

# Out of the Box

August 2006 Newsletter

## About Us

The Out of the Box group of artists is passionate about creating innovative and thought-provoking works of art with fibre, our preferred medium.

Our membership includes machine and/or hand embroiderers, art quilters, weavers, felters, doll makers, silk painters, appraisers, dyers as well as other needle workers and mixed media and fine artists. We are a co-op organisation and so we place strong emphasis on activities that share expertise for the continuing artistic development of all. Our focus in meetings is on sharing art techniques, design ideas, artistic processes and inspiration, as well as our thoughts on the business and critiquing of our art. We come from all walks of life, but are drawn together by our love for texture, colour, and creation in an atmosphere of mutual support and camaraderie.

We welcome visitors to our monthly meetings, and from time to time hold open fibre art workshops.

## Membership

Membership requires active participation. Our yearly membership fee is \$20.00. Please contact Mary Pal for more information about joining our group. For more details, visit us at [www.out-of-the-box.org](http://www.out-of-the-box.org)

## Meetings

Meetings are held the third Monday of the month, from 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. at the **Ottawa Citizen Main Floor Board Room, Baxter Road, Ottawa.**

## Membership Renewal

Submitted by Mary Pal

It is membership renewal time! The renewal fee is \$20.00 and covers the period September 1, 2006 to August 31, 2007. You may renew at the next meeting by paying your fee to Mary Pal. Cheques should be made payable to "Meredith Filshie" (OOTB Treasurer). To renew by mail, please send a cheque to Mary Pal, 144 Broadway Avenue, Ottawa, ON K1S 2V8. Please enclose a SASE to receive your membership card by return mail.

**Submission Deadline for the September newsletter is September 3, 2006.**

## Contacts

Convenor	Neera Huckvale	<a href="mailto:huckvale@istar.ca">huckvale@istar.ca</a>
Programs (until Aug. 2006)	Liane Thiry-Smith	<a href="mailto:liane.ts.@rogers.com">liane.ts.@rogers.com</a>
Programs (effective Sept. 2006)	Joanne Batchelor	<a href="mailto:joanne.batchelor@sympatico.ca">joanne.batchelor@sympatico.ca</a> <a href="mailto:programs@out-of-the-box.org">programs@out-of-the-box.org</a>
Secretary	Pat Caffery	<a href="mailto:caffery@magma.ca">caffery@magma.ca</a>
Membership	Mary Pal	<a href="mailto:marypal@rogrs.com">marypal@rogrs.com</a>
Treasurer	Meredith Filshie	<a href="mailto:mfilshie@rogers.com">mfilshie@rogers.com</a>
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Library	Joan Harrison	<a href="mailto:celloquilter@sympatico.ca">celloquilter@sympatico.ca</a>

## Dates of Meetings with Program Topics 2006

August 21	Fibre Postcards - Beth Cunningham & Pat Lamaire
September 18	Pricing Your Art - Karen Goetzinger Super Show & Tell UFO Challenge
October 16	Critiquing - Led by Margaret D. and Kit
November 20	How to make a Coroplast Box - Jennifer Hodge Tips on Shipping your Work - Kit and Joan H.
December 18	Natural Dyeing - Joan H.

"The only truly happy people are children and the creative minority."--Jean Caldwell

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## August's Program

Submitted by Beth Cunningham ("Aunt Beth")

I was encouraged and enthused by Virginia Spiegel and her entourage who were selling 4" x 6" pieces of art for \$30.00 each at the International Quilt Show in Chicago this past April. They have raised \$50,000 in a little over one year for the American Cancer Society. I was challenged to start a similar project here in Canada for the Canadian Cancer Society. I have chosen the name Tiny Textile Treasures. As a result of a very successful first class (Sunday June 25th), I have a dozen new cards and promises of more.

Pat Lemaire and I will lead the next Out-of-the-Box meeting (August) with a hands-on "Lets Make Cards Night". Pat suggests that we work in groups of three people with one machine per group. Each group working together can make 3 cards. It will be a fun and challenging evening making collaborative cards (and there might be prizes!), and then you can each go to your own studio and make cards that reflect your own style.

The kick-off fundraiser event is scheduled for October 5, 2006. I would like to have hundreds of cards for this event and the offerings that will follow.

Hope to see you in August. Bring fabric (any kind) to share, embellishments and glitzy thread.

