October 2020 Newsletter

weaversbazaar news

New Colours and Collection in Fine (18/2)

Welcome to the October newsletter which is a particularly bumper edition. As a quick update we now have three new colours from the turquoise range available in fine yarn (18/2) and so the Turquoise Tonal collection of all four colours is now available in Fine (18/2) and Medium (9.5/2) <u>here</u>. We are slowly filling in the gaps in colours!



Books

There is a new section in the online shop for books. Initially we have Rebecca Mezoff's Art of Tapestry (due for release early November), Tommye McClure Scanlin's The Nature of Things – Essays of a Tapestry Weaver and Kirsten Glasbrook's Tapestry Weaving. Over time we will include more titles so if there is a book or exhibition catalogue you would particularly like to see covered please let us know about it via <u>info@weaversbazaar.com</u>. In addition we would like to know of good weaving books that haven't originated in the USA or UK that we might not know about so please let us know about these too. The Book section is <u>here</u>

Update on weaversbazaar workshops



The first weaversbazaar workshop by Zoom (Tree and Landscapes Weaving taught by Jackie Bennett) took place on October 17 and although we are awaiting final feedback from participants it seemed to go well and so we are now considering follow up sessions and further dates. These will be advertised on the <u>courses page</u> as soon as they are finalised.

Double-Ended French-Style Bobbins

The discounted stock of double-ended French bobbins has now gone but we may have more in the New Year. For those who already have double-ended bobbins Margaret Jones showed us how they can be used as thread carriers for sewing yarn if you are sewing slits as you go. They have just enough weight to keep the thread from getting tangled. We imagine this would work with any double-ended bobbin so worth a try.

Pop-Up Shops

Some weaversbazaar pop up shops have re-opened (at least for now!) at West Dean College and there is also a small pop-up shop at Kirkleatham Museum in Redcar UK until the New Year during the Fabric of the North exhibition. Further details are below under the Fabric of the North event and on our <u>events page</u>.



weaversbazaar's website Poll: Weavers' Marks



The final results of the poll (see below) on whether you use a weaver's mark or not were very vote interesting with the proportion of you not currently using a weaver's mark but thinking that you should staying remarkably consistent throughout the poll at around 60%.

Results of weavers' marks poll Yes and always use the same weaver's mark 16.7% Yes and have a range of personal weaver's marks 2.1% No do not use a weaver's mark 20.8% No but I think I should 60.4%

So hopefully more of you will develop your own marks and continue to add them to the BTG Gallery. The number of marks now in the catalogue continues to grow and you can see the marks already added here https://tinyurl.com/y5uhawjn.

This month the topic for the poll is on whether or not you use a double warp on your frame/loom. A double warp is where the loom or frame is warped with a single warp then a second warp is placed next to each initial warp. This means that in effect the weaver is weaving under 2 warps and over 2 warps right across the frame/loom. For some weavers this is a popular technique as it gives a more lozenge-shaped 'bead' rather than round 'bead' in the weft and changes the surface quality. It also means that weaving is quicker over the double warp but the weaver has the option of still using a single warp in areas of the tapestry where a smaller bead or more detail in the weaving is required. The poll is on the home page as usual https://tinyurl.com/mbay9mk.

Thank you all very much for your valuable feedback on the content of the newsletter. If you have any further thoughts on any of the topics we cover we would love to receive your feedback at info@weaversbazaar.com

Courses and Events

As some physical courses and events are beginning to be advertised due to the changing situation but others continue to be virtual at least for the time being, we will continue to highlight and include here both types of courses and events - those which are only virtual and the newly advertised ones available to attend once again in person.

Design Solutions for the Artist/Weaver: Season 1 and Season 2. Rebecca Mezoff Online Course



Rebecca Mezoff has advised that she will be releasing Season 2 of her online course "Design Solutions for the Artist/Weaver" with all new content in January 2021 and registration information will appear in her newsletter at the end of 2020. Rebecca says that taking Season 1 is

not a prerequirement for Season 2 however she does recommend it as there is much that will not be repeated. Various subscription options exist and there is more detailed information here https://tinyurl.com/y2oc5n33 where you can also sign up for her newsletter if you don't already receive it.

