July 2018 Newsletter

#### **Chatsworth Renewed - special offer of free tickets**

### CHATSWORTH RENEWED

THE	HOUSE		PAST	PRESENT	FUTURE

weaversbazaar is a Supporting Sponsor of the Chatsworth Renewed project. As such, we are delighted to be able to offer our community, a limited number of free tickets to Chatsworth House, in Derbyshire, UK. This is a fantastic opportunity to be able to see not only three of the Mortlake Raphael Tapestries, newly cleaned, but all the other artistic and creative treasures this beautiful stately home has to offer. Tickets can be arranged for any dates up until October 2018, but we would like to know, in advance, who would like tickets. Please <u>contact us</u> for more details or to book a ticket. As usual first come first served.

#### weaversbazaar Mixed Collections: your views are welcomed

Almost at the start of weaversbazaar, we launched a range of Colour Collections that seemed to go down well with customers. Recently these have been spilt into two types of Collections: **Tonal Collections**, which combine the full range of tints, pures and shades around one colour and **Mixed Collections** which are combinations of colours around a theme. Now that we have more colours we are looking to update the Mixed Collections range (see below) and are especially interested to get your feedback. If you have a spare 2 minutes we would very much welcome <u>emails</u> giving us insights into the following:

- Which of the current Mixed Collections do you think work especially well?
- Which of the current Mixed Collections works least well?
- Can you suggest alternative combinations of 6 colours that we don't have but which you think would be valuable additions to the range of Mixed Collections?

Warm Brown	Sun Haze	Spring Green	Winter Hills
Hot, Hot, Hot	Summer Green	Ripe Fruit	Neutrals
Heather	Autumn Leaves	Sea Heat	

#### **Customer Survey**

Thank you to everyone who responded to our short customer survey, we are very appreciative of you taking the time to respond. We have been reviewing the results, especially the suggestions that have been made, and will be providing feedback on them over the next few months. Below are two points that were raised which we can respond to immediately (and a big change for the better detailed in STOP PRESS below):

#### Eco shipping packaging



weaversbazaar has an ambition to become plastic free. Our main target in achieving this is to replace the plastic zip bags and postage bags with non-plastic alternatives. We are delighted to report that most of our orders are now shipped in cardboard boxes that have been recycled locally and we hope that soon we will be able to achieve 100% nonplastic shipping packaging. In particular we are looking for non-plastic alternatives to the

zip lock bags to protect the yarns from moisture in transit. If you are aware of anything that might be suitable we would love to know. Meanwhile we are also starting to look at non-plastic alternatives to product packaging and will be reporting developments as they occur.

#### **Imperial and Metric measurements**

Based on suggestions from our US customers we have updated our website to show all weight units in both



metric and imperial formats. These can be seen on both the <u>technical</u> <u>specification page</u> and in the Online Shop <u>left-hand information panels</u>. Throughout the Online Shop, when purchasing a product by weight, both formats will be shown. This is in addition to the length, the wraps and ends of our yarns which have always been in both metric and imperial units. We will

be investigating how to update our product wrappers with the extra information on weight in both formats, but this will take a while to filter through as we carry quite a stock of ready printed labels.

#### Where can you catch weaversbazaar?

The <u>Diary page</u> on our website shows all the events the Pop-Up Shop is booked into. You are very welcome to drop by any of these. Our <u>Facebook page</u> also has our events shown. If you would like to place an order for collection at any of these events to save postage just <u>email us</u> the details.

#### **Calls for Submissions**

#### Heallreaf 3. Deadline for submission 26th May 2019 - Nottingham and London UK



Following the success of previous Heallreaf exhibitions, we are delighted to announce that Heallreaf 3 will take place in 2019. The exhibition will be at Surface Gallery, Nottingham in September 2019 and Espacio Gallery London in October 2019. Jurors for this exhibition are artist

/ weaver Cos Ahmet, artist/weaver, Barbara Burns, winner of the Heallreaf 2 Prize, and Susan Sherrit, Manager of The Harley Gallery. Previous Heallreaf exhibitions have had a wonderful selection of very high standard work from around the world so we are especially pleased that Heallreaf 3 has been organised. Full details <u>can be found here</u>.

#### **Coffee Break: A Hundred Years of Estonian Textile Art**



Published in January 2017, this online book marks a century of Estonian Textile Art. Viewed through the issue app or read on the website, you can browse the book, which has text in both Estonian and English and beautiful full page illustrations. The first section is an historical account of how textile art developed in Estonia. The second section looks at the work of Estonian textile artists in

detail. This is an online book that can be browsed time and again.

#### **Artist Profile: Jan Yoors**



Last month we listed a recent publication by Debra Dean on the life of artist Jan Yoors. This web site provides further insights into the breadth of creative media Yoors employed, including tapestry art. Jan Yoors was born in Antwerp, Belgium to a cultured, liberal family of artists. At the

age of twelve he ran off with a Gypsy tribe and lived with the kumpania on and off for the next ten years. He enrolled in the School of African and Oriental Studies at London University. While there he was introduced to the art of tapestry in a chance visit to an exhibition of medieval tapestries. His expertise came from life-long study of the world's great weaving traditions, from Aubusson to Samarkand. His early work was largely figurative but became increasingly abstract in his later years. This article from 2001 details how Jan Yoors partners continued to weave the unrealised designs Jan left following his death.

