**Sudbury Silk Stories Interviews**

Georgia Cooke - Textile Designer - Vanners

File Length: 00:06:05

FULL TRANSCRIPT (with timecode)

*00:00:13:23 - 00:00:34:23*

So I grew up in Bury St. Edmonds, did primary, middle and upper I went to Guildhall Feoffment then St. James. And then I went on to Thurston community college and I love school and I loved art. And it was a passion and thrive throughout the whole thing. And that's why I design currently.

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So I went to university and studied textile design where I specialize in woven within the first three months and then went on to being selected for new designers in London and then Steven and Neave who I currently work with selected me to do an intern here and then a month later I become part of the team.

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I love doing Paisley's it is a big challenge and it could take up to three months to do them but it's worth every second When you see an outcome.

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Silk is very rare and it's just an aging process that we're trying to keep modern and keep pushing boundaries to their limits. I love it. It's a passion of mine since I've been at uni. I even came here interning on a competition before I met Stephen and Neave and I actually use their leftover silk of waste and I use their silk in my loom which was great.

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I would highly recommend this job to young people. Any experience in this industry is great and valuable.

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Ever since I've been here for three years I haven't stopped learning in day out and I'm still learning now.

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When I was in my first year at uni we had to specialize in one either sewing weaving print and I loved weave getting hands on so can yarn and different textures and fibers. So I went out and paid nearly a thousand pound for a loom which has a double beam so I could make double cloths and push limits to the university having different sources. We couldn't get on the looms all the time so I felt like it is a disadvantage for my you need to degree.

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So good job mom brought me a name.

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So I've heard a lot about it and it was a really weird thing last year. We were moving brooms and one of Patten cooks came in and went Oh my God I've just seen a man with a top pop. He was about over six foot and he was just staring at me in the corridor and she was describing where it was and then basically I said oh

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what's this about.

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I've never heard of it. And then another lady walked in about ten minutes later and basically said I've just seen the ghost and we're all like oh I don't believe it. And then basically ever since then everyone keeps saying you'll see it one day but I haven't seen it so far.

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So basically as a design we get from a brief from a customer and they give us a color palette a story that autumn winter of spring summer collection. We then create a brief from that in tie cap form which is on a 45 degree angle so they can visually see it from a customer's point

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And then they select different designs from that or they come back and tweak it and say Could we have it 50 percent smaller. Or if we want to 30 percent smaller. If so we go ahead and do the caps again.

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All of this is printed out so we have it on a fact file for that customer. And then after this process it goes into technical they have to found down everything with a weave structure that we've agreed with with the customer.

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Sometimes it's their choice sometimes we give them inspiration because some people aren't aware after that it goes in the need to be woven on the jackpot with a strike off of 20 centimeters to see the full repeat when we get this back. Sometimes it's not exactly what we've expected or that's folks or things that have to be changed tonight. But it's pretty good sometimes.

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If this is an example of a tie that I've done which is a Paisley where we're pushing boundaries of how many and we can fit into a tie and how much detail we can get within the walk and weft.

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So all of the fine details have to be bound down and obviously the scale is very small but you get a lot of definition in the tie. So this is a very complex tie which takes a lot of hours from me. I'm the technical team to create. So this tie is going to be my wedding tie for all of my ashes and

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My fiance say because it's my most special tie that I've ever designed since being hit three