

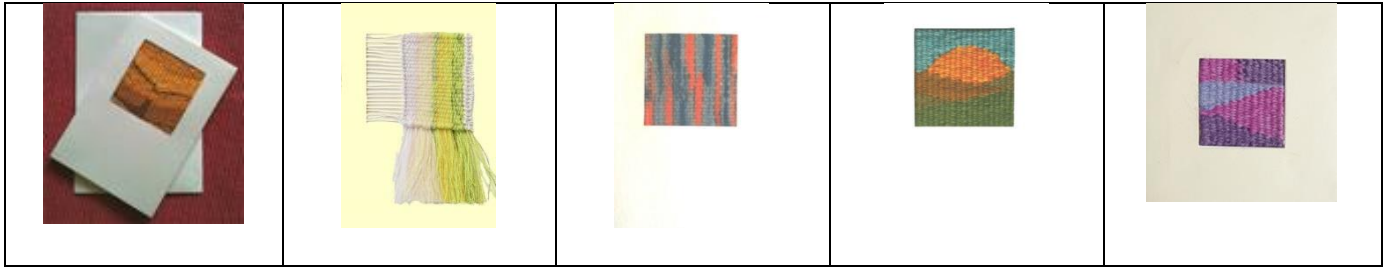


## weaversbazaar news

**Sponsorship 2020** – Sponsorship applications have been limited this year to projects that are still possible under current lock down conditions. However, we are pleased to say there are 3 projects we are proud to be able to sponsor this year

- **1220-2020 Flax Project** – Anna Wetherall is working with Heron Corn Mill at Beetham Milnthorpe in Cumbria to celebrate the growing, processing, spinning, dyeing and weaving of Flax <https://tinyurl.com/yc9l47fs>. One element of this is to create one or more woven tapestries, which will be woven by those involved in the project, based on a design created by the group. These will then be displayed at Heron Corn Mill after completion in October 2020. We are delighted to supply materials for these tapestries.
- 
- Photo by Stella Adams-Schofield 2020
- **Tablehurst Care Home** – The community farm in Forest Row (the base for weaversbazaar) has a care home for 3 adults <https://tinyurl.com/y8vapy8d> Rachel from weaversbazaar has been working with one resident Andrew to teach him how to weave and we have lent him some equipment. Andrew has proved to be rather skilled at this and some of his work is displayed here (see images right). Jeremy the care home manager says “I popped in briefly to Rachel's session with Andrew last Friday and was very impressed by the standard of work he has already been able to achieve. I knew already that Andrew has some gifts in this direction as he has produced some lovely rugs with Mister Men characters on them, one of which he has in his room at the care home, but in the work he is doing with Rachel he is really making great strides in his skills - and he is finding it very rewarding!” Andrew now aims to weave a rug (previously he was used rug hooking for his rugs) and we can't wait to see it.
- 
- **FROWeave** – 2020 was intended to be the year that FROWeave – our community weaving project – was taken around groups and people on a mobile loom (large loom with castors) so that lots of people could learn to weave and out of it would come a community tapestry. Unfortunately that can no longer happen so instead we are sharing small tapestry weaving kits with our community so adults and children in lockdown can make 6cm square tapestries and send them to friends or family as greeting cards. If you would like to do this for your community we would be happy to share the details on how to make the kits and the information sheet to be included in the kit so you can make your own kits to give away. If you are interested to do this please email [info@weaversbazaar.com](mailto:info@weaversbazaar.com) Some examples of tapestry woven cards are shown below. So far the the kits have been greeted with great delight and we will share some images in future newsletters



## weaversbazaar's website Poll: Creative activity under lockdown



Last month we asked for your votes on how this period of uncertainty and lockdown had affected your creativity. 62 votes were cast and the results are quite heartening. 55 % have enjoyed having the opportunity to spend much more time being creative. Approximately 30% found they were doing more but in short bursts and for 8% there has been no change from normal activity. For some people though (6.5%) creativity is not something they can concentrate on at the moment and that is more than understandable. But on the whole it is good news that people can turn to enjoyable creative activity when times are so very difficult. This month we would like to know about the combinations of different fibres you have found to work in your projects during this time of lockdown. As usual the poll is on the website [home page](#).


You may recall that the previous poll was about life experience and in particular whether weavers had more of a background in art or science. The poll ran over March and April. In the March newsletter two links were included to articles presenting two differing perspectives <https://tinyurl.com/y7uamh3u> and <https://tinyurl.com/yc4dtmks> and a request was made for any other article, points of view or if anybody wanted to share their thoughts on how art and science relate to be sent to [info@weaversbazaar.com](mailto:info@weaversbazaar.com). In response we have received a very interesting article written and submitted by Margaret Appa titled "Science and Art .... A Search for Understanding" on her views regarding why we perceive a dichotomy between the arts and sciences and the role which education has played in that. Margaret's article has been posted in full on the weaversbazaar Knowledge Zone - Library page <https://tinyurl.com/ybngpxpb> where you can click on it to read it in full. We would welcome any feedback from any of our other readers on this or anything else in the newsletter.