## Out of the Box Group Shows

### "Fiber Expressions: Elements"

Mississippi Valley Textile Museum  
Almonte, Ontario  
November 1, 2006 to January 31, 2007

Submitted by Elena Keen

With the show only 2-1/2 months away, it is time to get serious!! Due to insurance requirements, the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum imposes deadlines regarding lists of pieces to be shown, along with their value. We will also need pictures for publicity.

It would be appreciated if there are volunteers to assist with publicity. Duties would include assisting with contacting newspapers and other media to get us as much

exposure as possible. Also, if you would accept to be interviewed (or can arrange for interviews yourselves with any of the local and not so local papers) please let me know.

I would also be most grateful for any help in any area that you are able. I am currently drafting a timetable which should be ready for the August meeting. However, due to my surgery this week I may not be able to accomplish this before the September meeting. If I am at the August meeting, please volunteer there; otherwise call me at (613) 523-2633 or email me at [keen1@sympatico.ca](mailto:keen1@sympatico.ca).

## Out of the Box Group Projects

Our web manager, Cynthia Sanoy, received the following letter by email from a viewer of our Idiom Quilt at the Lowell Quilt Festival.

**From:** Rick & Geneva Schult  
**To:** mailbag@out-of-the-box.org  
**Sent:** Monday, August 07, 2006 12:08 PM  
**Subject:** Crowd reaction to your quilt in Lowell MA

Hello! I am an amateur quilter, a member of a local guild, about 30 minutes from Lowell MA. I attended the show yesterday and wandered the floor at the Arena, observing quilts quite solemnly, like most of the people there. Then I saw your wonderful idiom quilt. What fun! I wanted to let you know that I spent 45 minutes standing there, figuring out *most* of the idioms, with help from my fellow spectators. Everyone was laughing and having a great time. Your quilt was quite popular, and much talked about.

One downside was that no one knew the answers, and the squares were sewn down to the backing. Gah! So while we speculated, we really don't know the answers. Do you have a list of the idioms? Could I please please please get a text list?

Have you considered making a calendar or some such from your images? Maybe one image per week on a week-per-page calendar (if you could get your total up to 52)... I'd certainly buy it!

Again, thanks so much for the joy you brought me. Your quilt was certainly the highlight of my trip to Lowell.

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Geneva Schult, 13 Bradford St, Westford MA 01886 USA  
schult@comcast.net

PS Here are the idioms we think we got, in order from left to right, top to bottom (PPS Kudos to the person who sewed the "cloud nine" -- I knew those beads were significant, and when we figured out they were one, two, three through nine, we cheered. It really was a brain teaser).

## UFO Challenge

Submitted by Cynthia Sanoy

Summertime is a perfect time to tackle that bag/pile/closet/room/house/life-full of unfinished projects. I've agreed to take on organizing duty for the UFO challenge, so here goes:

The goal is to get motivated to complete some outstanding unfinished objects (UFO's) or unfinished projects (UFP's). (In my vocabulary, UFO=UFP). We'll have a big show and tell of all the finished items at our September 2006 meeting.

UFO (n): an item that has already been started, but has not yet reached the point where the artist says 'this is done'. To participate in the challenge, please "register" your UFO for the challenge by sending me (csanoy@rogers.com) an email with the following information about the piece: (I'll make a list of the UFOs for the September meeting... We'll be able to celebrate the completion count and liberated studio space.)

- 1) A brief description/name for the piece
- 2) When you started it
- 3) Why is this a UFO? Did you run out of time? Get distracted? Become tired of the colour or texture? Bump into a creative wall?

Please register by September 1st, 2006.

Material incentive: Please bring a small token "nifty-gifty" in a brown paper bag (one for each UFO you register) to one of the meetings up to and including the September meeting. Everyone who registers and brings her UFO to show and tell at the September meeting can "reward" herself by selecting a "nifty-gifty" to take away from the September meeting.

If you want some assistance/advice/inspiration from the group on a particular project, please feel free to bring your UFO to either of the meetings during July/August. Everyone is encouraged to bring in her UFO's-in-progress to any of the meetings.

No UFO is too big or too small to be entered. For those who have UFOs that they have decided they want to "abandon without guilt", and would like to pass them on to others to work on, feel free to bring them, too. We'll find a good home for them.

## News from our Members

Many of our members entered the CQA TrendTex Challenge. All entries and winners can be viewed at this link.

