

MEDIA RELEASE

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF TASMANIA

DATE: WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY 2014

ATTENTION: Chiefs of Staff, News Directors



Chainmaille - The mesmerising work of Lyn Broomhall

Chainmaille (*also known as Mail or Maille*) is defined as flexible material or chains composed of small interlocking metal rings, and was used as armour from the Roman era until the late Middle Ages in both eastern and western cultures.

In her upcoming exhibition at the UTAS Cradle Coast Campus Atrium gallery, Devonport artist, Lyn Broomhall offers her personal perspective on chainmaille, utilising the ancient metallic art form in her intricate contemporary jewellery.

Lyn Broomhall's first encounter with chainmaille left a lasting impression on the artist.

"In late 2007 I fell in love. While surfing for jewellery on a handmade items website I happened upon some chainmaille and that was it. I quickly found a kit and mere hours after arriving in the post I had my first, though somewhat rough, bracelet.

"Though now I make most of my *jump rings*, the range of weaves, the history, flexibility and not least the beauty still holds me captivated," Ms Broomhall explained.

Ms Broomhall said the *Chainmaille* exhibition provides a unique opportunity to display her jewellery as hung works rather than worn.

"At first, the challenge to exhibit *Chainmaille* in a gallery environment blew my mind...particularly as it was so important for me to allow the viewer to touch the pieces.

"I needed to create work which was light, inexpensive, and not precious and which I could make in large scale. Aluminum was the perfect choice," she said.

The exhibition runs from Thursday February 6 until Wednesday March 5 at the UTAS Cradle Coast Campus.

Artist: Lyn Broomhall

Exhibition title: *Chainmaille*

Exhibition opening: 5pm Thursday Feb 6

Guest Speaker: Melanie Honor Clarke (Artisan Jeweller)

Where: Atrium Gallery – Upstairs, Building D, UTAS, Cradle Coast Campus
16-20 Mooreville Rd, Burnie

For more information about this exhibition, or to enquire about exhibiting your work at the UTAS Atrium Gallery, please contact: UTAS Exhibitions Coordinator: Joanna Gair: Joanna.Gair@utas.edu.au www.cradle-coast.utas.edu.au

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