Speaking of feedback we would also welcome any suggestions for topics, articles, events etc. for potential inclusion in the newsletter and also images of your work which we could share through the newsletter. These can all be sent to [info@weaversbazaar.com](mailto:info@weaversbazaar.com)

## Virtual Courses and Events

As most courses and events for the foreseeable future have been cancelled or postponed, we will try to highlight here some of those that are available virtually so that you can still enjoy them from the comfort of your own home.

### Remote Tourism – The Faroe Islands

 A fascinating initiative by the Faroe Islands during lockdown as people cannot visit them in person. "Early on in this global crisis, we sat and wondered how we could recreate a Faroe Islands' experience for those who had to cancel or postpone their trip to the Faroe Islands". Their idea was to allow people anywhere in the world to explore the islands as virtual tourists through the eyes of a local – and to allow the virtual tourists to control the movements of the local in real time. A new remote tourism tool,

the first of its kind, has been created. Via a mobile, tablet or PC, you can explore the Faroes' by interacting – live – with a local Faroese, who will act as your eyes and body on a virtual exploratory tour. The local is equipped with a live video camera, allowing you to not only see views from an on-the-spot perspective, but also to control where and how they explore using a joypad to turn, walk, run or even jump! More information is available here <https://tinyurl.com/yarq9gn7> together with a link to a video and information on when the next available tour will be here <https://tinyurl.com/ya9nbz4z>.

### Gawthorpe Textiles Collection - Online Presentations




For those with a broader interest in textiles information the Gawthorpe Textile Collection has been trying out some new online ways for people to access the collection since they cannot accommodate study visits at the moment. Their first embroidery event proved much more popular than anticipated so the same session is being run again in June on Zoom to give more people the opportunity to take part. This is a re-run of the first session, looking at the same set of items but there will be live commentary and discussion of the pieces with the collection's Curator and will look in detail at different kinds of embroidery on textiles from around the world. General information on the latest programme of online presentations can be found here <https://tinyurl.com/y8nugiwx>. Tickets are available for "Embroidery in the Gawthorpe Textile Collection" in June here <https://tinyurl.com/ya22a9la>.

### Dovecot Studios – Weaving from Home.



For any of you who know somebody who is new to tapestry, who has been inspired by what they have seen and would like to have a go themselves but cannot currently attend a course, Dovecot Studios have produced "Weaving from Home". They believe that anybody can enjoy the art of weaving so they are sharing some useful tips on how to weave from home here <https://tinyurl.com/y9hgszeg>. The page contains six sets of instructions with the basic information that a beginner would need.

### Fiber 2020 Exhibition – Silvermine Galleries.

 This online version of the current exhibition showcases the best of contemporary fiber art and reflects a breadth of functional and non-functional works that use natural fiber and/ or high tech materials in traditional or innovative ways and includes a number of woven tapestries. The award-winning Galleries usually present over 20 exhibitions each year. The award-winning School of Art is the preeminent learning destination for visual arts in Fairfield County, Connecticut, USA. Link to the online exhibition here <https://tinyurl.com/y8jlc49n>.

## Opportunities and scholarships

---

### Epic Awards 2020

The Epic Awards focus on the achievements of creative groups across the UK and Republic of Ireland each year and are open for applications until 31 May 2020. Each year, Voluntary Arts shines a spotlight on all the incredible creative activity taking place across the UK and Ireland. From drama groups to choirs, painters to tapestry weavers and much more – since 2010 the awards have celebrated the creative people making a difference in their community. A winner and runner-up is chosen from each nation, alongside a People's Choice Award voted for by the public. Further information and how to enter can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/ydbcjhpv>.