[http://www.canadianquilter.com/events/index\\_event\\_s\\_2006ttc.htm](http://www.canadianquilter.com/events/index_event_s_2006ttc.htm)

### Karen Goetzinger

Participating in the following shows:  
Ottawa School of Art Instructors' Exhibition  
through Sept 10, 2006

### Old Ottawa South Art Festival

Windsor Park, Ottawa  
Saturday September 16, 2006  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
(rain date Sept 17)

### Surface Tension

James Howe Gallery  
Kean University, New Jersey, USA  
November 1-22, 2006

You can view the pieces that will be in the show at [www.sandrasider.com](http://www.sandrasider.com). (Click on "Curatorial" then on "Surface Tension")

### Mayor's Annual Art Festival

City Hall, Ottawa, Ontario  
April 21-27<sup>th</sup>, 2007

### Karen Goetzinger and Carmella Karijo Rother

Waterloo County Quilt Gallery  
St. Jacobs, Ontario  
October 4 - December 31, 2006

[http://www.quiltcapitalfestival.com/quilt\\_gallery\\_main.asp](http://www.quiltcapitalfestival.com/quilt_gallery_main.asp)

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**Karen Goetzinger, Carmella Karijo Rother, Wendy Feldberg**

Mississippi Valley Textile Museum  
Almonte, Ontario  
July 31-October 28, 2007

**Elaine Quehl**

"Soleil II" juried into the International Quilters Association fall Judged Show "Quilts: A World of Beauty", Houston, Texas

**Fortunée Shugar**

"My Abstract World"  
A solo exhibition of abstract paintings.  
Until August 31, 2006  
IL Primo Ristorante  
371 Preston St.  
The colours are vibrant and luminescent, and most of the works are framed.

## Calls for Entry

**The Grand National 2007: Fantasy**

Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery (KW/AG) and the Joseph Schneider Haus Museum invite quilt artists from across Canada to explore the idea of Fantasy and participate in a thematic exhibition of quilts which celebrates imaginary worlds and dream-like visions.

May 12 – July 1, 2007

[www.grandnationalquiltshow.ca](http://www.grandnationalquiltshow.ca)

**Northcott Silk Inc. 11th annual quilt challenge**

This year there are 3 main categories: pieced quilted Wallhanging (not to exceed 40" x 40"), appliquéd quilted wall hanging, and quilted garment. There is also a junior's category for budding young talents under 16. The deadline this year is September 1, 2006 in the Woodbridge office. You may enter as many times as you wish.

## Upcoming Events

**Ottawa School of Art Annual Instructors' Exhibit**

through September 10, 2006.  
The exhibit includes 3 dimensional works as well as 2 dimensional work with a variety of mediums including fibre art!!

**World Quilt and Textile**

August 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>, 2006  
Manchester, New Hampshire

[www.worldquilt.com](http://www.worldquilt.com).

**Third National Student Jewellery Exhibition**

LaFreniere & Pai Gallery  
August 10-30, 2006  
Summer Gallery hours: Monday to Wednesday 10 to 7, Thursday and Friday 10 to 8, Saturday 10 to 6, and Sunday 12 to 5.

"Remains of the Beautiful Girls," test tube brooches filled with feminine prostheses of nails, lashes, lipsticks and lenses. A jewel-studded sterling silver earphone headpiece, bottlecap and rubber band rings, jewellery made out of bread, and 'telephone crests,' miniature heraldic pins that pay tribute to the domestic telephone. Remarkable and inspiring, all are wearable.

**Bravo-est - Variations - Abstract**

Sussex Gallery - Former City Hall  
111 Sussex Drive  
July 7 to September 17, 2006  
Gallery open 9:00 am to 6:00 pm daily  
Information - 244-4261  
[ottawa.ca/arts](http://ottawa.ca/arts)

**"Oppidan"**

Cube Gallery  
Aug. 2 - Aug. 20  
*op'i-dun, adj. = Of or pertaining to a town.*  
A group show about where we live, the urban landscape.  
Featuring artists: Jennifer Amenta, Violeta Borisonik, Marc Dubois, Jean Jewer, Reid McLachlan, and abi lyon wicke

**Textile Society of America 10<sup>th</sup> Biennial Symposium**

Harbourfront Centre, Toronto  
October 11 – 14, 2006  
<http://www.textilesociety.org/downloads/2006symbolfinal.pdf>

**Quilt Co Quilt Show  
Glebe Community Centre**

September 30 and October 1, 2006  
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
For more information, visit <http://www.quiltco.ca/>

## Workshops

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## Workshops with out of town artists

### **Designing from Nature – Ruth McDowell (USA)**

**Level:** Beginner to Advanced

**Date:** September 6, 7, 8, and 9, 2007

**Cost:** \$400.00 for 4 days

**Location:** to be determined

#### **Course description:**

After an initial slide presentation focusing on the translation of images from nature into quilts, Ruth will discuss her machine piecing methods and techniques. Each student will be encouraged to begin their own pieced design, using subjects and techniques attractive to them. Suggested reading: Piecing – Expanding the Basics, C&T Publishing.

