

## weaversbazaar Blended Weaving Kit

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weaversbazaar is delighted to present our new and exclusive **Blending Tapestry Weaving Kit**.

Available in four colourways, this Kit introduces the techniques of subtle colour blending, using our fine 18/2 yarns.

**Claire Buckley**, <http://www.clairebuckleytextiles.com>, a well established textile artist and member of the British Tapestry Group, has designed the tapestry and prepared the guidelines. Drawing on the extensive colour range held by weaversbazaar four different colour versions are available.

The full Kit comes with a ready-warped frame (wooden or adjustable), bobbin, yarns and instructions.

\*\*For those who already have the basic equipment, we are making **the instruction booklet available on its own**. Full details are on our website. <http://www.weaversbazaar.com/product-list/tapestry-kits>

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## *Technology Special Edition*

This month we have brought together information and links that highlight ways in which technology can support weaving, textile work and broader creativity. The intention is to help those who are a little shy of using Technology and also give ideas to those who are already using the internet. You may want to sit down with a pot of tea and a large cream cake for this edition. We start with a look at the latest innovation from weaversbazaar itself!

### Keeping safe on the internet

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There are lots of advantages to using the internet; it has a wealth of information and opportunities to join groups with common interests offering practical advice – but the internet, like any public space, needs to be treated with some caution. Here is some simple guidance in keeping safe on the internet from the Metropolitan Police.:

[http://safe.met.police.uk/internet\\_safety/get\\_the\\_facts.html](http://safe.met.police.uk/internet_safety/get_the_facts.html)

### Textiles and the Web

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If the safety link above hasn't terrified you too much then please read on The internet is a hugely rich resource for all aspects of working with textiles – here are just a few examples starting close to home.

### weaversbazaar Knowledge Zone

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 **weaversbazaar** We are very proud of our developing Knowledge Zone, which includes access to free learning resources, technical explanations, a glossary of terms and much, much more. Divided into different textile activities, such as cloth weaving, tapestry and embroidery we hope that it will introduce new ideas, help answer questions (such as what do our numeric yarn counts mean) or resolve problems and provide inspiration. If you have never tried clicking on any of the links we include in our newsletter then you may want to start with this one as we know it is safe <http://www.weaversbazaar.com/knowledge-zone/> Our knowledge zone is free and does not require any kind of login.

### Textile e-Books

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 **The Textile Blog** eBooks are electronic version of books. The Textile Blog has collated a list of ebooks covering the history of design, decoration and craft but with a particular emphasis on textiles. These are available to purchase and come in a PDF format. Many of these ebooks contain full colour illustrations and the

resource ebooks provide hundreds of internet links related to their subject matter.

<http://thetextileblog.blogspot.com/p/ebooks.html> . Elsewhere on the internet free eBooks are available but the selection for textiles is narrower by take a look at Project Gutenberg which has digitised a huge number of out of print books <http://www.gutenberg.org/> . Both these resources are free and do not require 'logging in' unless you chose to buy something from the site.

## Blogs

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Blogs are text-based writings, like diaries, that anyone can put on the internet for others to read. Often people chose to write about specific areas of interest and over the years we have mentioned some of the best weaving blogs such as those written by **Kathe Todd-Hooker** <http://www.kathetodhooker.blogspot.com/> , **Rebecca Metzoff** <http://www.rebeccamezoff.blogspot.co.uk/> and **Aviva Leigh** <http://www.slowstuff.co.uk/category/blog/>

For a very special blog though take a look at the next item

## The Magic of Colour - Gerda van Hamond Exhibition Review

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This photo essay on Debbie Herd's Blog reviews the recent exhibition of the work of Gerda van Hammond. It is a great example of the quality of information available online.

<http://debbieherd.blogspot.com.au/2014/03/the-magic-of-colour-gerda-van-hamond.html>

## Instructional videos on the internet - YouTube

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YouTube is the most popular place to find videos on the internet and it has an endless array of videos related to tapestry, weaving and all things textiles – but you do need to search them out using the search facility on the site! Many of the videos are 'how to' so provide essential details about how to do something specific. Others share information, or insights that can be really worthwhile. Most YouTube videos are very short and a good example of what you can find is a short and very professional video about the Dovecot Tapestry Studio in Edinburgh (<http://tinyurl.com/o4vjkm4>). Alternatively an even shorter video, with rather poor sound quality, nevertheless touches on an interesting project of introducing medical students to weaving to improve their sense of touch (<http://tinyurl.com/qdrxezq>). No login is required to look at YouTube videos but you will need to open a free account with them to place your own videos on the site.

