily-Free Zone: Raising the status of lace and lace making"

1st International Symposium of Young Lace Makers

April 4-7 2013

We are pleased to announce that we will be holding a symposium for and about young lace makers in Pavia, Italy (just south of Milan) in April 2013 in order to coincide with Milan Design Week.

The symposium aims to encourage communication amongst young lace makers and to safeguard and promote this rich textile tradition as a form of creative expression.

For the purposes of this meeting we define lace as a fabric in which the open spaces are as fundamental to the design as the solid areas and where this is interplay of holes is an intrinsic part of the fabric's structure, for this reason we will not accept proposals based on die or laser cut "lace patterns". All lace makers who wish to present work or research papers must be under the age of 40 at the time of the symposium, this is not meant as discrimination but is rather an attempt to focus on the work of a generation which for various reasons is not associated with the major guilds and organizations. The symposium, however, will be open to all.

The symposium will be divided into three categories; *Lace and Tradition*, *Lace and Design* and *Lace and Art* and we are accepting proposals for papers, works of art and design, and workshops related to these themes. Proposals are to be sent to the attention of Angharad Rixon at info@textilesupport.it no later than Saturday 31st March 2012 and the successful applicants will be contacted by Sunday 15th April 2012. A complete programme for the symposium and related events will be available in June 2012.

Symposium Outline:

- Thursday April 4, 2013 - In the evening, welcome drink and registration, opening of the exhibition at Textile Support
- Friday April 5, 2013 - **Lace and Tradition** Morning: Presentation of papers from young people working with historical laces and projects to revive local traditions. Afternoon: A choice of three mini-workshops on traditional techniques, lace identification or preparing historical reconstructions
- Saturday April 6, 2013 - **Lace and Design** Morning: projects from young fashion and industrial designers who are working with lace. Afternoon: Choice of mini-workshop on lace design for fashion, lace and new materials, lace as high-end craft.
- Sunday April 7, 2013 - **Lace and Art** Morning: presentations by artists and a performance work. Afternoon: Choice of mini-workshop on lace and conceptual art, lace and performance, designing for artistic production.