#### **Events**

#### CANCELLED: FOUR VOICES @SAM SCORER GALLERY, LINCOLN UK. 30 July - 12 August 2018

Unfortunately, this exhibition of work by Joan Baxter, John Brennan, Amanda Gizzi and Elizabeth Radcliffe has been cancelled. The artists apologise for any disappointment. An expanded version of this exhibition will be showing at the Maclaurin Galleries, Rozelle House, Ayr 18 August - 21

October 2018. Details here.

#### Intertwined [fiber from one extreme to the other]. 21 July - 3 September. California, USA.



Healdsburg Center for the Arts presents a nationwide fibre exhibition. Intertwined [fiber from one extreme to the other] honors all forms of fibre art expressions, from the humble woven basket to the abstract sculpture and from traditional tapestry to the conceptual works with a

social statement. 65 pieces are featured using a variety of materials- paper, wool, cotton, metal, wood, and plastic and many modes and techniques- weaving, papermaking, felting, dyeing, surface design, sewing, quilting and more.

#### Painting with Thread. 2 August - 23 September. Sydney, Australia.



Painting with Thread is an exhibition of recent tapestries and samples from the collection of the Australian Tapestry Workshop, Melbourne (ATW). Founded in 1976, the ATW is recognised as an international leader in the production of hand-woven tapestries and is the only workshop of its

kind in Australia. All ATW tapestries are made in collaboration with leading artists and designers. Details here.

#### Sound & Weave. 11 August to 23 September. Scotland, UK.



This juried touring exhibition features the work of members of the British Tapestry Group from throughout the UK. This is an exhibition with a difference as BTG members were asked to submit conceptual proposals of work around the theme of Sound and Weave. The proposals rather than

the works were juried and then the selected artists produced the work according to their proposals. Lin was

fortunate to have a piece selected in collaboration with the artist Andrew Dickinson (who makes our beautiful bobbins). Their joint work in a mix of materials could be called a sculptural tapestry! The exhibition will start in Dumfries, Scotland and then travel to Richmond, London later in the year and to Wales in 2019. We will post reminders about the other venues as each approaches.

#### Unique: New works from Lucy Sugden. Until 12th August. Letchworth, UK.



The <u>series of textile works on display</u> in the Foyer Gallery of the Broadway Studio Gallery, are by artist Lucy Sugden. In creating these new pieces, Sugden has been inspired by the way in which things that first appear to be all the same can, on closer inspection, often be quite different. As

the artist explains, she is 'intrigued by the way in which people try to make sense of the world by categorising things, putting unseen labels on people, placing ourselves and each other into unseen boxes'.

#### ATW Friends Lecture Series. 23 August. Melbourne, Australia.



The Australian Tapestry Workshop is holding a lecture with special guest Singapore-based architect Justin Hill as part of the 2018 Tapestry Design Prize for Architects on Thursday 23 August. Justin Hill is the winner of the second Tapestry Design Prize for Architects with his design

22 Temenggong Road, Twilight. His design impressed the judging panel with the beautiful and intricate nature of the design concept, which is based on the architect's personal experience of living in Singapore and the 'luminous blue of the short tropical twilight'. <u>Full details here</u>.

#### Southern Wool Show. 1 September 2018. Berkshire, UK.



The Southern Wool Show is a brand-new festival organised by the team who run the highly acclaimed Spring Into Wool show in Leeds. As well as loads of wonderful stands selling a wide range of products, they have a great set of Workshops and free demonstrations allowing people

to share their passion and skills for woolly arts and crafts. **weaversbazaar's Pop Up Shop will be there all day!** The Show will be held on the Newbury Race Course and <u>full details are here</u>.

#### Courses

#### An opportunity of a Masterclass with Elizabeth Radcliffe and John Brennan in Ayr, Scotcland.



Elizabeth Radcliffe and John Brennan are proposing to deliver a Tapestry Weaving Masterclass and would welcome expressions of interest. The class will be held in Gallery 1 of the Maclaurin Gallery in Ayr where the "Four Voices" Exhibition will on show.

They would like to offer about 8 or 9 days where weavers can sign up for as many days as they like. The cost would be £50 a day. John and Elizabeth will teach together, and weavers would be experienced ones who wanted to extend their techniques and subject matter.

John is known for his amazing handling of colour, mixing his materials to give a rich surface to his work which includes figures, gardens, flowers and landscapes. He has been weaving for more than 40 years. Elizabeth weaves life sized figures, wearing interesting clothes (patterned and textured) animal eyes and 3D knots in warp, and recently, experiments in seascapes. She has been weaving for 50 years. The exhibition is on from the 18th of August until the 30th of September and **it would good to find out when would be the most popular times for the classes**.