Fabric of the North: BTG Northern Group. 13 October 2020 - 31 January 2021. Kirkleatham Museum, Nr **Redcar, UK**

This exhibition, curated by members of the British Tapestry Group - Northern Group, which is taking place at Kirkleatham Museum near Redcar was highlighted last month but we wanted to add the link to a video which forms part of the exhibition which you can also view and find out more about the project here

https://tinyurl.com/y69f5npl "Living Local: Cuttingoff a tapestry from the loom" the tapestry was



woven by Darlington Young Carers, Syrian and Iraqi children, Leslie Fox, Sally Reckert and Jane Riley as a sponsored community project. See more details about the exhibition here https://tinyurl.com/s7eeh9t. As mentioned above there will also be a small, but beautifully presented (thank you to the Museum for this) weaversbazaar pop-up shop at the museum.

Alan Davie: Beginning of a far-off World. 22 January - 6 March 2021. Dovecot Studios, Edinburgh, UK



This exhibition celebrates the centenary of Scottish artist Alan Davie (1920-2014). Featuring rarely seen works from each decade of his career, as well as a tapestry and rug created in collaboration with Dovecot Studios, the exhibition is a timely tribute to a great Scottish artist of

the 20th century. More information and booking here <u>https://tinyurl.com/yxot4c3w</u>.

Art on the Warp. 17 – 28 November 2020. Oxmarket Gallery, Chichester, UK



A group of 12 tapestry weavers who regularly meet and weave together one Saturday a month at the Angmering Studio of Jane Brunning have joined together for this exciting exhibition in November at the Oxmarket Gallery in Chichester which showcases their collective journey as tapestry weavers. Information on the Oxmarket Gallery and Opening Times here https://tinyurl.com/y2uljzvf.

The International Contemporary Tapestry Exhibitions. Online from 31 October 2020. Claregalway Castle, Co. Galway, Ireland



As part of Project Baa Baa The International Contemporary Tapestry celebration at Claregalway Castle, Co. Galway presents a contemporary view on tapestry making in a combined exhibition of "Interconnections", "Timelines on the Edge" and "Tapestry 20/20". "Interconnections" is a

biennial collaboration of contemporary tapestry artists (Scotland and Ireland). The tapestries have been made over the past two years by the 8 participating professional tapestry artists, "Timelines on the Edge" is a collaborative tapestry artwork whose design was put together by the artists and the loom set up in April 2019 (with some sponsorship from weaversbazaar), and by weaving alternative weekends was completed this September. "Tapestry 20/20" is an exhibition of work by top international tapestry artists. The virtual opening will take place online on 30 October 2020. More information about the opening and how to access the exhibitions from 31 October can be found here https://tinyurl.com/yyl5f4rv.

The International Contemporary Tapestry celebration also includes an Online Symposium. The Symposium "Experience, Growth and Renewal" will be on Saturday 31 October from 10am – 3pm and combines a panel of International Speakers, who will present the wealth of talent and creativity in contemporary tapestry

worldwide. The keynote speaker is Professor Lesley Millar MBE – UK and the full details of the other speakers and how to purchase a ticket is all available at <u>https://tinyurl.com/yy33uo92</u>.

Dragons on the Tibetan Plateau: Selected Textiles from the Mactaggart Art Collection. Virtual Exhibition. University of Alberta Museums, Canada

This exhibition closed early for in-person visits but is available as a visually fascinating virtual exhibition. Tibetan textiles in Dragons on the Tibetan Plateau include robes and textiles made of Chinese silks decorated with variations on Chinese dragon patterns. The textiles in this exhibition feature dragons with claws, horns, tails, and in a variety of colours, and they were produced using different weaving and embroidery techniques. All textiles featured in this exhibition are from the University of Alberta Museums' Mactaggart Art Collection which contains more than 1,000 works of art, textiles, handscrolls, albums, and more from ancient and modern East Asia. See more information and the fine detail of the exhibits here https://tinyurl.com/y4g9pcas.

