

# Theo Moorman Awards

## Reports from the 2006 winners



Above: *Thin Ice (detail of tapestry)*  
Hillu Liebelt

Below: *Silent Place*  
Hillu Liebelt



### Hillu Liebelt £3500

In October 2006 I visited Japan for the first time, a trip made possible by a generous grant from the Theo Moorman Trust.

I had been invited to teach a class in tapestry weaving at the Seian University of Art and Design near Kyoto and give another three-day workshop at the Kawashima Textile School. My main reason, however, for wanting to go to Japan was to meet a number of well known textile artists whose work I had seen and admired in the two major exhibitions on Japanese Art Textiles here in Britain. These meetings led to many discussions about each other's work and gave me an insight into their sources of inspiration.

As a result of my visit I had an exhibition in September / October 2007 at the Grace Barrand Design Centre in Surrey with Asako Ishizaki, who had been one of the artists in the exhibition *TEXTURAL SPACE*, and received an invitation for a solo exhibition and artist's residency in Japan for October 2008.

I am most grateful to the Trustees and the late Theo Moorman herself for giving me the chance to visit this fascinating country. Their generosity triggered a chain reaction creating the pre-conditions for what could be seen as the beginning of a change of direction in my work. In the summer of 2007 I received a grant from Arts Council England for the development of new work inspired by my visit to Japan. The results will be shown in an exhibition in Spring 2009.