

## Theresa Roxburgh

Together We Brush - The Five Uses of Fur

1. **The Dog of Waste** (2023)  
dog fur  
5kg of dog fur going to waste in 1 dog groomers per week sculpted as our man's best friend.
2. **"Sit"** (2022)  
dog fur  
Sample techniques explored for upholstery.
3. **Light Locks** (2023)  
dog fur
4. **Chiengora** (2023)  
dog fur
5. **River** (2022)  
dog fur
6. **Furmal** (2023)  
dog fur  
Alternative insulation bricks

An ongoing project exploring the potential applications for this waste, far too beautiful for the bin.

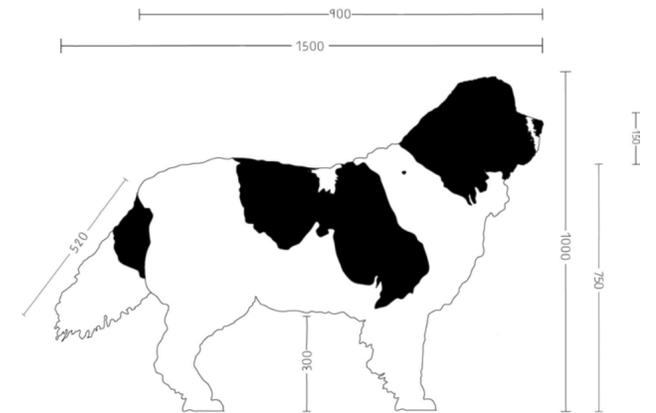




## INTRODUCTION

5kg of dog hair goes to waste **every week** in only **1** of the many dog groomers in London alone. With roughly **10 million** dogs in the UK, roughly **75,000 dog groomers**, **375 tonnes** of dog fur goes to waste in a **week**. Too beautiful for the bin, what to do with all that fur? Over the past months I have collaborated with **local dog groomers**, collecting their 'waste' in hope to redirect it. How can we find a purpose for this disregarded fibre? Our domestication of dogs has inhibited the development of dog fur as a **textile within interiors**. Why, as a society, do we have multiple animals within our homes. Yet, our dogs, who's fur is a constant battle to be rid of, only appears on furnishings as an inconvenience?

Upon understanding of the material, it's use stems further than decoration. With **80% higher thermal properties** than wool, dog fur has high potential as **insulation**. In ode of the building brick, I have created samples.

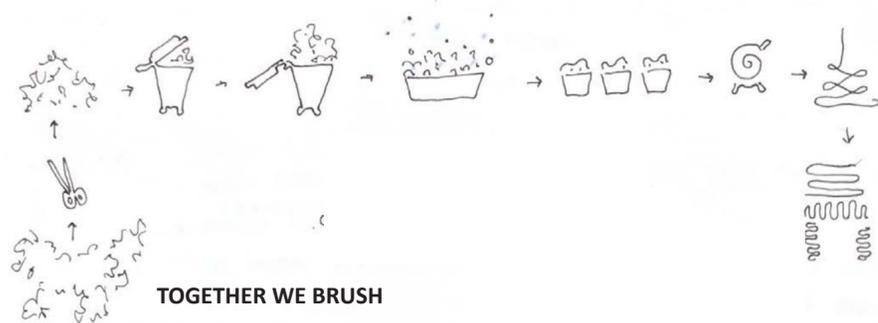


## TOGETHER WE BRUSH FILM LINK



GROOMERS = SHORT HAIR = CUT = WET FELT = NEEDLE FELT  
 " STUFFING  
 " INSULATION

INDIVIDUAL OWNERS = BRUSHED = LONG HAIR = SPINNABLE = WOOL = WEAVE  
 " MANEABLE  
 " NEEDLE + WET FELT.