Brita Been: Timeless. 10 October – 8 November 2020. Risør Kunstpark gallery, Risør, Norway



Brita Been (last years Cordis prize winner) has a new exhibition at the Risør Kunstpark gallery in the centre of Risør in Norway. You can see more information about this exhibition at https://tinyurl.com/yyqd74yk and more images of the work in the exhibition on the gallery

website here https://tinyurl.com/y4afsb9r and read more about Brita's work on her website here https://tinyurl.com/y8oejnf9.

Paradise Lost. 3 October 2020 – 14 March 2021. Royal Botanic Gardens Kew, Shirley Sherwood Gallery, London, UK



Explore the beauty and fragility of the natural world and humanity's impact on it with this stunning exhibition led by world-renowned artist Jan Hendrix. The exhibition is inspired by the landscape of Kamay Botany Bay and the changes it has undergone during 250 years since first recorded in 1770 by Sir Joseph Banks. A theme throughout the exhibition is the destruction of

nature. Amongst a wide variety of exhibits the exhibition includes a tapestry named 'The Remains', which has been woven in a mix of silk, wool and chenille. The tapestry depicts a broken-down landscape that is fragile and has suffered at the hands of humans. Entry to the exhibition is included with entry to the Gardens. Read more about the exhibition here <u>https://tinyurl.com/yy36j5qc</u>.

Opportunities and scholarships

Textile Art of Today VI 2021 - 2022. Submission deadline 16 April 2021

Textile Art of Today is an international art project in which selected works will be gradually exhibited in five galleries of the Visegrad countries – Slovakia, Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland. The aim of this project is to present a selection of contemporary world textile production. "Our vision and goal is to connect modern technology and art. We present textile art works in new dimensions and contexts, such as a textile sculpture, concept, object, installation, video, or virtual reality". Call for entry and full details of the submission guidelines and entry requirements available here https://tinyurl.com/y4wdxfx8.

Coffee Break: Rio Grande-Style Weaving with Lara Manzanares



Lara Manzanares grew up in a multigenerational sheep ranching tradition and weaving has been a part of her life for as long as she can remember. As soon as she was tall enough to work on the

smallest loom in the workshop she joined Tierra Wools as a junior weaver continuing her apprenticeship each summer through high school. After completing her formal graduate education she returned to New Mexico and is now a Rio Grande Style weaving instructor who also teaches tapestry weaving as well as continuing her own weaving practice. In this video which was live streamed earlier this month Lara explains the history and special techniques and looms of Rio Grande-Style Weaving, which produces a very firm weft faced cloth and how this has developed historically from the amalgamation of the indigenous techniques and materials used pre-1500's and the sheep and looms brought by the Conquistadores. Watch this very informative video here <u>https://tinyurl.com/yymy6xaw</u> and see more of Lara's weaving on her website here <u>https://tinyurl.com/y238xo9q</u>.

Bonus Coffee Break: Create Day - Archie Brennan: Weaving a Legacy



Earlier this month as part of "Create Day" Dovecot Studios premiered a new film exploring the creation of two new tapestries by Dovecot weavers. Titled "Archie Brennan: Weaving a Legacy", this film explores how two of Dovecot's more junior weavers designed and created tapestries

inspired by the techniques and innovations of Archie Brennan and informed by a brief that he himself undertook in 2012. Weaver Ben Hymers and apprentice weaver Elaine Wilson designed tapestries inspired by a selection of textiles from the collection of National Museums Scotland that were chosen at random. Watch the video here <u>https://tinyurl.com/y4pzq6ru</u>.

