



# Three Colours for Bacup

The three suspended textile pieces installed on the gable ends of the stalls at Bacup Market are the second phase of a project by Culturapedia with a long-term goal of creating an outdoor gallery for temporary artworks. Phase one saw the installation of stunning illustrations between the stalls by Cath Ford. The new works are by Robert Howell, a Lancashire based textile artist. They explore the connection between colour and meaning, a language that would have been widely understood in the 19th century. Howell has introduced coloured motifs, inspired by the work of the Bloomsbury Group of artists working in the 1930s, specifically Roger Fry and Duncan Grant, with hand-drawn lettering depicting three positive words associated with the colour they accompany. The Bloomsbury artists' practice often involved applied work- adorning furniture or making pieces for a specific space. Similarly, Howell has made these textile pieces specifically for the market stall structures in Bacup.



*“As a textile artist and banner maker, I have always been drawn to text. We are conditioned to read, and we are taught how to absorb and process text in a way that we are not taught to read images. A picture may paint a thousand words, but six words convey a meaning far quicker than a painting for many of us. Before the First World War, people were far more familiar with the symbolism of colours. These are evident on many pre-WW1 banners and artworks - their meaning is largely lost on a modern audience. Despite this being the era of Instagram - we are still conditioned to read.”*

By using hand-drawn text, Howell also alludes to the Hogarth Press and the Omega Workshops, associated with the Bloomsbury group, where freehand lettering adorned books and posters.

Each piece is 460cm wide and 80cm tall.

They are appliqued using mixed fibres, including contract furnishing fabric, ripstop nylon and velour.





The pieces that have inspired the works for Bacup Market are

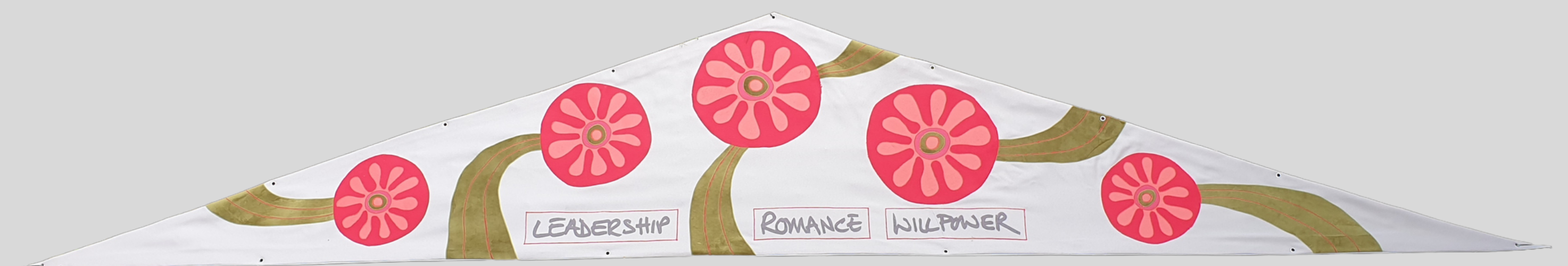
Provincial Valley Screen by Roger Frey, 1913

Wardrobe for Lalla Vandervelde by Roger Fry, 1916

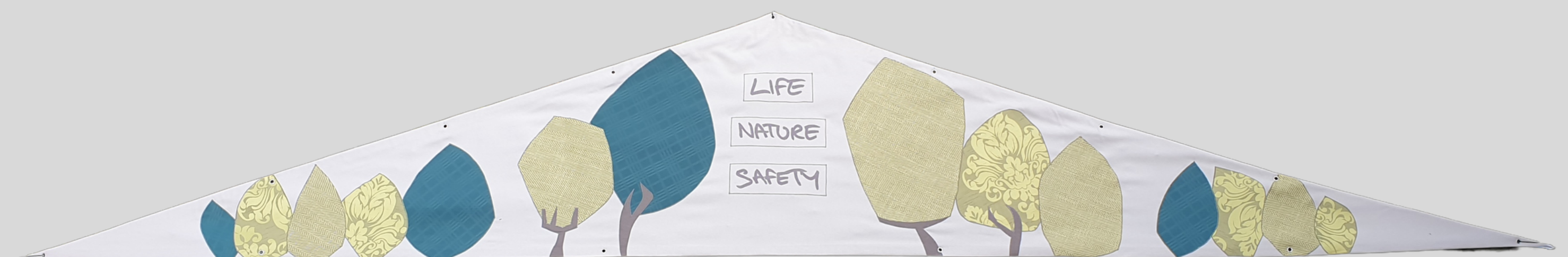
Abstract Kinetic Painting with Collage by Duncan Grant, 1914



Orange 2022. Mixed fibres, 4600mm x 800mm



Red 2022. Mixed fibres, 4600mm x 800mm



Green 2022. Mixed fibres, 4600mm x 800mm



HM Government

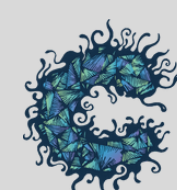


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