

weaversbazaar

October 2016 Newsletter

weaversbazaar Sponsorship Fund 2017

sponsorship

SPONSORSHIP

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Once again we have set aside a fund for sponsorship and are open to applications for 2017. This annual event has resulted in some amazing projects being undertaken – some have continued well beyond their year of sponsorship. We are hoping to find out about more really interesting ideas and projects being planned for 2017.

The application form is available to download as a PDF file from our [Sponsorship Page](#). That will also give details of past applications and the outcomes.

If an editable version is required, please don't hesitate to get in touch with [Matty](#), who can email one out.

Deadline for applications is 31st December 2016!

weaversbazaar News: A Yarn Sett Tool!








We have added another invaluable tool to our equipment list – a **Yarn Sett Tool**. About 3 inches long (7.5 cms) it will happily fit into any tin of useful gadgets. With a one-inch slot and a one-centimetre slot, to easily wrap yarn within, it enables any calculation of yarn thickness to be easily established. Archie Brennan's formula for tapestry warp sett uses both metric and imperial measures:

- number of wraps per centimetre = number of warps per inch
- number of wraps per half inch = number of warps per 3 cm.

You can find the **Yarn Sett Tool** on our [Equipment Page](#) (and for the forward thinking amongst you, this would make a fantastic Stocking Filler for Christmas!).

weaversbazaar Poll

	11.8%	Just one to be woven
	41.2%	One to be woven, but more than one in design
	23.5%	More than one to be woven and more than one in design
	5.9%	None - but meaning to start
	17.6%	Other

This is the result of the poll on multitasking on creative projects – clearly the majority are very focused on the weaving whilst allowing lots of ideas to develop. However, it is impressive to see that almost a quarter of us have more than one piece being woven **as well as** several designs emerging – true multi-tasking! Our next poll is all about collaboration – which is also a recurrent theme in this newsletter.

Coffee Break Moment: Wool across cultures



For this month's Coffee Break Moment, we have found two videos – one lasts about 10 minutes and the other about 27 minutes and both capture the traditions of sheep shearing and wool preparations across cultures: Navajo weavers and Irish Spinners. [Navajo Weaver Clara Sherman](#) [Carding and Spinning](#) shows how the Navajo mastered spindle weaving whilst [Hands \(Wool Spinning in Donegal\)](#) gives a more in-depth insight into an Irish Community within which wool production played a major part (look out for the sheep being got out of, and put into, the boots of cars!)

Artist Profile: Franz Kempf



[Franz Kempf](#) was born in Melbourne in 1926. Kempf studied at the National Gallery School, Australia and in Italy and Austria. In England he worked as a film designer with Richard Macdonald and was associated with Peter Blake, Joe Tilson, Ceri Richards and Keith Vaughan. The latter of these two artists had a great influence on Kempf's work of the 60's. The Australian Tapestry Workshop wove a work of his entitled The Jerusalem Tapestry, which Kempf then donated to [Murray Bridge Regional Gallery](#) in South Australia.

Congratulations!

Cos Ahmet



Cos Ahmet, an innovative tapestry and mixed media artist, has a Gallery of work at each of the Knitting & Stitching Shows this year. He will be showing his new textile and sculptural works under the title of 'Thread is Thought'. London 5-9 October, Dublin 20-23 October and Harrogate 24-27 November. Full details on [Cos' website](#).

Eva Rothschild



Eva Rothschild, a leading sculptor based in Ireland, is the first ever winner of the West Dean Tapestry Studios' Tapestry Open Commission Call. More than 150 artists submitted designs or concepts to be hand woven by the master weavers of the famous Tapestry Studio housed in West Dean College after a period of collaborative working with the artist. [Read more here](#). Tapestry has often been the subject of collaborations between artists and master weavers (note the Tapestries of Grayson Perry and Chris Ofili in the events section). We are looking forward to seeing the outcome of the collaboration between West Dean and Eva Rothschild.

Calls for submissions

2017 Artist in Residence Programme. Deadline 25th November 2016



The Australian Tapestry Workshop (ATW) enjoys an international reputation as a leader in contemporary tapestry. It is the only workshop of its kind in Australia and one of only a handful in the world for the production of hand-woven tapestries. The Artist in Residence program invites artists to immerse themselves in the unique studio environment of the ATW. Full details of the application process can be found [on their website](#).

Courses & Workshops

Weftfaced



Keep up to speed with all the workshops and courses being delivered by Caron Penney by visiting the [Weftfaced website](#). Caron has several workshops running in October and then more in November. These take place both in her own Studio and at a number of other venues in the South East as well.

Events

Greyson Perry: *The Vanity of Small Differences*. 8th October - 4th December. Canterbury, UK



The Vanity of Small Differences is a series of six large scale tapestries by Grayson Perry, created alongside the BAFTA award-winning Channel 4 series, *All in the Best Possible Taste*. The series follows Perry as he embarks 'on a safari amongst the taste tribes of Britain' to gain inspiration for his work. Perry said: "Of all the pieces I have made this was the one I conceived from the outset as a public artwork. I hope that wherever it goes it not only delights the eyes but also sparks debate about class, taste and British Society" [Full details of location and opening times here](#).

