Rules: Convention, science and mathematics in a search for visual language

An LKL Maths-Art seminar by
Natalie Dower

Tuesday 11 September,
6.00–7.30pm
London Knowledge Lab, WC1N 3QS

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Coherence requires rules based on knowledge, but with rapid dissemination of new information between disciplines the visual language to be used is, more than it ever was, the choice of the individual. This talk will cover some examples of interdisciplinary influence, particularly work based on the Dudeney Dissection, and will give consideration of appreciation and deconstruction of visual images by the viewer.

Natalie Dower trained at St Martin's, Camberwell and the Slade. We are pleased to have Natalie speak at LKL at the same time as a retrospective exhibition is showing at Camden Arts Centre of the work of her tutor at Camberwell, Kenneth Martin, and his wife Mary Martin (exhibition moving to Tate St Ives and the De la Warr Pavilion at Bexhill-on-Sea).

Since Natalie moved away from figurative work in the mid-1960s she has been seen as a constructivist artist in the spirit of the Martins, employing a combination of geometry and system in her work.

Her work encompasses both painting and sculpture. She finds structure is the vital element in painting so it is not surprising that she also creates reliefs and sculptures. Like Mary Martin's work, their complexity grows out of the simplicity of the initiating ideas: to take an idea and open it out to show its richness. Her work on the square to triangle dissection puzzle by H E Dudeney has inspired her for many years.

All welcome. No registration or ticket required, but an email to lkl.maths.art@gmail.com is appreciated to assist with planning.

LKL Maths-Art seminar series

Website and archive: www.lkl.ac.uk/maths-art

This seminar is part of a regular series of maths-art seminars held at the London Knowledge Lab, usually on the second Tuesday of each month during term times. To receive email announcements about events, subscribe to the mailing list at www.dcs.bbk.ac.uk/mailman/listinfo/lkl-maths-art .

Future seminars are planned for October 9th, November 13th, and December 11th.

We propose these seminars as explorations of the connections between "mathematics" and "art", where both terms are understood broadly: art implies visual art (painting, drawing, sculpture, computer graphics, video), architecture, music, textile art, literature/poetry (and others), and mathematics implies both mathematics as a discipline and the related disciplines in science and engineering for which mathematics is an essential means of expression and communication.

Seminars are normally video-recorded for viewing on the website, and may also be web-cast live.

The seminar organisers are John Sharp and Phillip Kent. We welcome your suggestions about speakers or topics for future seminars; email us at lkl.maths.art@gmail.com .

Getting to the London Knowledge Lab

Nearest tube stations are: Holborn (Central, Piccadilly lines), Russell Square (Piccadilly line). Approximately 10-15 minutes walk from either station.

23-29 Emerald St, WC1N 3QS