

weaversbazaar News

Impacting the Earth

We are trialling some alternatives to our clear plastic zip lock bags which you have been receiving your orders in. The bags we are trialling are self-seal or sealed with sellotape and are all made from plant material – cellulose – so they are compostable and biodegradable. If you receive one and you think it is good or bad and would like to give us feedback please email info@weaversbazaar.com.

weaversbazaar Poll

Last month we asked what tools were used to develop textile art designs other than technological tools such as cameras and PCs. The overwhelming response was that drawing and sketching (28.3%) was by far the most commonly used approach to developing designs, followed at some distance by collage (15%) and doodles (13.3%). Interestingly painting and printing were equally used (11.7%) followed by tracing (10%) and amending other art works (8.3%). The last two polls have explored both digital and non-digital tools used in developing designs for tapestry. Our next poll asks if using technology to create designs is cheating or whether it is an acceptable artistic practise. Give us your response [here](#).

Coffee Break: 'Displacement'



It is always illuminating to get a perspective on the process of designing and weaving a tapestry. [In this video](#), tapestry artist Frances Crowe, who is based in Roscommon, Ireland, describes the development of a recent tapestry entitled 'Displacement'. In her artist's statement Frances says *"My new body of work explores displacement due to Famine, Genocide, Extermination, Disease, Malnutrition, War, Persecution or Natural Disaster. From the 100,000 Irish forced to flee their lands in 1847 from County Roscommon, Ireland, and travel on coffin ships to Canada, with mortality rates of 30% aboard. To the present-day Syrian refugees who have been forced to leave their country in order to escape war, and now seek asylum in County Roscommon. The journey travelled across the Atlantic and The Mediterranean seas have similarities of loss, sadness, despair and hope. Title: Displaced. Medium: Woven tapestry. Materials: Cotton warp and wool weft. Displaced, Size 1m x 3m. This piece has been selected to be shown in the 10th From Lausanne to Beijing Exhibition and Symposium from October 15th to November 15th, 2018 (see Events below)"*.

Artist Profile: Gabriela Cristu



Gabriella Cristu is the master of ethereal, fantastical woven tapestry images. She was born in Romania and studied at the Bucharest Academy of Arts. It was there that she became aware of tapestry art although it was not part of the course she took – but she frequently walked

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past the tapestry weaving studios and although she was fascinated by what was being produced, she says that 'for me the time for the tapestry did not arrive...its beginning happened little by little'. Her early art career was focused on painting and drawing but she bought a small loom and, with the help of another weaver, learned how to tapestry weave. Since then all her tapestry work has been entirely her own – she does preliminary sketches and then creates full colour, full size cartoons from which to work from. [Her blog](#) carries several artists statements and details of her career and then a fabulous collection of her distinctive art – both woven and painted.

Calls for Submission/Opportunities

2019 Weaving Residencies. Oaxaca, Mexico. Deadline 25th November 2018.



This comprehensive, customized instructional residency program offers competitive professional opportunities for emerging and mid-career, national and international artists age 20 and over.

With three separate programs to choose from, traditional Weaving, Embroidery, or Tapestry, artists join an integral program in which they learn the technique, approach, iconography and traditional textile production systems with more resources and get a better understanding of Mexican culture. [Full details here.](#)

Australian Tapestry Workshop (ATW) 2019 Artist in Residence Call. Deadline 30th November 2018



One of the ATW's key interests is creative collaboration, and it is in this spirit that the Artist in Residence (AIR) program has been developed. The purpose of the residency is to encourage a rich cultural exchange between contemporary artists and ATW weavers. The AIR program invites artists to immerse themselves in the unique studio environment of the ATW. [Full details here.](#)

4th Cordis Prize opens 1st October 2018. Deadline January 2019



We highlighted this prestigious prize in our May 2018 Newsletter but as the call is now open we thought we would re-post it as a reminder. The prize fund has been increased to £8000 to reward ambitious and skilled use of tapestry weaving techniques. [Full details here.](#)

ATA Administrative Manager. Deadline 1st November 2018



Mary Lane, ATA Executive Director, has decided to retire from her position next year. The ATA has established a search committee, looking at the history of this position, while also looking at the future needs of ATA. The Job Posting you will find [here](#) is the result of this work.

