

weaversbazaar news



Goat Hair - We have finally been able to source some more chunky Goat Hair Yarn and now have it in Black and Tawny (shown left). This yarn is hand spun but strong enough to use as weft or warp. All the details are here <https://tinyurl.com/u6mzw2x>. Stocks of both colours are limited

Special Offers - There are now some extra yarn colours in our special offers section of the website <https://tinyurl.com/y4cutayf> but like the goat hair they are limited stock!

Tapestry Frame Upgrade - Finally we have made a small upgrade on our standard tapestry frames and in future they will arrive with self adhesive measuring tapes attached which we hope you agree are much nicer than the previous paper tapes although these are still available. [Details here](#)

New! French Style Double-ended Bobbins – Andrew Dickinson who makes our Artisan Bobbins has created a range of double-ended french style bobbins. They are made from sustainable hardwood Padauk, Ebony, Olive, Lemonwood, Mopane and Kingwood but are supplied randomly and in mixtures. Each bobbin is 8.5cm long details can be found [here](#)



weaversbazaar's website Poll: How often do we weave?



Last month we guessed that life was hectic over the Festive Season so we thought we would ask how often do weavers get to weave? The results are fascinating in that 21% of respondents are able to weave every day, 50% weave at least once a week and up to 5 times a week. Other weavers are working around projects and there may be gaps of weeks (21%) or months (8%) between bouts of weaving. Nonetheless we feel this is encouraging that despite the demands of our lives we are still managing to find time to weave.

For the next poll we would like to know about your life experience and whether you have a background in arts, sciences, business or other area. We would guess that weavers have a wide range of life experience not necessarily just art – let's see if that's true! As usual the poll is on the website [home page](#) if you would like to add your experiences.

weaversbazaar courses

Tree Weaving Workshop. February 22nd, 2020. Blackbirds Studio, Forest Row, Sussex, UK.



Jackie Bennett will be teaching a tree weaving workshop for complete beginners or those who have some experience. During the workshop Jackie will teach needle weaving, knotting, soumak techniques and other textural effects. A variety of ways to finish off your weaving will also be covered. Participants will work on small frames which are easy to warp up, can be taken away and are ready to hang. <https://tinyurl.com/wrjo6gg>. Limited places remain on this course

Finishing a Tapestry Workshop. March 7th, 2020. Blackbirds Studio Forest Row, Sussex, UK



Margaret Jones will be running a brand new course on Finishing Tapestry. In her words 'We all love weaving our tapestries but the finishing is something we do rarely compared with the amount of weaving we get done. A bad finish can ruin a good tapestry, a good finish can help a not so good tapestry shine. During this workshop we will look at design (it is a good idea to know how you are going to hang your tapestry before you start weaving), blocking out, using tape round the edges, backing, framing and hanging to create a good finish. We will also look at how to back shaped tapestries" Suitable for all with some weaving experience. Bring your own tapestries to work on. Materials and equipment are provided, and different yarns and materials are available for experimenting with. To find more details or book <https://tinyurl.com/sysrwwq>

Opportunities and scholarships

Morley College – Sessional Tapestry tutor

An opportunity is available at Morley College for a Tapestry tutor with experience in Gobelin tapestry weaving and experimental weaving techniques. In February 2020, Morley College London will merge with Kensington and Chelsea College and is set to become one of the largest Institutes of Adult Learning in the country. Further information can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/r5o97cq>

Painter/Brown Scholarship Fund

This scholarship is designed to assist any American Tapestry Alliance member who wishes to pursue study in the field of tapestry weaving. (Not an ATA member? [Join here.](#)) The application may be for study in workshops, courses, study with individual tutors or institutions of higher learning. More details here <https://tinyurl.com/u3tlwj8>

Coffee Break: Streams and Strands – Behind the artists



Posted both by the Canadian Tapestry Network and Rebecca Mezoff this is an interesting video of Tommye Scanlin and Dianne Mize speaking together about their show that opened recently in Georgia. Tommye talks about tapestry in general and in particular about her beautiful tapestry diaries and the importance of weaving every day to improve the quality of your weaving and Dianne talks about her paintings and the observance of patterns of light and shade or as she describes it the balance between shadow and not shadow. <https://tinyurl.com/sd8kod4>.

Artist Profile: Gjertrud Hals



Gjertrud Hals is a Norwegian textile artist who began as a tapestry weaver and then moved on to experiment with the creation of two-dimensional textile panels and sculptural works of fibre art using a variety of unusual material including much that is recycled. She has been widely recognised for her innovative work which juxtaposes apparently light and fragile material creating an interplay between the pieces and their shadows. A very interesting interview with her exploring her work and inspirations can be found at

<https://tinyurl.com/wmhussh>. Her website can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/vsvg63r> where details of her latest exhibition can also be seen.