If the Masterclass goes ahead, John and Elizabeth would expect weavers to bring images which would be personal them and we would have the variety of work on the walls to be "teaching aids" for the students so that they can experiment in whatever way that suits them. Please <u>contact Elizabeth</u> to share your interest and help establish the dates.

#### Tapestry Weaving with Fiona Rutherford. 1 September 2018. London, UK



This <u>one day workshop</u> will focus on the use of colour to create shapes, lines and texture in tapestry weaving. Fiona will also be looking at controlling tension and basic finishing techniques

to make tapestry weaving simpler. The emphasis is on a playful approach to the use of colour. By the end of the day you will have a small tapestry sampler to take home as well as new ideas for the next one.

#### Weekend Residential Tapestry Weaving Course. 28 – 30 September 2018. Ipswich, UK



Tapestry Weaving is an ancient art form. In medieval times it was considered more prestigious than painting. Here is an opportunity to learn and develop the unique skills of warping up a frame and the standard techniques for making images in woven tapestry. This workshop is led by

Margaret Jones and <u>full details are here</u>.

#### Tapestry Weaving Workshops at the Australian Tapestry Weaving. Various dates. Melbourne, Australia.



At the Australian Tapestry Workshop regular tapestry weaving classes are held, children's weaving classes in the school holidays, and various other classes. The levels at which tapestry weaving is taught also varies from beginners to intermediate level. <u>Find out more here</u>.

#### Found on the web

#### Weaving New Worlds online catalogue



Issuu is a digital publishing platform that makes it simple to publish magazines, catalogues, newspapers, books, and more online. Amongst other fascinating items, you can see the full colour catalogue for the Weaving New Worlds exhibition which we detailed in our last

Newsletter. <u>Find it here</u>.

#### **Scaffold and Pipe Looms**



We have two links on this topic. The first is to <u>LouLou Morris's blog</u> in which she describes the building of a scaffold loom. It is a substantial piece of equipment. Plans for making both a scaffold loom as well as cooper pipe looms, can also be found on Archie Brennan's and Susan Martin Maffei's <u>website here</u>.

#### **Tapestry Artists of Puget Sound**



<u>Tapestry Artists of Puget Sound</u> (TAPS) was founded in 1990 for the exchange of techniques, philosophy and inspiration within the world of tapestry. The group provides a forum for the exchange of ideas and an opportunity for critical review through discussion, exhibition and

publication. Each artist has developed and refined a body of work that expresses a unique vision and commitment to the art form. Their website has galleries of work by TAPS members and of tapestries by members and exhibited.

#### The Making of 'Perspectives on a Flat Surface'.



<u>This 4-minute video</u>, from the Australian Tapestry Workshops, features four of the weavers progressing through the creation of a beautiful tapestry designed by John Wardle Architects. This was the winning design in the inaugural Tapestry Design Prize for Architects. <u>This article</u> provides

some more information.

#### A landmark in Abstraction



We introduced South African Marguerite Stephens and her tapestry studio, in December last year, but <u>this article</u> covers a more recent collaboration she has been working on with artist Jacob van Schalkwyk.

#### Weaving a portrait.



This is a <u>blog entry from Kathy Spoering</u> in which she describes the process of weaving an 8-inch by 10-inch portrait. It is accompanied by illustrations of the various stages, explanations about sett, technical insights into weaving the face and the finishing process. Well worth a read.

#### Making Linen – the mechanical process



Last month we shared a video showing the traditional processes involved in making a linen thread from the flax plant. This month <u>we share a video</u> which looks at the same process as it is undertaken through mechanical means.

#### The World of Looms



This is the site of the China National Silk Museum. A current exhibition provides an overview of the development of loom technology around the world. At the top of the page you can scroll through photographs from the exhibition. You can also scroll down the page and see images of all

the different types of looms on display with short explanatory texts. Find it here.

#### **Textile Gallery: Inner Sound exhibits**



This month's Gallery carries pieces submitted by Lin and Matty to the British Tapestry Group South East's exhibition on the theme of 'Inner Sound'.

Matty's work (left) is entitled 'Flight over Inner Sound'. It is 56.5cm/22 inches high 40.5/15.9 inches wide, woven on cotton warps set at 3.5 epc/ 8.75 epi with wool wefts.

Lin's work (below), entitled 'Sound of the South Downs' is 104cm/50 inches wide by 90cm/34.4inches high. Materials used are cotton warp with wool and copper wire weft. It is now in a private collection.



#### Stop Press: Simplified international postal charges!



We have been as frustrated as our international customers with the PayPal barriers to setting all postal rates at the point of ordering. Working with our web-development team we have at last found a way to accommodate international postage as an integral part of the order process. At the checkout, customers will be asked to confirm their location, and this will automatically set the correct postage according to their order value and the area of the world it will be sent to. We have established an extended postal tariff

structure for UK (incl. Highlands & Islands), the rest of Europe, USA & Canada and New Zealand & Australia. You can see the full table of <u>postal tariffs here</u>. At last orders and postage can be paid for together wherever you are.

### Happy Weaving!