Artist Profile: Julia Mitchell

Julia Mitchell has been designing and weaving for 55 years and her works have been widely exhibited and extensively collected during that time. She draws her subjects from the natural world and the effects of wind, water, light, and shadow over time focussing on the beauty that

surrounds us every day. She believes very strongly in making her art accessible to a wide audience and brings to her art an underlying message that "our world is so fragile, and understanding and preserving it is very, very necessary to the human spirit." Link to her website here <u>https://tinyurl.com/y2wqnvbb</u> where you can read more about her and see a gallery of her beautiful work.

Found on the Web

Orkney.com: Introducing Orkney's Makers - Hoxa Tapestry Gallery

This "Introducing Orkney's Makers'" feature focuses on the team at the Hoxa Tapestry Gallery in South Ronaldsay. Jo Thomson talks about the family business. The gallery was built in 1996 by her parents to house her mother's handwoven tapestries. Jo joined the business in 2011 alongside her brother Andrew (who does all their picture framing) after she graduated from Edinburgh College of Art. Jo reflects on the importance of keeping an online presence this year although since July they have been able to open again for visits by appointment. See the full article here <u>https://tinyurl.com/yxg276ho</u> and visit the Hoxa Gallery website here <u>https://tinyurl.com/y4lxkpg8</u>.

Leon Kossoff and Dovecot Studios 2020-21



Dovecot Studios is creating a new tapestry, "Minerva protects Pax from Mars 2020-21", inspired by the work of Leon Kossoff. This is the first time an artwork by the expressionist painter Leon Kossoff (1926-2019) who was known for his expressionist portraits and depictions of urban life

has been translated into tapestry. The commission will take one year to weave and has restarted the tapestry studio after the recent restrictions. Find out more here <u>https://tinyurl.com/y6y3nbq2</u>.

My Life is but a Tapestry Blog: K Spoering

Tapestry weaver K Spoering's blog "Life is but a Tapestry" is always interesting and the early October blog post "Come to the High Country with me!" is particularly appealing with its striking Autumn/Fall colours and images. She also has a very useful list of other tapestry blogs and sites of interest. Read here https://tinyurl.com/y3moga7c.

Teranyina: Teresa Rosa Aguayo

Teranyina is Teresa Rosa Aguayo's textile studio and workshop in the historic centre of Barcelona, Spain which was founded to promote and disseminate the techniques of tapestry and cloth weaving as a means for creative and artistic expression. You can see her gallery of colourful tapestry works here https://tinyurl.com/yyoo3zu4 and elsewhere on the website are details of the courses available through the studio. There is also an interesting article about Teresa and her workshop here https://tinyurl.com/y68m4elt.

Weaving War and Waves: In Conversation with Artist Katie Russell.

Scottish Maritime Museum

The final 'In Conversation Online Event' for the Scottish Maritime Museum's exhibition 'Woven Waves: The Jutland Tapestries' by Katie Russell. This insightful conversation with Katie Russell touches upon the maritime and social history themes in her work and the development of the project and exhibition. Katie explains why she was drawn to the World War One naval battle, the Battle of Jutland, as a subject and the inspiration she found in the multibeam scans of the battle's wrecks. In this conversation with Exhibition and Events Officer, Nicola Scott, Katie also discusses her Creative Scotland funded research visit to the Sea War Museum Jutland and the Jutland Memorial Park as well as her time spent with traditional weavers in Germany. Watch the video here <u>https://tinyurl.com/yxvtklig</u>. The exhibition continues until 1 November 2020 at the Maritime Museum in Irvine, Scotland find details here https://tinyurl.com/yyrttbqd.

Robbie LaFleur Blog: Frida Hansen

Robbie LaFleur completed a weaving research adventure in Norway in May 2019 with generous grant support from the American-Scandinavian Foundation. As a fellow in the Scandinavian Folk Arts and Cultural Traditions program, she studied the life, works, and weaving techniques of famed Norwegian tapestry artist Frida Hansen and in particular the techniques she developed to weave her "transparencies". Robbie has written several interesting blog posts on those studies two of which can be found here https://tinyurl.com/y5zr4l7m and here https://tinyurl.com/y5puesbn. The first of these also has many other links relating to Frida Hansen for anyone who would like to learn more.