20th National Open Art Winter Exhibition (NOA). 27th October – 4th November. London, UK



Described by Royal Academician Hughie O'Donoghue as 'a cross section of the best British and Irish contemporary art today', National Open Art are once again presenting an eclectic variety of contemporary paintings, drawings, original prints, photography, wall hung sculpture, digital art and moving image which will be curated by Robin Muir of Vogue. To view the selected artists and their work online go to the Galleries. [Details of the exhibited works are here](#) and details of the actual event are here. The renowned tapestry artist Pat Taylor has often had work exhibited by NOA and this year is no exception with a work called Diptych.

Iconography through Jacquard tapestries. Until October 30. Geyserville, CA. USA



Opening over Labor Day weekend, Iconography is an exhibit of tapestries featuring the work of five iconic modern artists: Chuck Close, Kiki Smith, Alex Katz, Squeak Carnwath and Deborah Oropallo. The tapestries are woven using a process developed by Magnolia Editions in Oakland that unites advanced digital techniques with traditional Jacquard weaving to capture an exquisite amount of detail in the weaving, allowing a direct translation of the artist's work to the tapestry. Three tapestries by Chuck Close, who was recently appointed by President Obama to the President's Committee on the Arts and Humanities, will be on display until Oct. 30, [Dallas A. Saunders Artisan Textiles](#).

Here and Now. Until January 2017. Sleaford, Lincolnshire, UK.



We make no apology for this repeat listing – hosted at the National Centre for Craft and Design (NCCD), this is the first major curated exhibition of contemporary tapestry in England for over 20 years. Showcasing the breadth of international talent and most innovative approaches to the medium, the show challenges the notion that tapestry is a dying craft and marks a point in time for the artform. Initial feedback from those who have already seen it is it is well worth the trip. Full details on the [NCCD website](#).

Chris Ofili: *Weaving Magic*. 26th – 28th April 2017. London, UK



Commissioned by the Clothworkers' Company, Ofili has been collaborating with the internationally renowned Dovecot Tapestry Studio to see his design translated into a hand-woven tapestry. The imagery reflects Ofili's ongoing interest in classical mythology and the stories, magic, and colour of the Trinidadian landscape he inhabits. This exhibition will unveil the new work. [More details here](#). **This is an early warning to get the dates in your diary – we will issue a reminder closer to the time!** After the exhibition the tapestry will be on permanent display in the Clothworkers Hall.

Found on the web

British Tapestry Group Members' Showcase.



Last month we shared with you the details of the new British Tapestry Group's Woven Art website, which provides online catalogues of all BTGs exhibitions. However, do take a moment (or three) to browse the [BTG Showcase](#). This provides an inspiring insight into the work of the individual members.

The collectability of textile art



We came across [this article from Christies](#), the international auction house, on the collectability of textile art. It suggests that 'Both ancient and contemporary textiles are becoming increasingly sought after by collectors interested in the art of cultures from around the world — a field sometimes termed 'ethno-aesthetics'. It is not only an informative article but an eye fest of beautifully illustrated textile art.

Hair!



We also came across a couple of rather quirky websites relating to the artistic value of hair. Hair artist [Sonya Clark](#) is a leading fibre artist who specializes in intricate and politically charged sculptures using human hair. The link is to an interview with her but the art work illustrated is just amazing.

On the same theme, the work of hair artist Hong Chun Zhang is extraordinary. [This website page](#) is dated 2010 and carries a short (rather confusing) biography plus photos of the work, in two languages and the photos are repeated as well. Interesting!

The Royal Tapestry Factory in Madrid



If you are planning a trip to Spain then this might be a place to aim for – the [Royal Tapestry Factory](#) there has a long association with Goya amongst other artists. The web site is available in three languages.

Parallel Threads: Sweden and United States.



Helena Hernmarck is a Swedish-born tapestry artist and weaver best known for her monumental tapestries designed for architectural settings. Her designs derive from sources ranging from photographs, to watercolours, to handwritten letters, and even from the texture of wool itself. She has supported Swedish textile arts throughout her career, collaborating with Swedish spinners, dyers, and weavers on each commission. [In this short article](#) she reflects on the parallels between her Swedish training and subsequent professional practice in the USA.

Weave Your Way Through Magnified Photos of Fabric | Conservation Lab



'Zoom in on a digital image, and it'll turn into a grid of pixels. Zoom in on a tapestry, and you'll discover a grid of interlocking threads, with each segment contributing a colour and texture to the whole.' This is another [short but fascinating article](#) about what micrographs of textiles reveal.

VADS: the online resource for visual arts



The [Visual Arts Data Service](#) (VADS) is the online resource for visual arts. It has provided services to the academic community for 12 years and has built up a considerable portfolio of visual art collections comprising over 100,000 images that are freely available and copyright cleared for use in learning, teaching and research in the UK. Well worth bookmarking for future reference and a great source of inspiration!

Textile Gallery



We were delighted when Ros Thomas sent us this photo of a little tapestry sample she has worked exploring texture. She says “I was using soumak in blocks but trying the two different ways of sewing them, which gives different results - one is like knitting, and the other makes a more even raised surface, I was also using lengths of soft handspun soya thread wrapped round warps, with the weft passing underneath, and also tried adding pieces of extra warp threads parallel with the real ones, to bulk up the texture. In the middle I was trying "spotting" by carrying a weft underneath and bringing it up irregularly like intarsia knitting”. Lovely to see this experimentation going on!

Stop Press



Going, Going, Gone!

The last few Tapestry Bead N' Fibre Kits:

£20 postage free for a limited period!

Happy Weaving