## ARTAPESTRY 6 2021 – Call for Entries



ETF (European Tapestry Forum) is calling for entries for its sixth European Tapestry Triennial exhibition ARTAPESTRY 6. The submission deadline will be July 31st, 2020. ETF works to encourage the continuing development of the art of tapestry weaving and holds regular triennial exhibitions. ARTAPESTRY6 will open on January 15th, 2021 at KunstCentret Silkeborg Bad in Denmark with further venues in Europe to be announced when details are finalized. Work accepted for the exhibition will therefore be committed for two years. Further information <https://tinyurl.com/ydgorf4t> and how to enter can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/yar395uc> with images from ARTAPESTRY 5 here <https://tinyurl.com/yb83wftu>

## Coffee Break: Lore Film Project: Threads from the Deep

---



A new short film by Robert Aitken which is part of a project entitled, 'The Lore Film Project'. The project aims to create and present a series of micro-films inspired by genres and themes of folklore from around the globe. Robert introduces the subject of "Threads from the Deep" - internationally renowned tapestry artist Joan Baxter, caught on camera from her home near Brora, East Sutherland. It is an intimate portrait covering her early life in Edinburgh, the themes that influence her own distinct style and her thoughts on the self-reflecting aspects of art. The film also sets out to highlight that tapestry art, which has existed for many centuries, is one of the purest art forms. The film's live premier was earlier this month. Here is a link to the video and the interesting recorded conversations between Robert and Joan <https://tinyurl.com/ycx56qgv>.

## Bonus Coffee Break: Pattern Singing in Iran "The Woven Sounds" documentary by Mehdi Aminian

---

The aim of this fascinating documentary is to make a record of the singing and music styles around the process of carpet weaving in Iran. Naqshe Khani (Pattern Singing) is a mechanism of singing the patterns of the carpet to the other co-weavers. This highly endangered cultural heritage has been a wide spread tradition in Iran, having its own complex lexical and diverse musical structure depending on the region where it is being carried out. Watch at <https://tinyurl.com/y79lot5y>.

## Artist Profile: Mary Zicafoose

---



Mary Zicafoose is an ikat tapestry weaver whose fascination with pattern and indigenous cloth began as a child when a travelling aunt gave her a scrap of Indonesian fabric. After many years of art schooling and teaching she found herself behind a loom and has "spent the last three decades in pursuit of visual surprise on the flat woven "rug" surface, through dye processes, tapestry techniques and intriguing colour play". Link to article by Ellen Ramsey about her recent visit to Mary's studio in Nebraska here <https://tinyurl.com/y8kun3wc> and link to Mary's website here <https://tinyurl.com/yb347zun> where as well as more information about her beautiful work you can also find details of her soon to be published book "The Essential Guide to Weaving Resist-Dyed Cloth" which will be released by Penguin/Random House later this year.



## Found on the Web

---

### ATA- Online Resource CODA



CODA is a biennial publication by the American Tapestry Alliance that celebrates the work of artists who design and weave contemporary tapestry. Not only does this edition contain a number of inspirational articles but also a Gallery of selected works from Tapestry Topics 2017-2019. Link to CODA here <https://tinyurl.com/y76rgaz2>.

### Vatican Museum: Restoration of Leonardo's Last Supper Tapestry



This video was made to document the restoration of the celebrated tapestry inspired by Leonardo's "Last Supper" which is now conserved in the Vatican Pinacoteca. The restoration took a year and a half and was carried out entirely within the Vatican Museums Tapestries and Textiles Restoration Laboratory. The conservation intervention not only restored the textile work to its original splendour but enabled it to be dated differently. Watch the video here <https://tinyurl.com/y8yyoatn>.

### Victoria Morton and Dovecot Studios, You Can Radiate Over Here



A short video from 2019 about the creation of a rug in a collaboration between Dovecot Studios and artist Victoria Morton, which had been commissioned by The Perse School, Cambridge. A Glasgow-based abstract painter, Morton often crosses disciplines with her work, and working with Dovecot Tufter Krista Vana, they created a rug which was complex yet rhythmic in colour and composition. Link here <https://tinyurl.com/y8h475nx>.

### Tapestry Talk: Unn Sønju



An Absolute Tapestry video interview with Norwegian tapestry weaver and visual artist Unn Sønju at her exhibition in Kunstplass Oslo. In this interview she talks about how she discovered tapestry weaving and instinctively understood that this was her medium after listening to the voice of Hannah Ryggen talking about tapestry. She lived and taught in Leeds in the UK for a number of years before moving back to Norway. She talks about her inspiration and insights into the structural nature of tapestry and the complex reasoning necessary to complete intricate pieces which she still finds an enjoyable challenge. Video interview here <https://tinyurl.com/y9dfsk92> and also link to her website with information and many images of her work here <https://tinyurl.com/y7w448fp>.

### Laduma Ngxokolo and Nelson Makamo tapestry collaboration



South African born Laduma Ngxokolo and Nelson Makamo have teamed up in a tapestry collaboration. The tapestry was born from a retreat trip to Lesotho a year-and-a-half ago, where they worked on the collaboration and approached renowned weavers Makatleho. The handwoven piece took two months to make with 100% mohair yarn and fibre which was hand dyed by the weavers. The completed tapestry was auctioned to raise funds to help small businesses struggling in the current situation. Link to article here <https://tinyurl.com/y7oaxzqb>.

