

Binding Together

an interactive art project in Oslo Cathedral

Loom A loom is to be produced. Materials are secondhand clothes provided by Fretex, a company run by the Norwegian Salvation Army. At the reopening of Oslo Cathedral, 18. April 2010, after three years of conservation, only the basic fabric in the art work *Binding Together* was made ready. As the loom grows, it will be raised, ending in a hanging web. The work will continue until Lent 2011.

Concept *Binding Together* is an art project that intends to visualize and reflect the activity and the people that have been in the cathedral space. It is a collaborative project that demands the participation of many hands in order to become realized. Nobody knows exactly how this will end, and no one has the ownership of the outcome, the result belongs to all. This project seeks to bridge Christian ideals and contemporary challenges. Amnesty International works in our time globally for individuals that are persecuted for their convictions, religious or political. The Church wishes to show her solidarity with these efforts. *Binding Together* intends to reflect the unending web structure of good will that is present in the world and in Oslo Cathedral concretely.

Documentation The process will continuously be documented and linked to the websites of Oslo Cathedral and Amnesty International. Every week there will be taken photos, video or stills that show the binding and the growing loom. Only hands in work, no recognizable faces will be presented on the net.

Outcome The binding structure of the loom will by necessity vary. It has to organize itself by the choices taken by those who participate. But since the “weaving technique” is based on binding and knots, the outcome will have no beginning or end; it becomes constructively flexible for additions in all directions. The loom can become as big as one pleases, it will be interactive while it grows and may be exported physically or digitally. The resulting fabric structure can be used as a carpet to sit upon or below. It can be utilized in several ways, catechetically or aesthetically, maybe in performances.

Making

1. Choose a textile/cloth
2. Make a weft material: width 10-15 cm and length 30-70 cm, dependent on the quality of the fabric
3. Bind your weft material to the last loose end of the weft (horizontal)
4. Knot your material your material to at least one warp “thread” (vertical)
5. Leave a loose end of your weft, at least 15 cm, to the next participant

Thanks for all contributions!