

Out of the Box

May 2007 Newsletter

About Us (Mission Statement)

The Out of the Box Fibre Art Group is a cooperative association of artists who are passionate about creating innovative, thought-provoking works of art, and promoting fibre art through exhibitions, education and professional development.

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. Since we are a co-op organisation, we place strong emphasis on activities that support active participation of the membership in 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 meet once a month to share ideas, techniques and inspiration, 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

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**. Members participating in the Journal Quilt Project will meet at 6:45 p.m., prior to the regular meeting.

Members, please note Bev Hastings' new email address: jmcbv@rogers.com

Volunteers Needed: Membership Coordinator and Newsletter Editor

The Out of the Box Fibre Art Group is currently seeking replacements for the positions of Membership Coordinator and Newsletter Editor, effective September 2007. If you are interested in either position, please contact Meredith Filshie.

Submission Deadline for the June newsletter is June 8, 2007.

Contacts

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Dates of Meetings with Program Topics

2007	
April 16	Ray Pilon – Photographing Your Work
May 21	Workshops – Joanne Batchelor
June 18	TBA
July 16	Cynthia Sanoy – Tour of Orpheus
August 20	Open Meeting
September 17	Dale Smith – Panel Discussion?
October 15	Dale Smith – Panel Discussion?
November 19	Heather Dubreuil - Trunk Show
December 17	

May Program and Agenda:

Members participating in the Quilt Journal program will meet at 6:45 p.m. The regular meeting commences at 7:15 p.m.

1. Show and Tell by members
2. May's meeting will be all about workshops - workshops taken and workshops to come.

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Many of you over the past years have taken workshops and have volunteered to make a 5-10 minute presentation on what you learned, tips, techniques, best workshops, best locations, etc. .

This is also an opportunity to show and tell projects you might have started and finished at a workshop or a project that you were not able to complete ... and perhaps need help completing. .

This will also be a good time to share workshops coming up, ie. Algonquin College, Seven Threads, QBL, Quilt Tahoe, etc. I will bring a summary of the workshops that I have information on.

3. Business

Idiom Quilt

Congratulations to all of us!! The Idiom Quilt was juried into the Ontario Juried Quilt Show in Waterloo.

Out of the Box Show at the Montreal Center for Contemporary Textiles

Submitted by Chantal Davignon.

What I want to ask you is a bit of cooperation, I will need a CD from each of you with your bio (keep it half a page) and pictures of your art at high resolution (which means the best of the best quality), you can't send the pictures via email, 'cause the net's going to jam with high resolution pictures. At least 3 to 4 pictures. So please bring your CD at the next meeting so I can put up a portfolio and send it to the MCCT before June.

It doesn't matter if you want in or out of the exhibit, all of you are invited to send me something and that portfolio will be useful down the line anyways.

If you can't make it to the next meeting, send it via snail mail at: Chantal Davignon, 5531 Edgewater Dr, Manotick, ON, K4M 1B4

If you have any problems, you can email me at chantal_davignon@canada.com or

chadavignon@hotmail.com or phone me at 613-692-6275

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Book Review

Thanks to Bev Hastings for this month's book review.

Exploring Color

by Nita Leland

North Light Books, 1998

ISBN0891348468

This is not a book hot off the press, nor is it a book written expressly for fibre artists – it is a book that fully explores the subject of colour which is the basis of everything we do; “**art without colour would lose much of its purpose**” (Andrew Loomis).

Nita Leland begins by stressing that although the effective use of colour may be an inbred talent for some, the principles of colour can be learned. This book is a full exploration of the theme of colour including the science of colours, psychological effects and the properties and characteristics of individual colours. She discusses colour compatibility, has included an expansive section on the colour wheel and the effects of juxtaposing a colour(s) with another or others. Leland emphasises that colour contrast can affect the strength of our work and the effect that it has on those that view it, it speaks of our emotions and feelings and using light and shadow and colour contrast we can express what we feel and want to 'say'. She includes a valuable section on the use of colour in the design process.

In this book Nita Leland discusses the importance of artists having (and using!) an artist's journal and in particular a colour journal. There are fun and useful exercises throughout that teach not only the aspects of colour theory but provide learning through practice and play. Although this book is written for water colourists and oil painters Nita Leland makes reference frequently to other forms of artistic media. Exercises are often done using paper collage, fabric and embellishments. For my own experience I have found this book to be a wonderful reference source and it sits on my studio table near at hand. It would be an excellent tool for those painting and dyeing their own fabric and for many of us now exploring the idea of using

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pens, coloured pencils, oil pastels, paint, layered fabric, etc. in our work.

News from our Members

Karen Goetzinger, Carmella Karijo Rother, Wendy Feldberg

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

Helen Gordon

Congratulations to Helen for her "Best of Show" award for "My Ottawa" at the Threadworks Show. Information about the show can be found at www.quelpharts.ca/threadworks. The show runs from May 5 to June 10, and then travels around Ontario for a period of three years, ending up at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum July 18 to September 23, 2009.

Elaine Quehl

"Opening Act" was awarded an Award of Excellence in the Innovative Small Wall Quilt category at the Canadian Quilters Association National Juried Show in Kamloops, B.C.

The Seven Threads Studios

(Cathy Breedyk Law, Susan Clow, Jennifer Hodge, Pat Lemaire, Wendo Van Essen, Kit Vincent, "Contrasts in Life"

Showing at Britannia Gallery,
2728 Howe St., Ottawa.
May 1-31, 2007
Tues – Sat, 10:00 am – 5:00 pm
Sun, 1:00 – 4:00 pm.

