



**Fashion Revolution presents *How to be a Fashion Revolutionary*  
at the British Textile Biennial 2023**

September 2023

Fashion Revolution is taking residence at the British Textile Biennial 2023 with the *How to be a Fashion Revolutionary* exhibition, located at the Helmsshore Mills Textile Museum in East Lancashire. Between 29th September and 29th October, *How to be a Fashion Revolutionary* will guide visitors through the Fashion Revolution archives, drawing on the learnings from nine years of campaigning to encourage reflection and inspire action.

In a display of archival Zine covers, poems and illustrations, the exhibition follows the environmental and human problems inherent in the fashion industry, maps out creative solutions and charts a course for change. It proudly features artwork designed or commissioned by Fashion Revolution Global and Fashion Revolution teams in Argentina, Brazil, India and Singapore to paint a global picture of action and resistance, and to invite new audiences on their fashion activism journeys.

The installation will be brought to life by a video montage capturing the evolution of Fashion Revolution into a global movement spanning 75 countries, and an interactive conversation map where visitors can respond to questions posed throughout the exhibition. Developed by Talk Climate Change for Fashion Revolution Week 2023, the [Fashion Revolution Map](#) is a global forum for Fashion Revolutionaries around the world to exchange knowledge, inspiration and ideas for change. At the exhibition, the map will serve as a conversation tool for the local community and capture the responses of newly initiated Fashion Revolutionaries.

The British Textile Biennial is taking place across Eastern Lancashire, a cultural and historic symbol of the global textile industry. Taken from the British Textile Biennial 2023 programme, “the industrial revolution transformed rural East Lancashire into an engine of fast fashion at the epicentre of a web that stretched across the globe; commandeering human and environmental resources across continents in a vicious cycle of labour, manufacture and trade that persists today and which we now know is unsustainable”. *How to be a Fashion Revolutionary* recognises and responds to these issues and encourages visitors to collectively reimagine what a clean, safe, fair, transparent and accountable fashion industry could look like.

“Storytelling has always been such a vital part of our work and is integral for capturing new hearts and minds in our global community. Through revisiting the Fashion Revolution

archives, visitors can explore artistic interpretations of fashion's potential to harm and heal, and will find themselves similarly transformed by illustration and poetry. *How to be a Fashion Revolutionary* is based on the delightfully simple premise that anyone can be a Fashion Revolutionary. It starts with being curious, finding out and doing something, and this exhibition will guide you on your journey to action." - Mel Watt, *Digital Communications Manager at Fashion Revolution*

**Ends.**

## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

For further information and interview requests, please email [press@fashionrevolution.org](mailto:press@fashionrevolution.org). Download press images [here](#).

*How to be a Fashion Revolutionary* is open 29th September - 29th October.

Location: Helmshore Mills Textile Museum, Holcombe Road, Helmshore, Rossendale, BB4 4NP

Opening hours: Thursday – Sunday, 10:00 – 16:00

A selection of displayed Zines will also be available to purchase at the Helmshore Mills Textile Museum gift shop.

The exhibition was curated by Mel Watt, Molly Porteous and Lauren Rees, the Global Communications Team at Fashion Revolution.

Throughout the month, a series of British Textile Biennial workshops and events will be held across East Lancashire. The full schedule of events and workshops will be announced shortly. You can view the schedule and book your place [here](#).

### **About Fashion Revolution**

[Fashion Revolution](#) is the world's largest fashion activism movement, mobilising citizens, industry and policymakers through research, education and advocacy work. Fashion Revolution's global movement spans across 75 countries with a collective vision for a fashion industry that conserves and restores the environment and values people over growth and profit.

### **About the British Textile Biennale 2023**

[The British Textile Biennial](#) throws a spotlight on the nation's creativity, innovation and expression in textiles against the backdrop of the impressive infrastructure of the cotton industry in Pennine Lancashire. The third edition of British Textile Biennial traces the routes of fibres and fabrics across continents and centuries to and from the north of England in a series of commissions and exhibitions throughout October in the spaces left behind by the Lancashire textile industry. From the so-called 'slave cloth', spun and woven by hand on the Pennine moors, to the bales of used fast fashion that make their way from British high

streets to the markets and toxic mountains of waste in West Africa, BTB23 follows that journey.