

ANITA CHRISTOFFERSSON

I DON'T WANT TO

PROJECT ROOM 5 DECEMBER 2003 – 15 FEBRUARY 2004

Anita Christoffersson started her career as a textile artist, but soon moved towards other materials such as rubber, plastic, enamel, paper and tin. In connection with the change in materials, Christoffersson focused on a few basic forms – circle, dot and line. In opposition to formal expression, in her recent installations Christoffersson has dealt with psychological themes.

Christoffersson deals with the most inner and often hidden human emotions such as grief, loneliness, and the feeling of inadequacy, but also positive thoughts such as hope and trust. These she connects with the themes of memory, identity and privacy. Christoffersson uses herself and her personal experiences as a source in her work, creating a connecting link from the private to the universal.

In her recent exhibitions, Anita Christoffersson has compiled works from everyday objects such as old blankets, towels, blinds and masonite sheets. By using an object of her own or objects she has found from old people's homes Christoffersson emphasises the authenticity of the material. She has printed and embroidered texts on the fabrics as "I don't want to", "I hate myself" "You should have" and other expressions of self-pity and self-contempt. The objects Christoffersson uses act as metaphors.

In the exhibition made for the Pori Art Museum's project room, the essential elements are a blind, words cut from magazines and a children's chair. The blind contains even in its everyday use the message of hiding and concealing. The old children's chair and the blankets left on it suggest warmth and consolation. The text incorporated on them gives them new meanings and associations. With her work Christoffersson conveys the more painful questions of basic human needs and hidden feelings.

Anita Christoffersson was born in 1943. She lives and works in Lund, Sweden. Christoffersson graduated with a Ph.B. in 1980 from the University of Lund and an MA in 2000 from the Goldsmiths College, London. Her works have been shown in exhibitions in Europe and Japan. She has made study and work trips in Europe, and also in the USA, Japan, Indonesia and Australia. Anita Christoffersson wishes to thank: Siiri Eriksson, Katy Hertell, Taina Maatela, Rauni Mustonen, Kaija Johanna Mäenpää, Markku Roivainen, Vivan Storlund, Suvi Söderholm.