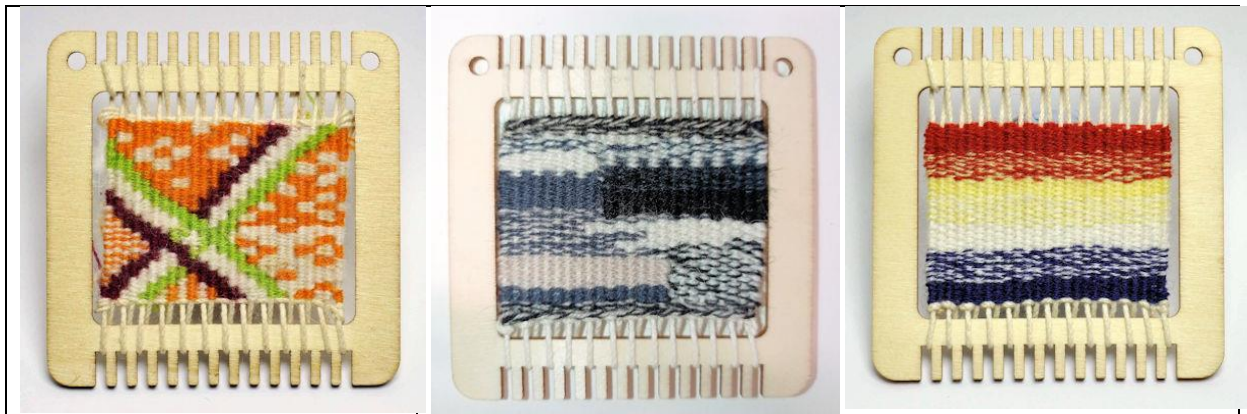


2021 Sponsorship Update

Open Weave - Sadie Paige

Open Weave was collaboration between Gairloch Museum and local tapestry weaver, Sadie Paige. In addition to weaversbazaar's objectives of extending the reach of tapestry weaving, the project supported the Museum's desire to engage with audiences - local and national - throughout the pandemic shutdowns.

On both counts *Open Weave* can be viewed as a great success: between the end of March and early July 2021 we shipped out 137 mini-loom packs to participants across the UK, and to date, 110 completed mini tapestries have been returned. Our target was 100 and several weeks into the project we increased the number of mini-loom packs that were sent out. We have been delighted by the amazing designs and quality of weaving that we have received back.



Participants were provided with a warped up mini-loom, a bundle of weft yarn and instructions to get them on their way. The weft yarn bundle was one of four colourways, and weavers were encouraged to stick to the geometric designs that are reflected in the Museum's woven blankets and coverlets.

The Covid 19 guidelines meant that, unfortunately, we were not able to engage face-to-face with our weavers, but we did receive lots of comments:

"Enjoyed doing this! I had a beach seascape in mind as I was weaving"

"It was a hugely enjoyable experience and I think I'm a little hooked on this!"

"Loom 42 – I decided to be a bit more adventurous and create a central diamond, a feature of the museums' pieces."

"I really could have done better. Happy never to see these again. Great project though."

"I haven't done any weaving since I was at primary school over 50 years ago."

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More photos of finished tapestries can be seen on the Museum's website

<https://www.gairlochmuseum.org/open-weave>, and a curated exhibition will be on display in the Museum's galleries in the autumn of 2021.

Funding support from weaversbazaar meant that we were able to offer this activity free of charge, and we were pleased that participants were able to pay for their return postage.

Thank you all!



Artapestry 6 Exhibition in Kulturcentrum Ronneby Konstall, Sweden



"Saturday 13th November 2021 Kulturcentrum Ronneby Konstall saw the pleasure of open the door for the public to present Artapestry6 in the spectacular surroundings of Kokum's old factory hall. It is third time Artapestry has been shown in Ronneby Konstall.

weaversbazaar

The Exhibition is orchestrated in the most beautiful view, in terms of the diversity of the works, the long walls and the many wooden pillars, so that the overall impression becomes strong from any angle in the space.

