

Textile artist Heidi Drahota Workshop

24th April 2025

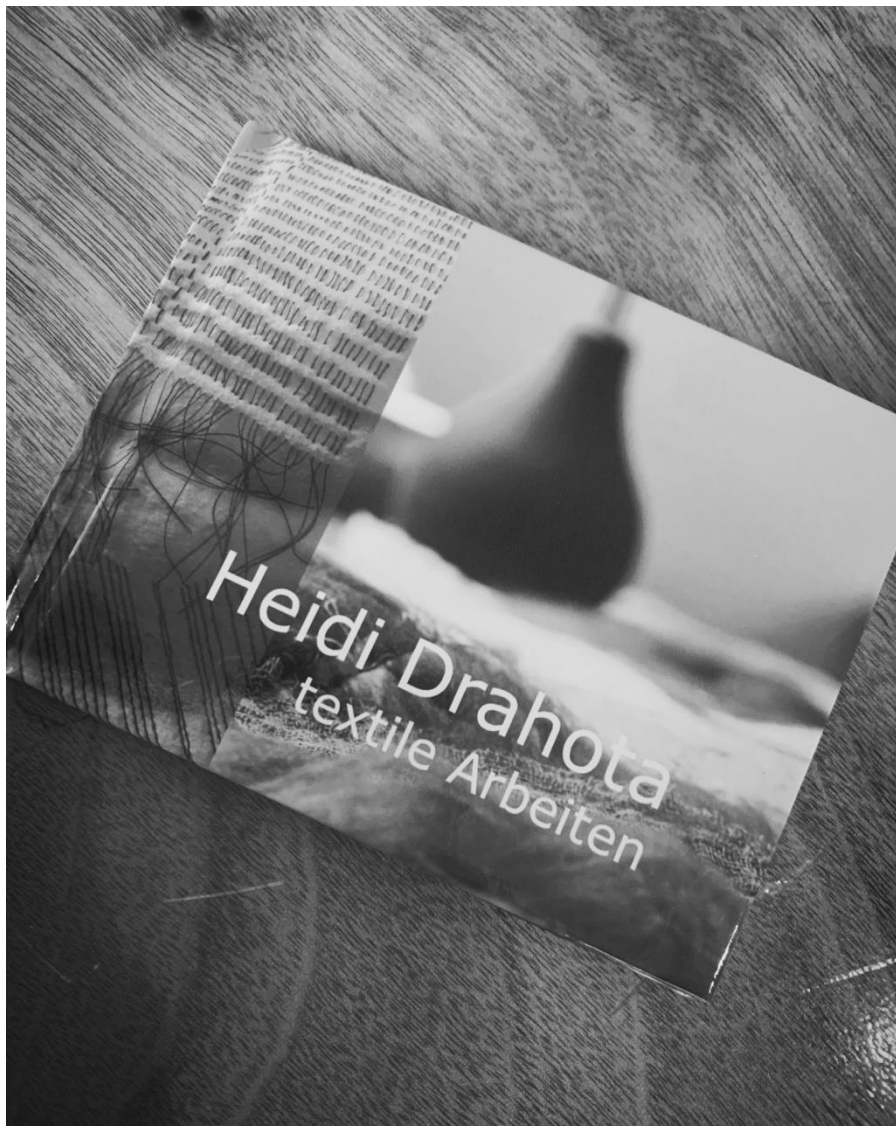
An account (text and photos) by Saray Sánchez (from Mexico)

PhD student researcher at TU Dublin

The conversation and textile workshop with Heidi Drahota was a thought-provoking experience that not only made me reflect on the way we “learn new things” but also on how we engage on reciprocity while participating in making textiles.

Beyond solely focusing on the artist's personal creative journey behind her two haunting tapestries that formed part of the Ulster Museum exhibition, ‘Threads of Empowerment’. Heidi talked about the importance of us connecting with the materiality of textiles, and crucially, we were provided the space to do so.

Taking the felt she made herself we explored its temporality past, present and future through each of its layers. Giving and receiving, not as a superficial and ephemeral transaction, but from genuine connection in the collective sharing of perspectives, experiences, and emotions.





Heidi Drahota holding the felt made by herself



Workshop participants in Gallery 3



Display of workshop materials



Heidi Drahota cutting chosen scraps (by the participants) from the felt specially made by her



Side view that shows richness of the felt



Each participant placed the sewn piece onto a temporary cloth backing and shares thought and feelings expressed through the workshop