### Shelter Island Tapestry



The Shelter Island Historical Society is sharing online images of a unique tapestry woven by artist Helena Hernmarck, depicting the original 1652 contract for the purchase of Shelter Island between the Manhasset people and English settlers. Helena said "What I've woven is not just the document but also how the document has been cared for over the years. I made a big point of showing how the document was carefully taped together at a later date. When the document was originally folded, this is the side that

you can see.” Link here to the article in the Shelter Island Reporter <https://tinyurl.com/y8zngnil> and here <https://tinyurl.com/y7655hcc> to a video where Helena talks about the design and making of the tapestry and here <https://tinyurl.com/ya7tqne> to her website.

### Soundweavers Collective: Sound of Threads

A video of the World Premiere of Sound of Threads a collaboration between Ixchel Suarez, textile artist, and Dimitar Pentchev. Ixchel employs different techniques of weaving, live throughout the piece. The weaving is incorporated, both visually and aurally into the musical soundscape created by Dimitar. Video projection switches between the live feed of Ixchel weaving and pre-recorded and edited visuals by Dimitar. The video of the premiere is here <https://tinyurl.com/yb3vpr9m>,

### The Loom Room - Woven Optical Illusions



Fascinated with optical illusions and wondered if you could weave one, or you have already woven some optically intriguing cloth and want to explore further, then this could be of interest. Woven Optical Illusions book and online series is currently being developed by The Loom Room, and there are three ways you can be involved in its development. More details here <https://tinyurl.com/y7he4jx3>.

### Pandora Box Series – Susan Martin Maffei



The Pandora Box Series by Susan Martin Maffei looks at invasive, threatened, declining and interesting species of animals both large and small. In this intriguing and beautiful series for each of the species included there is a Pandora box which opens to show a variety of impactful pieces of work relating to the specific reasons why that species was included in the series. Link to the webpage for the series here <https://tinyurl.com/y98atqmo>.

### The Apocalypse Tapestry and other art inspired by Revelation



An interesting article about a visit to Angers, France to see the Apocalypse Tapestry which not only describes the tapestry and its history but also goes on to talk about other works of art inspired by Revelation and the context for their inspiration and creation. Read the article here <https://tinyurl.com/ycn6fcgc>.

### Upcoming Book: The Golden Thread: How Fabric Changed History



A new edition published by Liveright is available in the UK from June 2020. The Golden Thread by Kassia St Clair weaves an illuminating story of human ingenuity guiding us through the technological advancements and cultural customs that would redefine human civilization-from the fabric that allowed mankind to achieve extraordinary things (traverse the oceans and shatter athletic records) and survive in unlikely places (outer space and the South Pole). See reviews here <https://tinyurl.com/y8392og2>. The book can be pre-ordered here <https://tinyurl.com/ycqu5a3a>.

### Exhibition Catalogue: Marie Cuttoli: The Modern Thread from Miró to Man Ray – Barnes Foundation



Marie Cuttoli (1879–1973) lived in Algeria and Paris in the 1920s and collected the work of avant-garde artists such as Georges Braque, Joan Miró, and Pablo Picasso. In the ensuing decades, she went on to revive the French tapestry tradition and to popularize it as a modernist medium. She commissioned artists including Braque, Le Corbusier, Fernand Léger, Man Ray, Miró, and Picasso to design cartoons to be woven at Aubusson, a centre of tapestry production since the 17th century. The Barnes Foundation is currently closed but the catalogue is available to purchase here <https://tinyurl.com/yd8s4stz> and more information about the exhibition here <https://tinyurl.com/qn78bxb>.

## Textile Gallery

---



This work by Ann Ward is from a postcard of an Australian painting. Ann likes to bring texture into her work using a variety of techniques including floating wefts. Photo by Ann Ward

The second image is a collection of weavings from Mike Wallace, a series he calls 'woven on rock'. They are inspired by standing stones in Scotland. Photo by Mike Wallace



---

### Stop press:

If you are looking for more information on a whole range of fibre arts then take a look at the Knowledge Zone on the weaversbazaar website <https://tinyurl.com/y93ltrhm> The site includes online learning in the Learning for Free area, a Glossary of terms, a library of articles written for weaversbazaar, links to other sites and individual pages for a range of other fibre arts.

The latest additions on tapestry techniques are two useful short videos by Margaret Jones demonstrating five techniques for sewing up slits. Link here to the Learning for Free page <https://tinyurl.com/y59kdknn> then click on Tapestry Weaving and go to the second item on the page.

*Stay Safe and Happy Making!*