Events

Bakewell Wool Gathering. 13 – 14 October 2018, Bakewell, UK



Bakewell Wool Gathering is a wool festival for yarn lovers and crafters, based at Bakewell Agricultural Centre in the Peak District. Launched in 2013 by Carole Greaves of Skeins, Bakewell Wool Gathering has gone from strength to strength each year since then. Whether you're into spinning, felting, weaving, crochet, or just plain old knitting, there's something for you. All in a stunning location with some of the friendliest, craftiest people around. [Full details here.](#)

Lausanne to Beijing 2018. 15 October – 15 November 2018. Beijing, China



"Artistic spirit is borderless, and fibre connects the world". The 10th Biennale aims to cultivate and formulate an academic system of international fibre art, to facilitate international exchange and wide application of fibre art, to promote industrialization of fibre art oriented towards real-life applications, and to share the creative accomplishments accumulated in the 10 exhibitions of the Fiber Art Biennale. [Details](#)

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Loch Ness Knit Fest. 19 – 21 October 2018



Unmatchable Highland landscape, legendary hospitality and the bringing together of knitters from all over the world. Loch Ness Knit Fest is now in its 3rd year and is preparing for what's set to be the best one yet! – say the organisers. There's a saying in Scottish Gaelic "Ceud Mile Failte". Its literal translation is "one hundred thousand welcomes"... so whether you're a fully-fledged knitter, aspiring crafter or simply intrigued to go along to this fabulously woolly event, the organisers would love for you to join t in the heart of Inverness this October. [Details here.](#)

Hub Trees. Until 26th October 2018. Barcelona, Spain.



[Hub Tree](#) is a concept defined by Suzanne Simard , professor of forest ecology at the University of British Columbia (Canada), as a large and old tree with a huge associated network. Simard's work shows that trees are effectively communicating with each other via their roots and underground mycelia and that they do not behave individually, competing for the survival of the strongest, but interact with each other helping each other to survive. Based on this idea, Núria Benet proposes questioning our relationship with nature, highlighting its beauty and reflecting on the sensation of roots. The artist has created an experience with a video installation and tapestry, and invites us to let us carry on and follow the thread that will end up being part of a great tapestry, the result of infinite confluence.

@The Makery. Until 29 October 2018. Eastbourne, UK



@The Makery is part of the Enterprise Shopping Centre in Eastbourne; one of the most exciting and unusual places to shop and eat in Sussex! @The Makery is a co-operative which aims to provide an innovative forum for local artists, designers and makers to showcase and demonstrate their works. These include tapestry artist Jackie Bennett. [Details here.](#)

Over the Century, 1918-2018, Masterpieces of Tapestry. Until 4th November 2018. Paris, France.



The National Furniture presents from April 10 to November 4, 2018, "Over the Century, 1918 - 2018, Masterpieces of Tapestry" at the Galerie des Gobelins (Paris). This exhibition invites the public to reread the past century in the light of the most illustrious works, woven at the Manufactures of Gobelins, Beauvais, Savonnerie and Aubusson.

Out on a Limb. Until 28th December. Saint Charles, Missouri, USA.



The theme of this exhibition at the [Foundry Arts Centre](#), is trees, inviting artists to portray one of the planet's most important and beautiful resources. This exhibition explores two branches of the same tree. The first is the Botanical Art Branch in which artists are invited to engage in the traditional art of creating botanically accurate 2-D portrayals of trees in hand applied media. The second branch of this call is the Open Media Branch: botanically inspired 2D or 3D pieces depicting tree subjects or created from materials derived from trees (wood, bark, etc.). Tapestry artist Kathy Spoering has a piece accepted for this event.