Absolute Tapestry: Norwegian Tapestry Art

Absolute Tapestry is a wonderful internet gallery presenting Norwegian tapestry art. The gallery contains some short texts that throw light on Norwegian tapestry art from several angles. There are several articles which cover the history and development of the art form and the long line of unbroken tradition, but the emphasis is nevertheless on modern tapestry work. There is also a gallery of work where each weaver is represented and by clicking on the first image (or the name of the weaver) their individual gallery can be accessed. Start here <u>https://tinyurl.com/yxtupegm</u> and spend some time navigating this superb resource.

Rebecca Mezoff: Schacht Arras Tapestry Loom



In this blog post Rebecca comprehensively reviews this new tapestry loom from Schacht which is the newest addition to her loom collection. She says, "it has already become a loved member of

my tapestry loom line-up and I will be using it consistently for the rest of my weaving life I suspect". There is a really helpful level of detail for anyone considering acquiring this new loom who would like to know more about it before committing themselves. Read the full blog post here <u>https://tinyurl.com/y4ethoc4</u>.

New Book: Exploring Woven Fabrics



Janet Phillips' new book "Exploring Woven Fabrics" is available now. This book is for beginner and intermediate weavers. It teaches how to construct and weave multiple-sectioned sample blankets exploring Colour and Weave Techniques on four and eight shafts as well as combining weaves together into Block Weaves. It is available either direct from Janet on her website here https://tinyurl.com/y5t9qp73 or in the USA from her distributor via a link on her web page.

A Day in the Weave of Barbara Burns

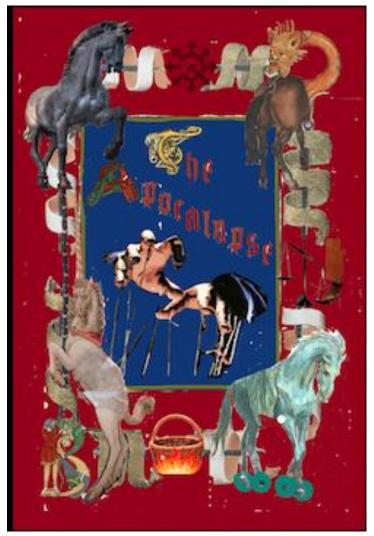
Continuing our new feature this month we are privileged to have an insight into the creative practice and weaving life of Barbara Burns. So here in her own words and images is "A Day in the Weave of Barbara Burns".

What's In A Name: Designing The Nevermore Tapestry



Falling down a rabbit hole can be a good thing when it comes to designing.

I began my latest design with the desire to weave details of horses. My false starts took me from compartmentalized details to a more integrated collection of imagery unified by a border from the illuminated manuscript in Catherine of Cleves' Book of Hours. I replaced much of the imagery with my own leaving a ribbon representing DNA and evolution. The final outcome is influenced by the US political news which changes daily.



There is a long history of symbolism in tapestries. This design is rife with symbols. I made a list of what I wanted to portray then searched the web for images: The four horsemen of the apocalypse horses, black for famine, red for war, pale for pestilence and death. For the white horse I chose the unicorn from one of the Lady and the Unicorn tapestries representing divining truth and wisdom. I added a snake neck and devil head to the red horse. Wheels on the pale horse represent the Trojan horse. These led me to the working title: The Apocalypse. A working title helps me keep on track.

The image of eight radiating arrows represents chaos. Hidden within is a hammer and sickle. It's also similar to a magnified corona virus. The scales of justice are being tipped by a suited leg. Uncle Sam going to hell in a hand basket is at bottom center. I was quite pleased with the how well that came together.



I knew from early on this would be a large piece. After projecting the image on a wall I settled on 75 x 54 inches. Next steps are choosing colors and dyeing yarns. I don't always follow the colors in the cartoon.

