

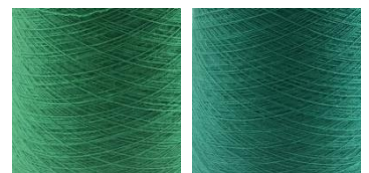
**weaversbazaar news**

**Covid-19 Update** - As much as we would like to keep this newsletter a Covid-19-free zone we do just want to say that along with everyone else we are cancelling courses and events for the next few months. Other than that we are still able to operate normally and can process all orders from the website, by email or phone. We can continue to do this as long as the Post Offices remain open. If the situation changes we will update you in the next newsletter and put a message on the top of the home page over the main image. But as creativity will be important for anyone recuperating or in isolation we want you to know we are here for you.

**Farewell Message from Matty** - I am both amazed and proud to be writing this 'farewell'. Amazed because starting a business in the twilight of my years was something I had never in a million years anticipated doing, and proud because of the great success Lin and I have made of it. Sitting in the West Dean tapestry studio, during that Summer School in 2008, Lin and I had glibly enthused about running a yarn-based business. The initial creative drive that brought weaversbazaar into existence two years later was the result of us seeing an opportunity to supply the material requirements of the tapestry weaving community – but we very soon realised that it was also a means through which our shared passion for woven tapestry art could provide support to develop that community. I think it is that shared vision that has kept weaversbazaar going despite Lin and I living in different parts of the country and through a decade in which we have both had to deal with significant personal issues. No longer being involved in the day-to-day activities of running weaversbazaar will leave a space in my life which other things are already queuing up to fill (not least of which is tapestry weaving! See image on left of 'On waking materialised' a new tapestry from Matty), but I shall miss the regular calls and Skype exchanges with Lin (plus the occasional meeting at Cobham Service Station on the M25). I wish weaversbazaar Ltd every success over the next decade and beyond and I know it will continue to flourish in Lin's very capable hands. Both Matty and Lin would like to thank you all for your continued support which has bought weaversbazaar this far and will sustain it through the next chapter

**The Next Chapter** – one more admin item then we will get back to weaving. In order to close weaversbazaar the partnership and re-open as weaversbazaar Ltd we will closed from **April 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup>** and the website will not be able to take your orders. On the 7<sup>th</sup> though we will be up and running again. You won't notice any other differences for weaversbazaar Ltd – the website, the products, the newsletter, the pop-ups etc. will all continue as you know them.

**Two New Colours** – Two new luscious green colours have been added to the fine yarn (18/2) range Green 4 0209 and Viridis 4 0210. These are on the latest version of the Sample Card released this month **0816** and they fill some of the gaps in our colour wheel. Sample cards are available here <https://bit.ly/2xcaczl> and the new colours here <https://bit.ly/3bcLWMv>.



Green 4 0209 Viridis 4 0210

## weaversbazaar's website Poll: The life experience of weavers

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Last month we guessed that weavers and textile artists have a wide range of life experience not necessarily just art. The poll generated 181 votes in total and the results are fascinating

Science 17.1%  
Visual Arts 15.5%  
Written Arts 7.7%  
Performing Arts 6.1%  
Business 10.5%  
Management 12.2%  
Administration 10.5%  
Marketing 3.9%  
Finance 2.2%  
Travel 14.4%

So there are a wide range of skills we have in our backgrounds and Science had a higher vote rate than any other category. Many believe that art and science are inextricably linked and need to be for the development of society. These two article presents two perspectives <https://bit.ly/3a7FW7F> <https://bit.ly/393X8K8> If you know of any other article, points of view or want to share your thoughts on how art and science relate we would love to hear from you ([info@weaversbazaar.com](mailto:info@weaversbazaar.com)) and maybe include one or two in future newsletters. As usual the poll is on the website [home page](#) and we will keep this one going for another month in case you would like to add your experiences.

My personal experience is as someone with a scientific research background which included at times the need to be very creative, especially when carrying out new research which might involve not only the design of the experiment but also the design and creation of the techniques and equipment required to carry it out and then the interpretation of the results obtained. So I have always felt that art and science are indeed inextricably linked. Historically there are many examples of scientists who were also artists. I look forward to hearing your opinions.

## Courses and Events

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For the foreseeable future weaversbazaar courses and events as well as others' courses and events have been cancelled however here are some images from the tree weaving course taught by Jackie Bennett at our Blackbirds Studio to inspire you. Work from most weaversbazaar courses can be seen in the Albums section of our Facebook page here <https://bit.ly/39eb843>



## Coffee Break: The tapestries of Dom Robert – Rebecca Mezoff

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Recently posted by Rebecca Mezoff this is a comprehensive look at the work of Dom Robert which Rebecca saw when she visited France last year. As well as seeing some of his pieces in other places she was able to include a trip to the Dom Robert Museum in Soréze. Dom Robert entered a Benedictine abbey in 1930 and was later ordained a priest in 1937. He was inspired to become a tapestry cartoon designer after meeting Jean Lurcat in 1941. His designs are very distinctive, joyful and full of colour. All his work was focussed on nature and the article includes many photos both of his cartoons and the tapestries woven from them as well as describing his working methods. <https://tinyurl.com/vpptv4d>.

