

Special Edition on Learning Opportunities.

There are many one-day, week-end or short courses which offer chances to experience or explore tapestry weaving further but in this special edition we aim to highlight some of the longer-term study opportunities that lead to a deeper insight into the art of tapestry weaving and, in some cases, to a formal recognition of achievement. Whilst this is not a definitive summary of what is available, we hope to enthuse you to take your interest in tapestry weaving to a new level. If we have missed anything really interesting please let us know.

Structured learning/qualification based

Diploma of Visual Arts (Tapestry), Australia



Whilst this might seem a bit remote for many of our readers, the Diploma Of Visual arts (Tapestry) is offered as a distance learning programme. Whilst attendance at two one-week 'camps' per year is encouraged they are not mandatory. In part-time mode the course lasts

four years and successful completion is recognised with a diploma. Subjects covered during the course include theory and practice of tapestry weaving plus historical and cultural exploration. Full details can be found at <http://www.swtafe.vic.edu.au/courses/info/1100>. Application deadline of 30 November 2014 for start in 2015!

BA (Hons) Textiles, Open College of Arts, UK



Open College of the Arts

The UK-based Open College of the arts offers a BA (Hons) Textiles on a distance learning model. Whilst not explicitly tapestry weaving,

the course has a strong focus on personal choice of activity in the final stages including Tapestry. It offers great opportunities to develop artistic appreciation, drawing and design skills, as well as researching contemporary practice in your chosen area of interest. There are funding opportunities as well as payment by module. Lots more information at <http://tinyurl.com/ocv94wq>

Fashion and Textiles HNC (Bradford)



This new HNC has been developed to respond to the increasing demand for unique, high quality handcrafted textiles and offers the opportunity to specialise in either Woven or Knitted Textiles. Available as a semi-distance learning programme which incorporates

some face-to-face workshops and extensive use of digital support tools, this course is aimed at those from either an artistic, technical or craft background with some experience of constructed textiles who wish to develop or refine their skills. It is also suitable for those with more experience to develop ways of producing their own visual research from which to create woven or knitted fabrics which are personal and innovative. Find out more at <http://tinyurl.com/p864xjk>

Postgraduate Diploma Tapestry and Textile Art, West Dean, UK



In this postgraduate diploma as well as being able to study specific techniques such as felt making, tapestry weaving, printing and stitch, students will be encouraged to experiment with new interpretations of established processes as a way of extending their practice. Research is informed by relevant historical and theoretical contexts across the Visual Arts, particularly in relation to contemporary tapestry and textile work. In addition one of only three UK professional Tapestry Studios is right at hand in West Dean. More information at

<http://www.westdean.org.uk/CollegeChannel/FullTimeCourses/TapestryandTextileArts.aspx>

Association of Guilds Certificate of Achievement in Tapestry Weaving



For those of you who are members of a Guild affiliated to the Association of Guilds of Weavers, Spinners & Dyers, there is the opportunity to undertake their Certificate of Achievement (CoA) in Tapestry Weaving. This is very much a self-directed learning programme undertaken within the framework of a syllabus of required samples plus a final project. Support from a mentor helps the process on as do the regular communications from the CoA Co-Ordinator. Assessments take place at the Associations biennial Summer School. Full details at <http://www.wsd.org.uk/ca.htm>. Other subjects that are cover by the CoA are cloth weaving, natural dyeing and synthetic dyeing.

Indepth/Informal learning

American Tapestry Alliance Tapestry Instruction: Distance Learning



This learning opportunity is open to those who are members of the American Tapestry Alliance which encourages international members. Although not leading to any sort of formal qualification it is an opportunity to undertake a one-year in-depth study of a particular technique or topic with guided support and mentoring from an experienced tapestry weaver. Full details at <http://americantapestryalliance.org/education/distance-learning/>

Warp and Weft: Learning the Structure of Tapestry. A class in three parts



Rebecca Mezoff has launched an online learning programme in tapestry weaving. Supported with printed materials, well made instructional videos and facilities to raise questions, discuss challenges and share outputs via internet tools, this is an innovative approach to extended study in tapestry weaving. All the details, along with samples of the materials, are here: <http://www.rebeccamezoff.com/online-learning/>

Itunes U



iTunes U is a unique way to access knowledge and learning opportunities. Once you have downloaded iTunes an amazing array of courses and materials become available – a great many of which are free! The scale of the offering is difficult to describe here but, just as an example, the University of Oxford has a course on The Elements of Drawing, led by Stephen Farthing and based on the teaching of John Ruskin. The Tate also has a course on drawing and Ashmolean in Oxford has just added five videos on how to use iPads and Tablets as sketchbooks. Also worth exploring on iTunes U for those interested in exploring visual arts further is the Introduction to Visual Studies by the University of Pennsylvania which includes a fabulous text book, videos with sub titles, information sheets and exercises. The text book is optional and is the only part that needs to be paid for. Go to <http://www.apple.com/uk/itunes> to download iTunes. Then, as a starting point, click on iTunes U and browse via the art and architecture section or use the search box.

