

Laurence Gatehouse

Artist Bio

I am a hand weaver of rugs using traditional techniques and mostly natural materials. The inspirations for my work come from nature, filtered through my biological training and my lifelong interests in high energy physics and mathematics.

My philosophy for design, whilst centred in my science training, tries to represent elements of nature both on the surface visual level as well as the underlying structures and patterns. The designs involve either small repetitive patterns that are controlled by how the loom is threaded and the choice of weft colours, or larger scale designs, more suited to the eye-to-floor viewing distance, constructed using the technique of 'block weaves' modulated by "shaft switching" using self-built loom modifications and some hand manipulation techniques.

I devise my own designs and do not make series of the same design, that is what factories are for. Each rug is intended to be a unique art piece. I very much prefer to produce functional pieces, creating them wholly myself. My preferences are to use strong colours and earth tones, much of which I enjoy dyeing up myself.

The rugs can be walked on but only those of all carpet wool would be suitable for heavier traffic areas. Should you want to purchase a rug for use as a wall hanging, I would be happy to discuss this and make permanent mountings. I am also happy to discuss commissions.