## Social Media - Facebook

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We have all heard about Facebook as an example of social media on the internet i.e. a site that allows you to chat to friends or anyone about anything and share photographs - and what we hear is not always good things. But it is no longer just the preserve of agitated youth and is a really valuable source of information about people and groups if you use the search tool to focus on where your interests lie. For instance, British Tapestry Group Members shared photos of what they were working on, on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2014 – a sort of photo collage of that day. This is a great example of how Facebook can be effectively used to provide a view of a community with a common interest and it gives a wonderful snapshot of contemporary tapestry weaving. <http://tinyurl.com/qd5ofub> . To use Facebook you will need to set up an account with them but this is quite simple. The weaversbazaar Facebook page can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/weaversbazaar> . We place events on here that we find out about too late for the newsletter and there are looks of photos and links.

## Apps (short for applications)

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There are a growing number of apps, for smart phones and tablets such as iPads, Androids etc, which provide both practical help and interesting opportunities for those using fibre. Most apps actually do something rather than show something, some are free others have to be purchased. In many examples below the purchase is made through the iTunes app store which is managed by Apple. Here are just a few:



**iSpin Tool Kit.** An iPhone app that helps measure twist per inch, wraps per inch and ensures a balanced ply.

<http://tinyurl.com/olsf9sv>



**iWeaveIt.** The app enables you to plan a weaving threading pattern, a lift sequence, play around with yarn colours over a weave structure, work out lengths of yarn needed for a project and a great deal more. The iPad/iPhone version links to a printer as well, there is also an Android version. Not cheap but fantastically useful as you can use it on the go. There are two add-ons, each priced separately, that provide further functionality around project planning and tracking threading and lift plans as you weave. <http://www.weaveit.com/iweaveit.aspx>



**Palettes** for those looking for inspiration on colour choices or blends. There is a free version iPad and iPhone version as well as a more functional, but paid for 'Palettes Pro'. <http://tinyurl.com/pfu8vlq>



**Dulux Trade Colour** is a fantastic free app for colour matching, for establishing a colour palette and for armchair decorating. Also perfect if you are looking to commission a new yarn colour through weaversbazaar as the physical colour cards in store are just the right size for colour matching!

<http://www.dulux.co.uk/app/>



**Grayson Perry: The Vanity of Small Differences.** Use this app to view Turner Prize and BAFTA-winner Grayson Perry's six tapestries 'The Vanity of Small Differences' up-close. The app Features commentary from the artist, historical art references and a guide to the 'making of' the works.

<http://tinyurl.com/mf44d6w> Not free but very low cost.



The V&A iPad Calendar App allows you to discover what's happening in the Museum on a day-to-day basis including talks, tours, activities and free events. Directly book evening talks, workshops and other ticketed events. Find out in-depth information, watch videos or read Q&As about our high profile exhibitions, plus learn about our galleries, collections, plan your visit or see if there's a touring V&A exhibition near you – all for free. <http://www.vam.ac.uk/content/articles/v/calendar-tablet-app/?sf13408608=1>



Josef Albers's **Interaction of Color** is a masterwork in twentieth-century art education. The classic text achieves its full, interactive potential in this stunning new application for iPad. The full app is free to download, and allows you to sample Chapter 10, including accompanying text, video commentary, two interactive plates, and the palette tool. The complete app—featuring the full text, 125 plates, 60 interactive studies, and over two hours of video commentary—can be unlocked through an in-app purchase.

<http://yupnet.org/interactionofcolor/>

## Viewing images on the web

There are some amazing images to be found on the web that can enhance the design of a tapestry or support the development of textile art works. Many of these images are free but it is important that the stipulated copyright rules are observed.



**Google Images** is a good place to start – put in the subject you are looking for and see what Google returns. Some of these will be copyright free or free to use under the Creative Commons Agreement (CCA), but others will be copyrighted, so make sure you know before using them. If you use CCA images in a presentation which will be seen by others, then the source of the image should be explicitly referenced.

<http://www.google.com/imghp> . No account or fee is need to view the images



**Wikipedia** – an online encyclopaedia written by the public - draws on all sorts of images to illustrate its information. All of these are made available under the Creative Commons Agreement and are therefore free to use. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Images> . Wikipedia is free to use and does not need a login account.