Coffee Break Moment

14 International Triennial of Tapestry Łódź 2013 Wlodek Cygan exhibit



This 4.22 minute video details the work of the tapestry artist Wlodek Cygan who combines light filaments in his work. Bear with the rather insistent back beat and rather tedious images of admiring hoards to see some absolutely stunning, sculpted tapestry.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=foF4IM6Ur_g&feature=share

Artist Profile: Archie Brennan



Many of you will already know of Archie Brennan – a tapestry weaver all his life, starting as an apprentice at the Edinburgh Tapestry Company (now Dovecote), he has been a significant influence on the evolution of contemporary tapestry art. Archie has worked with leading artists since the middle of the last century. He has pushed the boundaries of tapestry weaving, designed the now ubiquitous Archie Brennan Scaffold Loom and continues to contribute hugely to the development of up-coming generations of tapestry artists. <http://www.archiebrennanproject.com/> is an eclectic mix of Archie's thinking, practice and outputs.

Events

Tim Oleman Exhibition: 52 days to Timbuktu. October- December. Cambridge



Tim Oleman, British Tapestry Group member, has a one-man show art inspired by Mali and Morocco.

The exhibition, which includes tapestry and mud cloth (bogolan), opens on Monday 6th October through to Sunday 14 December. For details of location and opening times: <http://arbpublicart.wordpress.com/>

Wasps Artists Open Studio Weekend. 4-5 October. Glasgow



Tapestry artist, Emma-Jo Webster, will be amongst artists in Glasgow opening their studios to visitors during October. She is at Studio 106, Hanson St, Glasgow which opens its doors on 4th and 5th October. Everyone is welcome and there is a great café and a Treasure Hunt for kids! More details

about this and all the Wasp Open Studios at <http://www.waspsstudios.org.uk/news-events/wasps-open-studios-2014-dates-and-programme>

British Tapestry Group Events



The BTG Scotland group exhibition *Metamorphosis* will open at the Scott Gallery, Hawick Museum, Hawick, Scottish Borders between the **5th October** and the **14th December 2014**. It features over 60 tapestries by 27 Scottish Regional Members. <http://tinyurl.com/ohhmsxu>

Woven Art, BTG Gallery at the London (October) and Harrogate (November) Knitting & Stitching Shows.

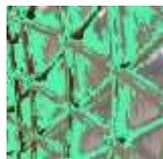
<http://tinyurl.com/nbs8gqq> The BTG gallery will contain 44 pieces of work from 33 weavers – all members of the British Tapestry Group. A great opportunity to see a diverse range of work.

Scythia Fibre Art Fibremen 4. October 22 – November 5. 2014. Kherson, Ukraine



'Fibremen 4' is an International Fibre Art Exhibition restricted to male exhibitors only. It is open to all professional men working in fibre. Clearly this is not an easy part of the world to visit at the moment but we really hope that the exhibition goes ahead as it is a great opportunity for textile artists – especially if they are men! http://scythiatextile.com/UK/Events_2014-2016.html

Collective. September 11 – September 14 2014 Singleton, West Sussex



Collective is a diverse group of artists from across the world, all linked with West Dean College's Visual Arts Department, including current students, visiting tutors, alumni and former artists-in-residence at the Jerwood Gridshell space. The exhibition is a reaction to the unique space of the Jerwood Gridshell at the Weald & Downland Open Air Museum Singleton, West Sussex. PO18 OEU Thursday 11th September - Saturday 13th September - 10.30am - 6.00pm, Sunday 14th September -10.30am - 3.00pm, Preview morning - Thursday 11th September 10.00am - 11.30am. Museum entry charges apply

<http://artscollective.weebly.com/>

Calls for Submissions

Cordis Trust Prizes for Tapestry: Two awards; two deadlines: 1 October and 17 November 2014



Visual Arts Scotland is delighted to announce a major new prize for woven tapestry generously given by the Cordis Trust to be announced at their annual exhibition in late 2015 and then in two subsequent years. This prize is divided into two awards. The first is open to professional artists for a large tapestry hand woven by the artist within the last five years and is for £5000. **Digital submissions should be made by 1 October 2014.** The second award is for emerging artists who have been practicing tapestry for less than five years and is for £500. There is no pre-submission for the emerging artists prize, entries will be judged from the open submission at the 2015 Annual Exhibition (see below).

Full details at <http://www.visualartsscotland.org/?p=1302>

vas:t 2015 Visual Arts Scotland 2015 Annual Exhibition. Deadline 17 November 2014



Visual Arts Scotland welcomes submissions from all artists, designers and makers who work in a range of media . Full details of criteria and process can be found at

<http://www.visualartsscotland.org/?p=1377>

Extreme Fibers: Textile Icons and the New Edge. Deadline 14 November 2014

An invitational and juried exhibition of contemporary art from established and emerging textile artists from around the world. Entry deadline November 14, 2014. <http://tinyurl.com/o63nx6c>

Collect Open 2015. Deadline 21 November 2014

2015, COLLECT: The International Art Fair for Contemporary Objects will once again occupy all three floors of the Saatchi Gallery. In celebration of the fair's 12th year, COLLECT Open will showcase creative proposals from individual artists or those working collaboratively which explore the breadth of contemporary design and making today. COLLECT Open proposals should challenge traditional concepts and pre-conceived ideas and notions of craft and design. <http://www.craftscouncil.org.uk/opportunities/collect-open-call-for-applications>

Upcoming Other Courses

Introduction to weaving, September. Farnham.