Events

Cité Internationale de la Tapisserie. 2 February – 31 December 2020. Aubusson, France



Opening on the 2 February is their redesigned and rehung permanent exhibition showing the evolution of the art of tapestry weaving for almost six centuries in the Aubusson region, with 30 new additions and in particular including a new major narrative series from the 17th century, to the most prestigious artists of the 20th century, such as Picasso, Vasarely, Kandisky, Le Corbusier and Matégo.

<https://tinyurl.com/s5yprvp>.

Tapestry Touring International - Interface. 8 February – 22 March 2020. Nuneaton, UK



Fifteen artists from England and fifteen from Canada come together to display beautiful woven tapestries in this inaugural exhibition at the Landing Gallery in Nuneaton. Each small-format tapestry has taken inspiration from the exhibition title: Interface. <https://tinyurl.com/rdcn4gf>.

Tapestry Touring International is a not-for-profit group which aims to provide opportunities for tapestry weavers from different countries to present collaborative exhibitions on an international platform. Their website with details of future exhibition venues is at <https://tinyurl.com/yx35hbub>.

Think Plastic: Materials and Making. 31 January – 26 April 2020. Edinburgh, UK



A collaborative exhibition which brings together artists and scientists and invites us to explore the possibilities of transferring sustainable, recyclable and environmentally responsible plastics from the laboratory into artwork whilst reconsidering our relationship with these materials.

<https://tinyurl.com/uf56eli>.

Baldishol: Norway House Exhibit. 26 June - 30 August 2020. Minneapolis, USA.



This tapestry textile fragment, depicting the months of April and May, was discovered in Norway in 1879 when a church was torn down. It is now recognized as one of the earliest European tapestries and has been replicated many times. The Norway House exhibit will feature original weavings and other fibre art works that have been inspired by the Baldishol Tapestry rather than seeking to replicate it. <https://tinyurl.com/regvl6r>.

Commissioning Craft: The Treasures of Mount Stuart. 29 February 2020. Edinburgh, UK



In this talk at the Dovecot Studios, Head of Collections for Mount Stuart Trust, Charlotte Rostek opens up the treasures of Mount Stuart to offer a glimpse into the incredible history and craftsmanship of the house, which inspired the creation of some of the finest and largest tapestries made by Dovecot Studios over 100 years ago. <https://tinyurl.com/v987xqt>.

Textile: Women Designers of the Twentieth Century. 18 April – 24 May 2020. Wiltshire, UK



This exhibition at Messums Wiltshire celebrates the vision of the leading textile designers from the 1950s – 70s and will introduce their iconic work to new collectors as well as to those who lived surrounded and uplifted by their bold vision and style. Throughout the period this inspired group of women brought modern and contemporary art into the home through their textile designs, democratising modern art in the process. <https://tinyurl.com/qg97fsv>.

Medium: Half Day Conference. 19 February 2020. London, UK



This half day conference at the London School of Mosaic will facilitate a broad discussion, updating or retiring notions of the medium in art as it exists today. A broad range of artists and researchers

will share their perspectives from craft, architecture, performance, play, spirituality and moving image. Tapestry weaver Margaret Jones is one of the presenters. <https://tinyurl.com/yx2ly36c>.

Inuit Sculpture & Textile Exhibition. 30 May - 28 June 2020. Wiltshire, UK



Taking place at Messums Wiltshire there is also a curator-led tour on 30 May 2020 of this exhibition which is dedicated to the sculpture and textiles of Inuit people. This selection of works has been curated by Pat Feheley, Director of one of the last remaining commercial galleries in Canada dedicated exclusively to traditional and contemporary art from the Canadian Arctic and an expert on the work of Inuit textile artists. Booking for the curator led tour here <https://tinyurl.com/rd3yrat>.

We Will Walk – Art and Resistance in the American South. 7 February – 3 May 2020. Margate, UK



This exhibition at Turner Contemporary is the first exhibition of its kind in the UK and reveals a little-known history shaped by the Civil Rights period in the 1950s and 60s. It brings together sculptural assemblages, paintings and quilts by more than 20 African American artists from Alabama and surrounding states including a series of quilts from the isolated hamlet of Gee's Bend. Produced from the mid-20th century to the present, many of the artworks will be coming to Europe for the first time. <https://tinyurl.com/w6dfbt4>

Other courses

West Dean Tapestry Courses. West Sussex, UK.

Woven tapestry techniques – the fundamentals. 24 – 27 September 2020.



Learn the fundamentals of tapestry weaving through the production of three samples. Consideration will be given to the harmony of colour as well as weaving techniques with support from tutor Pat Taylor. <https://tinyurl.com/yx3uv229>.

Weaving with a backstrap loom. 18 – 20 September 2020.



Experiment with weaving textures, shapes and colour effects, which are created through the interplay of warp and weft yarns using a traditional rigid heddle backstrap loom with tutors Ann Richards and Dierdre Woods. This course is particularly suitable for beginners, as it gives a basic introduction to weaving, without any of the complex equipment that is normally needed. <https://tinyurl.com/sqjt2kz>

Atelier Weftfaced Workshops Tapestry Workshops – New course dates 2020. Arundel, UK.