## Out of Town Workshops

### **Hudson River Valley Fiber Art Workshops**

Greenville, New York

Year-round workshops with inspiring instructors!

<http://www.artworkshops.com/fiber-art-workshop.html>

## Workshops with local artists

### **Classes with Catharina Breedyk Law**

[catelaw@sympatico.ca](mailto:catelaw@sympatico.ca)

613-267-7417

dates	class	Place
Aug. 30, 31	Brown Butterfly Class	Creative Styling, Westport
Sept. 22	Dragonfly Class	Picket Fence Fabrics, Brockville
Sept. 23	Cathy's Open House	3045 Perth Road #10 In her studio
Sept. 29, Oct. 6	Brown Butterfly Class	Quilts and Seams, Ottawa
Oct. 5, 12	Free Motion School-1 Little bag	7-9p.m. in her studio
Oct. 11	Fibre Landscape Two Ways	Picket Fences Fabrics, Brockville
Oct. 13	Funky Leaf	Quilts and Seams, Ottawa
Oct. 14	FreeMotionTechniques-beyond Beginner	9:30-4:30 in her studio
Oct. 19, Nov. 2	Free Motion School-2- Butterfly Wall Hanging	7-9p.m. in her studio
Oct. 20	Options	Creative Styling, Westport
Oct. 21	Corded Tree	9:30 - 4:30 in her studio
Oct. 25	Funky Fruit	Picket Fence Fabrics, Brockville
Oct. 26	Funky Leaf	Creative Styling, Westport

dates	class	Place
Oct. 27	Fall Fibre Landscape	Creative Styling, Westport
Oct. 28	Design Your Own Options	9:30 - 4:30 at the studio
Nov. 1	Stenciled Rose	Picket Fence Fabrics, Brockville
Nov. 3	Sheer Tulip	Picket Fence Fabrics, Brockville
Nov. 4	Mother (Grandmother) and Daughter Decorate Your Jeans	9:30-4:30 at the studio
Nov. 11	Little Bear Wall Hanging	9:30 - 4:30 at the studio
Nov. 9, 16	Free Motion School-3 Journal Cover	7-9p.m. in her studio
Nov. 10	Sheer Tulip	Quilts and Seams , Ottawa
Nov. 18	Christmas Angel and stuffed Ornaments	9:30-4:30 in her studio
Nov. 25	Madonna and Child	9:30-4:30 in her studio
Nov 23, 30	Free Motion School-4 Fibre Landscape	7-9p.m. in her studio

Day class = \$50 per day (includes lunch). Kits can be available. You can sign up for evening classes through the Lanark County Quilt Guild

Cathy will also teach private lessons in her home. You can come, look at her work and she will teach you any technique that you may be interested in.

### **Classes with Elaine Quehl**

Fall 2006/Winter 2007 Teaching Schedule available at [www.equarelle.ca/TeachingSchedule.htm](http://www.equarelle.ca/TeachingSchedule.htm)

This link is updated regularly.

## **New Wearable Art Group**

A new wearable art group has been founded in the Ottawa Valley by Wendy Fraser. Wendy is a Past President of the Almonte Quilt Guild. Although the group began to meet in Kinburn, Ontario, a new more central location has been found at the Masonic Lodge at 3704 Carp Rd. in Carp, just 7 minutes northwest of the Corel Centre (ScotiaBank Place). The group meets the first Thursday of each month from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. For more information contact Wendy Fraser at [wfraser@sympatico.ca](mailto:wfraser@sympatico.ca)

<p>"Mistakes are the portals of discovery". -- James Joyce</p>
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## Websites

### The Painter's Keys

Robert Genn's twice weekly creativity newsletter:  
<http://www.painterskeys.com/>

For information on making **fibre postcards**:

<http://debrichardson.blogspot.com/2005/09/how-to-make-fabric-postcard-debr-style.html>  
<http://astitchintime.blogspot.com/2005/11/assembling-fabric-postcard-deb-r-style.html>  
<http://dollmakersjourney.com/fabricpostcards.html>

### Valerie Hearder's e-newsletter

Check out "*Horizons*", Valerie Hearder's e-newsletter about landscapes, quilts and design inspiration at

[www.threadlink.typepad.com](http://www.threadlink.typepad.com)

The e-newsletter includes links to other landscape artists, art and Inspiration links, books and more. The current issue contains a link to Jacque Fabrics.