In this class you will be introduced to weaving on a simple loom and will complete a simple project. You will take home your loom and some basic materials so that you can continue with your new craft. Full details at <http://www.joaylwin.co.uk/craft-classes-introduction-weaving>

Devon Weavers Workshop Course. October. Totnes



Three fabric-weaving courses are running in October at the Devon Weavers Workshop, in Totnes. These cover an introduction to weaving, colour and weave and warp patterning. Barbara Walker, from the USA, will be the guest tutor. Full details <http://www.theweaveshed.org/1029/courses-devon-weavers-workshop/>

Courses with Caron Penney. October – March. Various locations in the South East



Caron is busy leading a number of courses this autumn. At **West Dean College** she will be delivering a **Tapestry Weaving for Beginners** weekend course in October 2014 and January 2015 . In March 2015 she will lead **Creating Tapestry: Further Weaving Techniques** Full details <http://tinyurl.com/oxuqalr>

Caron will also be leading workshops at the **Fashion and Textiles Museum**, London. An **Introduction to tapestry Weaving** is in November 2014. Full details <http://tinyurl.com/o29er2s>. In December 2014 she will delivery **Tapestry Weaving-Next Steps**. Full details at <http://tinyurl.com/pex56ae>. Finally, in November 2014, Caron will be running a **Starting Tapestry** course at **Artworks, Hampshire**. Full details at <http://tinyurl.com/qap8rvb>.

Poetic Stitches: embroidery workshop. October. Lewes.



Take poetry as your inspiration in this unique hand-embroidery workshop. Immerse yourself in your surroundings, and using the Charleston palate, create a beautiful textual embroidery, on high quality linen with fine woollen thread from the **weaversbazaar** range. Claire Buckley is a textile artist, teacher and author. Her exhibition at Knole, Sevenoaks featured work inspired by Virginia Woolf's Orlando. Suitable for beginner to advanced. All materials included. - See more at: <http://www.charleston.org.uk/products-page/small-wonder-outsider-events/poetic-stitches/>

Other items of interest

Gold medal Winner



More from the 14th International Triennial of Tapestry in the city of Lodz. A gold medal has been awarded by the international jury to Polish artist Magdalena Sobon for her work - "Mars"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SRoXjFp04Q4&feature=youtu.be>

A Woolly Story from Down-under



Two Tasmanian farmers have found what they hope to prove is the world's woolliest sheep. A six-year old ram, named Shaun, had escaped ever being shorn and was found carrying a fleece estimated to weigh more than 20kg! <http://tinyurl.com/okqmc9p>

Flat-Pack Tapestry Frame tested to the limits

We were delighted to hear from Jane Brunning of the extent to which she had successfully pushed the limits on the Flat-Pack Tapestry Frame she had purchased from weaversbazaar. Jane had taken it away with her this summer and had put 2 different warps on it. Having not finished either before it was time to return home she de-constructed the frame, wrapped the warps round a tee shirt hoping to reconstruct the frame and finish the works at home. When she got back she was able to easily re-assemble the frame, re-tension the warps and finish both pieces. Magic!

Tapestry design



This is an interesting blog post by Janette Meetze, about the relationship between sketch book activity and tapestry design. She not only reflects on the relationship between sketching and her tapestry designs but has some pictures illustrating her points, including some of her current tapestry project, Hands On.

<http://www.jmeetzestudiocommonthreads.blogspot.co.uk/2014/09/sketchy-stuff.html>

80,000 free literary images



This amazing resource of images, all related to a literary themes, can be found at <http://luna.folger.edu/luna/servlet/FOLGERCM1~6~6> and are free to use! Explore photographs and documents relating to both famous and not-so-famous literary figures and works.

From Fulling to Fustianopolis: a history of the textile industry at Hebbden Bridge, UK



This is another really interesting site which details the history of textile production at Hebbden Bridge spanning an extraordinary period ranging from the Bronze Age to modern times. The website has a wonderful range of images and information. <http://www.fustianopolis.co.uk/>

Tapestry Gallery

These are just a few of the beautiful small tapestries woven by those participating in a workshop led by Katie Russell – this was one of the events weaversbazaar sponsored this year.



Next month will be our Sponsorship Special when we will be giving lots more information about our sponsorship scheme. We will also be uploading all of the lovely photographs that we have been sent by those individuals and groups whom we have sponsored.

!! STOP PRESS!!

We have decided to make some things downloadable and therefore FREE including:

- **Tapestry frame warping instructions**

<http://www.weaversbazaar.com/knowledge-zone/warps/>

- **Weaversbazaar Retail Catalogue**

<http://www.weaversbazaar.com/products/>

- **Weaversbazaar Wholesale Catalogue**

<http://www.weaversbazaar.com/wholesale/>

Happy weaving!