The setup of the 43 tapestries was done in collaboration with the Director, curator, the staff and European Tapestry Forum (E T F), it was hard physical work moving tapestries around over several days and every day brought a new surprising solution.

The opening was celebrated by a tribute to the weaver with a Swedish Middle Ages ballad.

A mixed choir of Scandinavians and Balts performed a ballad about “The robbed Kings daughters” who wove them free from their captivity and went home to the Kings House.

Kulturcentrum Ronneby Konsthall and E T F are very happy and satisfied with the beautiful result of an exhibition of high level, which highlights the appearance of the art of tapestry.

PS: Kunstcenter Silkeborg Bad and Kulturcentrum Ronneby Konsthall are both old Spa/bath towns and of same size. Kockum was an enamel factory from about 1920 situated close to a river and a water mill.

Anet Brusgaard – European Tapestry Forum”

Artapestry 6 originally exhibited at Gulbene Municipality History and Art Museum in late summer 2021 and then moved to Art Centre Silkeborg Bad in Denmark but can be seen at [Kulturcentrum Ronneby Konsthall, Sweden](#) until 9th January 2022. In spring-summer 2022 the exhibition moves to the Central Museum of Art Finland in Jyväskylä, The opening will be marked by a seminar organized in collaboration between Finnish tapestry-artists Ariadna Donner, Aino Kajaniemi and the museum.

Heallreaf Post



Heallreaf Post was the brainchild of master weaver Margaret Jones for an exhibition to be held in Chichester, UK that exhibited postcard sized tapestries for sale. The exhibition was open to all and free to enter with the stipulation that all pieces must be available to purchase.

The exhibition of postcard sized images took place in July at the Oxmarket in Chichester and some of the very varied work can be seen [here](#).

In Margaret’s own words;

"Weaversbazaar have always been exceptionally generous in supporting the Heallreaf exhibitions by sponsoring the People's Choice Prize where the public vote for the piece of tapestry they like the best.

In 2021 we decided to have a slightly different Heallreaf and organised 'Heallreaf Post' an unjuried exhibition of postcard sized tapestries. This was a departure from our usual format and involved no cost at all to the exhibitors other than that of posting their tapestries to the organisers, consequently we needed funding. Weaversbazaar again helped us out and donated funds to help cover the costs of the Oxmarket Gallery in Chichester.

As we all know 2021 was a difficult year with Covid still around and we were never sure which exhibitions would be able to go ahead so it was encouraging to see so many weavers of all levels respond to the call out. Feedback told us artists found it was good to have a deadline and an exhibition to aim for. The exhibition was a success in bringing tapestry to a new audience, because the tapestries were small and affordable many were snapped up by exhibition visitors. One regular Oxmarket visitor and art collector arrived on the first day and purchased 6 tapestry postcards just like that, he had never come across tapestry before.

Tapestries came in from all over the world, the furthest from Australia where Pip Barrington, a healthcare worker found tapestry weaving to be incredibly beneficial to her mental health. The slow and sometimes complicated process of making a tapestry from scratch whilst attempting to create an image became a form of meditation and her postcard was a version of Edvard Munch's 'The Scream'. This piece was sold to a lady who bought it for her son who had just completed an assignment for his degree in Conservation of Cultural Heritage on the original "Scream".

On the very last day of the exhibition as we were taking down the show an elderly lady came into the gallery and was very taken with 'Dennis' by Lindsey Marshall. She was reticent to make a purchase there and then, but we gave her a phone number and at 8.30am the next morning she was on the phone asking to buy 'Dennis', he had made us all smile during the exhibition and hopefully is still making her smile too.

These are some examples of how the exhibition reached new audiences and we hope to continue this with Heallreaf 4 in 2022. We may do another Heallreaf Post, we will have to see."



Covid Angst by Pip Barrington



Dennis By Lindsey Marshall

A word from [weaversbazaar](#)

We applaud all these projects, the weavers and the sponsees for their hard work and vision with their chosen projects and are we are proud to have contributed something to spreading the word on Tapestry and encourage those who have experience as well as those how are trying it for the first time. Lon g may you all continue.