<http://www.jacquefabrics.com/>

Can anyone identify the technique this artist uses to create her stunning fabrics?

Valerie includes useful information on using artist pencils in your fibre art. Many members of OOTB took a workshop with Martha Cole a few years back where we were introduced to this technique. Martha is mentioned in this article.

## Resources

### G&S DYE - 9th Annual Storewide SALE

August 21 – 26, 2006

Visit [www.gsdy.com](http://www.gsdy.com) for more information.

## Minutes of the July 17, 2006 Out of the Box Meeting

Submitted by Pat Caffery

This was an open meeting.

1. Joanne gave an update on workshops including the UK workshops which would take place between November 2007 and January 2008. The Jan and Jean workshops still have no definite date. Joanne is working with the Kingston

embroidery group to determine the number of places available to OOTB members. Penny Behrens from Toronto is available to present a workshop.

2. Joan advised that there are only 5 books to be sold at this time and suggested an auction. She was hoping to raise \$5 per book. These books were passed around for everyone to see. There were a couple of books that did not sell. Joan will try to sell them on ebay or present them at a future meeting when more members are present.

3. Joan gave an update on the Fourth Stage Concert which will be held on February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2007. She will need a volunteer to assist with setting up of the OOTB art. Elena volunteered to assist. The music will have a Latin flavour and it was suggested that our show's name be appropriate. Joan will advise when a name has been selected for the concert.

4. Congratulations were given to Cynthia for the new web site. There is now a secure area for members only. The password can be obtained by contacting Cynthia. She will not share it by email. She also asked for input on web site content – artists' profiles, shows, pictures. One suggestion was an individual page for each artist with no more than 4 pictures of work plus a bio. Cynthia will develop a template. Karen suggested a good look at the SAQA web site as an example. Further discussion took place about the problem of artists having their work on the web copied. Once the work is out there little can be done to prevent copying. It was suggested that a short history of the group be added. Joelyn will supply this to Cynthia. Minutes for the past year will be archived on the secure section and all future minutes will be included in the newsletter which will be accessed on the secure section.

5. Joanne gave a follow up from her emails concerning elections for the various positions – president, treasurer, secretary, program, workshops, newsletter, library, membership. It had been suggested to Joanne there should be elections for these positions. However, there was not much response to the emails. Basically the incumbents were willing to continue in most cases. Mary Pal has volunteered to do membership. Wendy Foster will be the facilitator for the September meeting and Neera Huckvale will take on the role of facilitator for the following 6 months. Several people volunteered to assist Neera if she is unable to attend a meeting. It was suggested that

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6. July and August continue to be open meetings with no need for a facilitator. Further discussion on elections will take place in September.
7. We were reminded that OOTB is a co-op and everyone is to contribute in whatever way they feel comfortable doing. No one should be expected to volunteer for something they are uncomfortable with. Joelyn reminded everyone that these positions are filled by volunteers and severe criticism is not necessary. We should remember to tell volunteers when they have done a good job.
8. Discussion took place concerning the size of the group and generally it was felt that 50 should be the maximum.
9. Bev and Karen showed the group some of the post cards they have made. As several members are unable to attend the August meeting, it was suggested that we have another opportunity to make them later in the year. Beth needs the postcards for the September fund raiser. However, Joanne feels that it is possible for her to promote a post card show at a number of galleries. Most were interested in this.
10. Joan informed the group of covers being made for the flat screen TVs that are mounted to the wall. Some felt this was another area they would like to explore.
11. Several people showed a few of their UFOs.
12. Bev Hastings showed a bag with painted fusible web. Could this be a possible workshop?
13. Joan told us about a new product she is thinking of developing – temporary hi-light tape.
14. Meridith shared the book Creative Composition & Design by Pat Dews. Joan will acquire it for the library.

“Be brave enough to live creatively. The creative is the place where no one else has ever been. You have to leave the city of your comfort and go into the wilderness of your intuition. You can't get there by bus, only by hard work, risking, and by not quite knowing what you're doing. What you'll discover will be wonderful: yourself.”  
Alan Alda