Courses

Making Your Mark: Tapestry Weaving Masterclass. 12 – 14 October 2018. Sussex, UK



Just one place remaining on this Masterclass led by Fiona Hutchinson. Capturing the quality and character of marks is, for the tapestry weaver, the challenge. How do we weave a pencil or chalk line, a watercolour brush mark or the torn edge of paper? [Full details here.](#) If you would like to join the other 9 participants grab the place quick!

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Tapestry Weaving Workshop. 17th October 2018. Michigan, USA



In this workshop, you'll be taught the basics of tapestry weaving using a plentiful variety of yarn and wool. You will learn beginner-level weaving skills such as how to wrap a loom, weave with a needle, hand weave with thicker yards, and how to make a decorative fringe. To hone your new skills, you will work on completing a wall hanging, which measures 8" x 10" in size. [Details here](#)

Art at the Loom. 26 – 27 October 2018. Buckinghamshire, UK.

This course, aimed at all levels, will enable participants to start from basics by weaving a sampler of different tapestry weaving techniques, to explore tapestry weaving through interpretation of a personally selected image or to explore effects such as woven surface texture or colour blending. For those new to tapestry weaving or established weavers wanting to extend their skills, there will be opportunities to learn new techniques and insights into this exciting contemporary textile art. This course is taught by our very own Matty. [Details](#)



Woven Coloured & Textured Landscapes. 27th October 2018. Brighton, UK

Learn textural and shaped weaving techniques and explore texture and colour to create your own unique mini-weaving. Suitable for beginner weavers and those with some experience, you will learn to set up and weave on small frame looms. Weaving materials and equipment are provided by tutor Jackie Bennett. Different yarns and materials will be available to experiment with. [Details here.](#)



Tapestry Weaving Workshop. 4th November 2018. London, UK

This is a 3-hour class held in the East London weaving studio of Christabel Balfour. Over the course of the class you'll be creating your own wall-hanging using a variety of yarns, fibres and techniques. You'll be learning the same processes that Christabel uses in her own work every day. [Full details here.](#)



Colour Blending – Tapestry Weaving. 10 – 11 November. Somerset, UK

Join Caron Penney for a two-day tapestry weaving workshop where you will learn the basic weave techniques used to create a tapestry and investigate the beauty of colour blending, inspired by the autumnal Piet Oudolf perennial meadow at Hauser & Wirth Somerset. Led by master weaver Caron Penney in this is a lively and varied workshop, participants will learn about colour theory and selection, tints, shades and tones. You will also practise shading techniques, weaving shapes, hatching, and how to blend wool yarns. This class is suitable for adults with no weaving experience or for those who have some basic weaving skills. All participants will work on pre-warped frames provided by the tutor. [Full details.](#)



Pre-recorded Classes

The online textile site, Weavolution, has a page dedicated to classes which can be taken online – 'cyber fiber classes'! The topics covered vary but all relate to various types of weaving. [See the full details here.](#)



Found on the web

Here is a [video](#) of the British Tapestry Group's current 'Sound & Weave' exhibition. Filmed by Alistair



Duncan (one of the participating artists) on the opening of the exhibition, it includes the introductory remarks by Sue Greirson and then coverage of all the work, with sounds where possible and includes a piece by Lin and Andrew Dickinson – who makes our wonderful bobbins!

Navajo Rug Weaving



This is quite a lengthy video (almost another coffee break!) and it has no sound but is nevertheless, a fascinating insight into the process of rug weaving mastered by the Navajo Indians. A weaver, Sally Peshlakai, goes through all the processes involved from shearing the sheep to cutting off the finished rug. It was filmed, in colour, in 1941. Keep an eye out for the little girl who likes to help and the baby in the papoose! [See it here](#).

Threads of Resistance.



In a posting on her blog, Ellen Ramsey documents how she came to weave a tapestry in blues and reds. She says “throughout 2017, as I witnessed the sh*t show that is now our daily dose of crazy, I felt more and more compelled to make the piece”. [You can read the full post here](#).

