

- **FACTSHEET 5**
- **FAQs**
- **Which tapestries have been made so far?** *The Unicorn is Found* is the fourth to be completed. *The Unicorn in Captivity* was unveiled in 2003 and *The Start of the Hunt* followed in 2004. *The Unicorn is Killed and Brought to the Castle* was unveiled in 2007.
- **Where are they now?** On public display in the Chapel Royal at Stirling Castle.
- **How long does it take to create each tapestry?** From the start of weaving to cutting from the loom, and finishing work in preparation for hanging, takes around three years.
- **Where are the tapestries made?** Two are underway at any one time. While one is created at the West Dean Tapestry Studio in Sussex another is being woven in public at Stirling Castle.
- **When did the project start and how long will it last?** The first tapestry was begun in 2001 and all seven are expected to be complete by 2013.
- **How will you deal with the tapestry that is incomplete and in two sections?** Parts of *The Mystic Hunt* can be reinterpreted but others cannot. The weavers will create a single, full height tapestry but narrower than the original.
- **What is the cost?** The final cost will be around £2 million. The project has received a range of donations, including \$2.125m (US) from the Quinque Foundation, in the USA.
- **How large are they?** They measure up to 12ft by 14ft.
- **What do they show?** The tapestries show the hunt, killing and return to life of a unicorn in order to obtain its horn, which was believed to have magical powers of purification. It can be read as a tale of courtly love in which the lady pursues and eventually captures her bridegroom, or as a metaphor for the suffering and resurrection of Christ.
- **Is the series complete?** There is academic argument about whether *The Start of the Hunt* and *The Unicorn in Captivity* are from a different series with a similar theme as they have fewer characters and are stylistically simpler.
- **What are they made from?** They are woven from wool, silk, silver and gilt wefts.
- **Do the new ones look new or old?** The originals have faded over the last 500 years. The new versions are being created to look as they did when new, so they will be much brighter. A great deal of research went into making sure the colours are authentic.