## Bonus Coffee Break: The Art of Making a Tapestry

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As many of us are having to spend time self isolating here is an added bonus coffee break. If you haven't seen this before it is an interesting video exploring the process of tapestry weaving as carried out at the Gobelins Manufactory in Paris, where historical techniques dating to the time of Louis XIV are still used to make contemporary works of art. <https://tinyurl.com/ybqk9sbo>.

## Artist Profile: Diedrick Brackens

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"On the first day of weaving class as an undergraduate at the University of North Texas, in Denton, the artist Diedrick Brackens walked into his classroom to find 30 looms lined up in perfect rows in front of a cabinet filled with color-coordinated yarn, like a "rainbow in the back," he remembers. He was instantly hooked." He makes intricate weavings mainly from cotton, a material he uses for its versatility and ability to take colour. Many of his tapestries also incorporate the historical implications of that material. <https://tinyurl.com/s2g4uxe>

## Found on the Web

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### Raphael's Tapestries at the Sistine Chapel

**HYPERTHERMIA** A very informative and interesting article about Raphael's tapestries which were very briefly on view from February 17–23 2020 in the space they were made for at the Sistine Chapel (Vatican Museums, Vatican City) for the first time since the late 1500s, as part of the 500th anniversary of the death of Raphael, one of the Renaissance's great masters. <https://tinyurl.com/vl3aesj>.

### Two interesting articles in Selvedge Magazine

**selvedge** The first article references the important collection of textiles at the Bolton Museum and Art Gallery. Their current collection houses many objects spanning thousands of years of Egyptian culture, including some of the world's oldest surviving textiles. It also contains items of clothing from the Coptic period which were worn by both men and women some of which have tapestry-woven decoration. <https://tinyurl.com/vvjijszc>. The second article is about "The Red Dress" a decade long travelling embroidery project (2009-2019) by British artist Kirstie Macleod. which has travelled around the world being continuously embroidered and added to by 120 different participants to date. In March the dress will be exhibited in Mexico and is the subject of a forthcoming documentary by Black Bark Films. <https://tinyurl.com/rrcgnto>.

### A Day in the Life of an Apprentice Weaver



An article by Elaine Wilson who is a QEST Allchurches Trust Apprentice at Dovecot Studios in

Edinburgh. Elaine explains her typical day and talks about all that she is learning as well as her hopes for the future. <https://tinyurl.com/yx3f6l97>.

#### **Textile Curator – Marie-Thumette Brichard**

An interview with Marie-Thumette Brichard in Textile Curator explains how she became a tapestry weaver as well as highlighting examples of her beautiful work. After attaining a psychology degree the desire to do something creative led to her setting up her own studio as a tapestry weaver in the early seventies. Ever since she has produced outstanding tapestries, the latest of which focus on the environment. Her rich use of colour gives her flat weave tapestries a visual depth that is inviting and intriguing simultaneously.

<https://tinyurl.com/r97rz7v>.

#### **Discovery of Bronze Age Fine Textiles**



3000-year-old textiles are amongst the finest ever discovered in Europe from the Bronze Age. Archaeologists from the University of Cambridge have discovered more than 100 fragments of textile, unspun processed fibre and yarn. Some of the fabrics are very finely woven and many of these are of linen but nettle textiles have also been found. Link to the full article here

<https://tinyurl.com/sxvgpi7> .

#### **A New Future for a Traditional Turkish Craft**



This article features an exhibition “Tapestry: Woven Tales” in 2019 of a small group of artists who have highlighted the practice of weaving by incorporating it into their artworks. The works are beautifully varied.

<https://bit.ly/2wrs61j>

#### **Tapestry and Interconnectedness**

In her recent blog post “Tapestry and Interconnectedness”, Elizabeth Buckley talks about the depths of the creative process of one thought leading to another as one woven row leads to another and how insights often come to us while the tapestry grows on the loom. Link to the blog post here

<https://tinyurl.com/tmdl6cn>.



## Textile Gallery: Weaving Children's "Living Local" Tapestry



Pictures from the cutting off ceremony for the Weaving Children's community weaving project 'Living Local' tapestry that weaversbazaar supported through their sponsorship programme. The tapestry was woven by Refugee and Young Carer Children. A short film will be made 'What is Tapestry' to show at Fabric of the North exhibition, the film will be on a continuous loop with music composed by an International viola player (Susanna Pell). There will also be an interview with Raghd and Edi, who is Suzanne's daughter directing and leading the other children involved in the project in a conversation around the tapestry and what the symbols that they came up with mean to them. Sally Reckert had the original idea and designed the project and design sessions supported by Tapestry Weaver Jane Riley <https://bit.ly/2IZk6HA> . Well done to all involved with this beautiful and inspiring work. Let's hope this inspires a new generation of weavers.

# weaversbazaar



## Stop press:

It may be that you have more time than anticipated indoors in the next month so here is a resource to lose yourself in and gain inspiration from at the same time – 12 museums to visit online out of a potential 2,500 which offer virtual tours and online collections <https://bit.ly/2xQSwtH> the other 2,488 can be found here <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner?hl=en>

*Happy Weaving!*