Discovery of lost tapestry from the 16th Century



A monumental tapestry that cost a king's ransom when Henry VIII commissioned it in the 16th century has been discovered in Spain. It was long ago assumed to have been destroyed. As a masterpiece woven with gold and silver thread, it was the ultimate show of wealth. In the 1530s, the Tudor monarch gave it pride of place at Hampton Court, his seat of power. Almost 20 ft wide, it was part of a now-lost set of nine tapestries depicting the life of Saint Paul. [Read more](#)

Weaving, Washing & Mermen: A Tapestry Conservation Intern



This blog post, from a conservation intern at Hampton Court Palace, near London, sheds light on the constant efforts being made to ensure that antique tapestries will be there to be enjoyed by future generations. [Read it here](#).

Latvian Textile Artists Association.



The Association of Latvian Textile Artists (ALTA) was founded in Riga in April 1994. The main objectives of ALTA activities are to consolidate Latvian professional textile artists, to promote their creative work, to insure regular exhibition activities in Latvia as well as abroad. This web site has an option to display in English and links to all it's members work. [Browse it here](#).

What a Pest: Managing moths and the Corrvrechan Tapestry



At eight metres high and four metres wide the Corrvrechan tapestry is one of the largest in the National Museum of Scotland's collection. In 2003 it was moved to a more prominent position in Hawthornden Court. Since then, inspection and surface cleaning to remove dust has been carried out by the conservation team, working from a cherry picker lift. During this process, concern was raised that there was evidence of potential moth infestation on the tapestry. [This article](#) describes how this was dealt with.

Horsehair as a textile



This is an [interesting article](#) detailing the processes involved in setting up a loom and weaving with horsehair – not something you find much of these days. Traditionally horsehair was used in a variety of ways but here a Swedish weaver takes on the challenge of weaving horsehair fabric for 21 chairs!

The Mystery of the Eichstatt Tapestry



In Sam Fogg gallery's latest exhibition of medieval and renaissance textiles in London, a German tapestry went on public display for the first time in its recorded history. Dated at around 1480 and woven from wool and linen in varying colours and configurations, it unrolls to reveal five scenes from the Life of Christ. Read the full article about this fascinating tapestry [here](#).

Lucia Boni: Tapestries to wear



Situated in a little pocket of the Tuscan terrain, Lucia Boni's atelier in San Gimignano is full of bright coloured coats, hats and scarves mirroring the surrounding landscapes. With a vertical loom taking centre-stage in the store and spools of blue yarn dotting the floor in her workshop above, Lucia's creative soul is very evident at a glance. [Read the full article](#) about Lucia's amazing approach to tapestry weaving fabric to be made into garments without the need to cut.

Textile Gallery

Lotus Flower



Jane Kirby recently posted this image of a tapestry she had just completed. She says "Very glad to have completed this for my brother-in-law's wedding last weekend. He and his wife are Buddhists, so I was looking for an appropriate symbol. 21x26 cm. 4 strands of weaversbazaar fine yarn in the weft, cotton warp at approx. 3epc."

TWiNE Project: Gray Matters



We were delighted when the Tapestry Weavers in New England (TWiNE) decided to run a project using our Graphite Collection. Each artist taking part could add one further colour to the range of greys. The results

are, I am sure you will agree, both diverse and engaging. They were submitted as a group project for inclusion in the recent "The BIGGEST Little Tapestries in The World" small format exhibition organised by the America Tapestry Alliance. This is a photo of the exhibition display, but you can see them in more detail on our [Facebook page](#).

Frances Crowe

We have already shared with you the compelling tapestry image woven by Frances Crowe, entitled 'Displaced'. Here are two more images of her recent work:



'1 High'



Roscommon Logo (work in progress)

Stop Press:

We are looking for volunteers to help us find articles, videos, information and weaving events outside of the UK. If you would be happy to send through these items when you come across them please send them to info@weaversbazaar so we can include them in the newsletters and this includes your own courses and exhibitions. Thank you for your help

Happy Weaving!