**TOGETHER WE BRUSH**

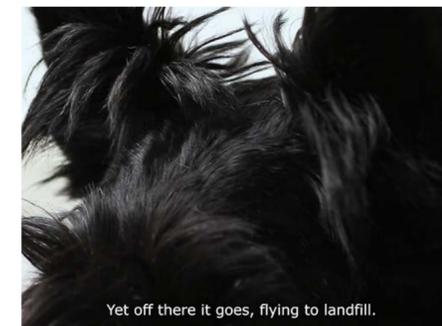
One by one, or chunks at a time, I grow this for me, yet it be not mine.  
 You remove it without me, spin it round without my will.  
 Yet off there it goes, ready to fulfil.  
 Fulfil but not me, yet the orders which await,  
 The orders of jumpers, blankets, or coats in weight.  
 Do you hear?  
 Woof. Oink. Squeel. Sniff. Patter.  
 We speak different languages, but why does that matter?  
 We wear the same coat, sometimes tame, sometimes rough  
 Yet what is the difference?  
 Be it hair, fur or fluff.

Together we brush, as an act out of love.  
 You hold one end whilst I hold the other.  
 A ceremony, a ritual, an event for the day – to be done for hours until you no longer wish to play.  
 Stroke by stroke, on your belly at best. What else would you do but make a nest?  
 But the birds have collected and no longer need more, the compost is full eagerly waiting by the door.  
 With each tangle and tassle that you so proudly wear, there is so much more potential with your silky soft hair.  
 Too beautiful for the bin why don't we use it, when it's everything but thin and no need to abuse it.  
 it seems such a waste to throw away that what you grow, so give me back the brush and I'll give it a mow.

One by one, or chunks at a time, I grow this for me, yet it only be mine.  
 You remove it with me, and with such skill.  
 Yet off there it goes, flying to landfill.  
 In kilos of weight, it piles and decomposes.  
 Like a lost thorn sat amongst roses.  
 Can't you see?  
 Woof. Oink. Squeel. Sniff. Patter.  
 I may not sound the same, but I would like to matter.  
 Too beautiful for the bin, it seems really such a sin  
 To not use what I grow and weave into a throw?  
 As there's no doubt about it, there's definitely enough  
 Because there's definitely enough  
 Be it hair, fur or fluff.

**TOGETHER WE BRUSH FILM LINK**

<https://vimeo.com/manage/videos/835481669/privacy>



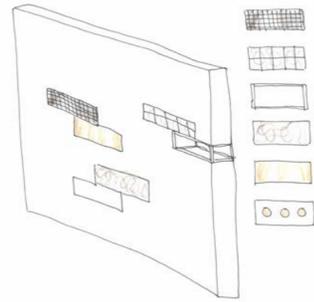
**TOGETHER WE SEE**

[https://issuu.com/troxburgh24/docs/together\\_we\\_see\\_c](https://issuu.com/troxburgh24/docs/together_we_see_c)

An ongoing analogue photography series, questioning with intrigue of our relationship with the dog, their relationship with us and how we as owners care, love and cherish them as an addition in our lives. How does the dog impact space and yet not be present? Through scale, trust and building these bonds, please enjoy what I have put together by following the link.

# FURMAL - INSULATION BRICKS

Upon understanding of the material, it's use stems further than decoration. With **80% higher thermal properties** than wool, dog fur has high potential as **insulation**. In ode of the building brick, I have created samples through various techniques as pictured below.



1 SEPARATE & DIVIDE      2 LOOSE FIBRES      3 GABION BRICK      4 BOILING = WET FELT FIBRES      5 STRATEGICALLY PLACED IN      6 COLOURWAY      7 AIRDRY IN GABION



1      2      3      4      5      6      7



1 SEPARATE & DIVIDE      2 LOOSE FIBRES      3 ZEBRA LIKE PATTERN?      4 BOILING = WET FELT FIBRES





### LIGHT LOCKS

Embracing the transparency of wet felting as a method. Utilising the wet felted panels as a formed geometric lampshade. How could different dog breed locks alter the atmosphere of the lighting?