Lessons learned: be patient, trust my instincts, don't rely on a first design and be willing to let go of ideas if they don't suit the design. Completing the border left me with the central field to design. After several attempts I chose a raven as the focal point. Often associated with loss and ill omen, this clever bird also represents prophecy, insight and transformation. After auditioning different sizes of the raven I renamed the tapestry to Nevermore after Poe's poem. The blue patterned background from the Apocalypse Tapestry in Angers, France is surrounded by a red and blue border.



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Textile Gallery

This month we have images for the Textile Gallery of some beautiful tapestries woven by Claudia Falquez Useche and from Janet Phillips images of woven fabric projects which feature in her new book "Exploring Woven Fabrics" highlighted above. Both Claudia and Janet used weaversbazaar yarns in their work.

Please carry on sending us images of your work to share.

Claudia Falquez Useche

Claudia is based in Barcelona and has sent us some lovely images of her tapestries. She has used some very interesting textural and three dimensional effects



Janet Philips

Janet Phillips's new book "Exploring Woven Fabrics" includes five projects using our worsted spun yarns and colour packs. Janet likes our yarns because they are good quality wool and come in a huge range of graded colours but also because they have a firm twist. This makes them particularly suitable for hard wearing end uses such as bags, cushions, table mats and upholstery fabrics.

Spice Bazaar uses our 18/2 NM worsted wool and colour packs 3 and 15. They have been woven into two tote bags, one in a classic Turned Twill weave structure and then the other in a combination of 4 end Satin and Sateen.







Crossroads uses our 18/2 NM worsted wool and our grey colour pack. This is another tote bag combining Bedford Cord weave structures and zig-zag Twill.

Downderry Horizons weaves with the 18/2 NM worsted wool grey colour pack again. Janet has converted the Theo Moorman tapestry technique onto an 8-shaft loomcontrolled block weave.

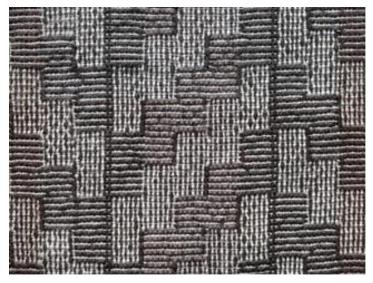
Multiple threads of the different colours are used in the weft to vary the thickness of pattern wefts. The result is a practical set of heat resistant table mats.





Ocelot Bag is woven in Shadow Weave with a slightly warp dominant sett. The warp yarn is our 8/2 NM worsted wool while the weft weaves alternate picks of the 8/2 NM yarn doubled and our 18/2 NM worsted wool. She has used our brown colour pack. The fact that the same colours can be purchased in the two different weights of yarn allows for more design options.

Mark Making is a pair of cushions woven combining 4shaft Summer and Winter weave structure and stripes of 4-shaft warp Repp. The warp and weft for the Summer and Winter blocks alternates our 18/2 NM worsted wool yarn with a 16/2 NE mercerised cotton thread. The contrast between the wool and shiny cotton is particularly attractive and unusual.





Here are images of the colour packs used for Spice Bazaar, Crossroads and Downderry Horizons.



Stop press:

News from Atelier Weftfaced

Atelier Weftfaced are moving from the Mill Studio in Ford to the Barlavington Estate to provide a bigger space for all their activities. So, from November 2020 they will be at Barlavington Stud, near Petworth. They also announced the development of a new pipe loom. Further information available through their website here https://tinyurl.com/yyan3f7d.

International and Large Orders

If you are placing a non-UK order or a large order for anywhere please add your phone number as you go through the payment process on the website. These kinds of orders are sent by courier and all couriers insist on having a delivery phone number before accepting a package. Sometimes orders are delayed while we contact you to get a phone number. Thank you for your help in getting your orders to you as quickly as possible

If you have any questions that you would like us to address in the newsletter these can be sent to <u>info@weaversbazaar.com</u>

Stay Safe and Happy Making!