Beginners & Improvers 25 – 26 April 2020

Free from Cartoons 21 – 24 July 2020

Working with a Cartoon 12 -15 August 2020

Atelier Weftfaced, run by master-weaver Caron Penney, delivers a range of courses both at its own studio near Arundel, West Sussex and other venues. Go to the website for more details on all her workshops. <https://tinyurl.com/yyn5vjke>

Found on the Web

Needle and Spindle Blog by Rebecca



Rebecca who is based in Australia shares her explorations and reflections on spinning, knitting, sewing and other radical acts of making through her blog. This post entitled “yarn as text” describes the intriguing work of textile artist Madeleine Fernbach and talks about how we “read” information from fibres. <https://tinyurl.com/wgbf45r>.

Textile Art and Amuletic Sculpture – Sun Smith-Fôret



Sun Smith-Fôret’s artistic practice has encompassed textile construction, quilts, sculpture, and knotted and woven functional and amuletic objects which incorporate her knowledge of spiritual thought from a wide range of cultures. Her recent sculptural three-dimensional pieces will resonate with any tapestry weaver who is also working in 3-D. <https://tinyurl.com/vx5kaok>.

The Woven Song – Embassy Tapestry Project



An interesting artistic collaboration featuring tapestry, music and couture. Inspired by the Embassy Tapestry Collection, which places tapestries designed by indigenous artists in Australian embassies around the world. Featuring nine new compositions the project celebrates works of art, reinterpreted and recreated by the Australian Tapestry Workshop, which have inspired a contemporary response in current classical music practice. A gala concert celebrating all nine works and the tapestries which inspired them is planned. Melbourne couturier Linda Britten will create a new gown in response to each composition and the tapestries which inspired them. <https://tinyurl.com/u7vvcdz>.

Pigment and polymerization



In the latest episode of her blog “A Field Guide to Needlework” Sarah Swett talks about how she makes the colours stick to the yarn she makes from the coffee filters used in natural dye processes by her friend Jodi, and along the way provides a great deal of information about mordanting natural dyes and pigments as well as some useful links. <https://tinyurl.com/ruyarvg>.

Joanne Soroka Blog



The latest blog post by Joanne Soroka reminds us all of the importance of clarity about the responsibility for insurance when we are exhibiting and tells the sad story of almost a whole gallery of tapestries that was stolen. <https://tinyurl.com/wweo4pb>.

Chrissie Freeth Blog



The latest post by Chrissie Freeth comments on the pieces she completed during the last year and those she is working on for her upcoming exhibition in May 2020 at Ripon Cathedral. She also goes into some detail about how her new full-size work has allowed her space to explore some techniques and influences learned during her Churchill Fellowship and experiment with pattern. If you have not been following her blog it is well worth reading past entries about her travels funded through her Churchill fellowship. <https://tinyurl.com/tdpr4ln>.

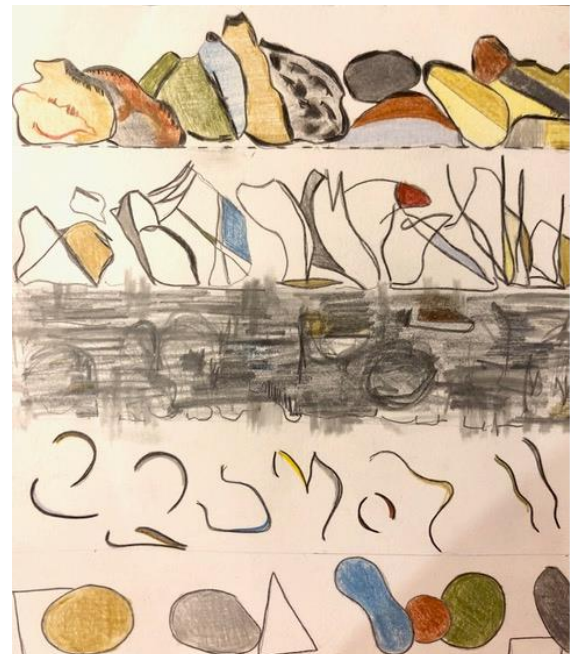
Textile Gallery: Carol Fleischman



Originally a painter, since moving to Barcelona Carol has dedicated her creative energies to the fascinating world of fibres! She usually works with many colours and different textures and tries to establish a dialogue between warp and weft. She says that this tapestry is definitely a bigger challenge for her but one she took on knowingly to grow and keep on learning!

Her original drawing,

which is shown below is a homage to the immigrant. The stones represent the essence (like river stones) of those who live in their country of birth and see their way of life disintegrating. They go through turmoil before deciding to emigrate but once they come out on the other side they rebuild and form new attachments in new lands, maintaining their essence as do the river stones even when they no longer find themselves in the river.



Stop press:

weaversbazaar gift vouchers never go out of date but we notice that some were purchased quite a while ago. So if you have forgotten you had some and they are sitting at the bottom of your yarn stash you can still use them.

Happy Weaving!