**iStock** is a vast hoard of royalty free images(photos, cartoons, drawings, videos) from the monumental Getty Collection. Royalty free means that for a small price an image can be used in public materials (advertising, presentations, websites etc). The costs are quite small and the images are high quality, but you will need to set up an account with iStock. <http://www.istockphoto.com/>

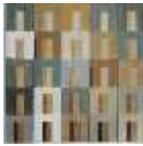


**Photos from, and of, Space.** This website brings together some of the most amazing photos including stunning pictures of the recent auroral activity. <http://www.space.com/images/>



**Pinterest** is a web-based tool for collecting, organising and sharing images – a bit like a pin-board on the wall. There are some amazing images to be found! <http://www.pinterest.com/all/> . We have our own weaversbazaar Pinterest page here <http://www.pinterest.com/lin4844/>

## Artist Profile: Tilak Samarawickrema



Tilak Samarawickrema is an architect from Sri Lanka with a multi-faceted design background in Art, Textile design, animated cinema and Architecture. Amongst his many creative activities he has developed a new aesthetic in tapestry design and began a long-standing relationship with traditional weavers of Thalagune Udu-dumbara, the oldest weaving village in Sri Lanka. You can explore all aspects of his work, including tapestry weaving, on his web site: <http://www.tilaksamarawickrema.com/index.html>

## Weaversbazaar 2014 diary



Having had a busy start to the year, weaversbazaar's travels continue as we head down to Sussex, to support the South East British Tapestry Group's exhibition "**Weather, whether**". This will be held at The Mill House Gallery, Ecclesden Lane, Angmering, Littlehampton, Sussex. BN 16 4DQ. 18<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> April; 10:30 – 4:30 daily. Find out full details of where we are in 2014 at

<http://www.weaversbazaar.com/about-us/weaversbazaar-diary/>

## Coffee Break Moment



This month's Coffee Break is actually three short videos. They are embedded in an article entitled 'Tale of Three Tapestries' which is about work undertaken by tapestry artists Kristen Saeterdal . It is interesting to hear her describe the creative process she went through in the creation of one of the tapestries. Also included are some technical details of the weaving processes. <http://ntagallery.nordictextileart.net/>

## Events & Opportunities

### Fashion & Textile Museum, London



**ARTIST TEXTILES: Picasso to Warhol**. Exhibition Dates: 31 January – 17 May 2014. This exhibition traces the history of 20th century art in textiles and features examples of key European and American art movements. <http://tinyurl.com/nsenpor>

### Stroud International Textiles Select,, Gloucestershire



**SIT Select** have confirmed the line-up for 2014 and the new venues this year in Cirencester, Chalford, Cheltenham and Ozleworth. Newark Park, the National Trust, property will have an exhibition of mixed fine craft work from 30 artists. Details of wider events between April 4 – May 31 and the Newark Park Exhibition between April 23 – June 8<sup>th</sup>, can be found on their website: <http://www.sitselect.org/index.html>

### The Highland Wool Festival, Near Inverness, Scotland



**The Highland Wool Festival** will be taking place on Saturday 24th May 2014 at Dingwall Mart between 9.30 am and 4.30 pm. The event will bring together craftspeople from the fields of wool and textiles; people who are passionate about what they do. <http://www.highlandwoolfestival.co.uk/>

### Call for Artists in Residence, New York



Textile Arts Center seeks (8) eight working artists or designers dedicated to textiles and looking to deepen their own artistic practice within a community to partake in its Artist Residency program for the 2014 - 2015 cycle. Applications are due April 15, 2014. <http://tinyurl.com/otn8fts>

## Courses

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### Tapestry Courses in Madrid, Spain.

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This website details both 'holiday courses' as well as studio space for tapestry weavers. It is in Spanish but your browser should be able to translate it. <http://artdesingtextil.jimdo.com/cursos-de-tapices/>

### Introducing Woven Tapestry and Continuing Woven Tapestry, Cumbria

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Two courses led by Louise Martin, at Higham Hall, Bassenthwaite Lake, Cockermouth, Cumbria CA13 9SH, in May. Full details at <http://www.highamhall.com/courses/category/Louise-Martin/>

### Plant Dyed Wool Workshops, Herefordshire

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These workshops are run at The Forge, Byford, Herefordshire HR4 7LD, on the River Wye. They also include felting and weaving peg-loom hangings. <http://plantdyedwool.co.uk/workshops/>

### Drop-in weekly tapestry weaving sessions, London

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Come and spend three hours exploring the beauty of colourful textures in Tova Lenkiewicz's peaceful studio in North London, learning the basics of tapestry weaving and progressing to using more advanced techniques, including colour blending, image weaving and use of texture. <http://tinyurl.com/po2tzvr>

## 2013 Sponsorship Update

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We were delighted to receive some more photos from one of last year's successful sponsorship applicants: Jane Kitchener. Full details of what she shared with us are on the Sponsorship 2013 Update ([http://www.weaversbazaar.com/documents/2013\\_Sponsorship\\_Update.pdf](http://www.weaversbazaar.com/documents/2013_Sponsorship_Update.pdf)) but here are the images.



*Jane's Butterwort tapestry using blending techniques she learned working with Joan Baxter*



*(centre) Gillian MacPherson weaving from the top down and (right) her finished piece*



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## !! STOP PRESS!!

We appreciate technology may not be your thing so don't forget that you don't need to use our website to order; just pick up the phone and call 07801 607286, and we can sort everything out in person.