Fortunée Shugar

Spring Fling
April 25 – June 16, 2007
Irene's Pub
885 Bank St.
613-230-4474
www.irenespub.ca

Vernissage, Tuesday may 15, 7-9 pm.
Sharon Johnson

Events

Fourth Night Salon

Next meeting: **Thursday, May 31 (sshhh! It's**

Please bring:

1. Any unfinished piece for informal critiquing and suggestions from the group. Perhaps there is a piece you started but couldn't finish - you got stuck - perhaps the group can "unstick" and inspire you!

2. Ideas for a group "Summer Challenge": One idea is to mimic the approach of the Kingston Fibre Arts guild who used the attached photo (what the heck is that? a spice field?) to challenge their members. I will bring photos of their responses to the photo. If you have a sample photo for our challenge, it should probably be unrecognizable and have a variety of textures for people to really sink their teeth into.

Another idea is a round robin - if you have suggestions in this regard, please bring them!

Or: assign the same topic and a size constraint (see Quilting Arts magazine, Feb/March 2007, p. 26, "Take 2")

Or: Make abstract art quilts from a photo (see Quilting Arts, same issue, p. 84 "More Results from our Abstract Art Quilt Reader Challenge.")

e. Any other suggestions welcome!

The Ottawa School of Art Gallery is proud to present

Robert Hyndman: A Lifetime of Creativity,

May 3 – May 27, 2007.

Ottawa, ON (April 23, 2007). Robert Hyndman is a distinguished painter and teacher whose

contribution to Canadian art has extended for over 70 years. He began his training at the Central Technical School in Toronto with Carl Schaffer and Charles Goldhammer. Upon graduation, he

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continued his studies at the Central School for Arts and Crafts in London, England while freelancing as an illustrator of children's books.

At the onset of the Second World War, Robert returned to Canada and soon after joined the Royal Canadian Air Force (RCAF). After joining the RCAF in June 1940, he learned to fly and then served as a flight instructor at Uplands Airport in Ottawa from 1941 –1943. In July 1943, Hyndman returned to England where he flew Spitfires over the English Channel. "I was terrified each of the 150 missions I flew over the English Channel. I was 25. I did not really understand why I was there. I didn't want to die. I wanted to live to get back to my painting." He continued to sketch and paint throughout the war and it wasn't long before he attracted the attention of the Canadian War Art Program. In 1944, Robert was appointed Official War Artist; he created 68 war paintings (most of which are portraits) in a year and a half.

In 1947, Robert set up a studio in Ottawa. Critics were quick to acclaim his talent; his war paintings became the launching pad for a career that has included numerous commissions, exhibits and several years of teaching at the Banff School of Fine Arts and The Ottawa School of Art. Figure painting and drawing have always been his passion. His portrait painting has taken him around the world and has included a broad range of subjects from society matrons and government officials to businessmen and military personnel.

His exhibition will showcase a wide array of his paintings. This not-to-be-missed event will provide a window into the life of a venerated artist and a window into Canadian history.

You are invited to meet him at his opening reception that will be held on Thursday May 3rd, 2007 from 5 to 8 pm at the Ottawa School of Art Gallery.

National Gallery Garden Party

The History Project Committee of the The Volunteer's Circle of the National Gallery of Canada is hosting a Garden Party in anticipation of the 50th anniversary of the Circle. They are looking for artists to participate in the silent auction. My impression is that they are not actively looking for donations of artwork (although I'm sure donations of artwork for the silent auction would be graciously accepted!!!!), but are looking to have their silent auction **be mutually beneficial for the artists and for the Circle.**

Event Date: June 13, 2007. In case of rain: June 14th.
Location: 516 Kenwood Avenue (entrance at Broadview)

Hosted by: John Skeggs, Esq.

Event includes live entertainment, silent auction, refreshments

The following are the Volunteer's Circle guidelines for artists as communicated to me. "We" refers to the History Project Committee of the Volunteer's Circle of the National Gallery of Canada.

- we reserve the right to accept or refuse items (they will need to be suitable to be displayed out of doors, they may not be suitable for our type of event)
- the artist is invited to supply some background information (biography, business cards, fliers or other promotional materials)
- if an item is auctioned, the artist receives the base price set by the artist minus 10%. We keep the excess for the cause, as well as 10% of the base price (this makes sense to us in case the item goes at the base price or only slightly over it - so that we have something for the cause!)
- if an item is not sold, it will be returned - to be picked up by the artist at an agreed-upon location
- items must be submitted by June 11 at the latest, for decision to be taken then re suitability for the auction
- items to be kept for June 14 in case rain date is in effect, unsold items to be picked up by June 15th at the earliest
- we cannot be responsible for damage caused by Act of God

If you are interested in participating in this silent auction, please contact Patti Blute 613-234-2584.

If anyone is interested in attending this event, tickets are \$50.00/person (a \$35.00 tax receipt will be issued). The ticket request form and further details are attached.

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Waterloo County International Quilt Festival

The 12th Annual Waterloo County International Quilt Festival takes place May 23 - 26 at RIM Park, 2001 University Ave. E, Waterloo. Hundreds of quilts will be on display at the Ontario Juried Quilt Show and World Piece Exhibit. Highlights include an exhibition of quilts from Austria, Pennsylvania and Manitoba. A merchant mall and workshops will also be run out of RIM Park. For more information please visit our website www.waterlooqueiltfestival.com or call 1-888-804-7909.

The Beaconsfield Quilters' Guild

Annual Quilt Exhibition 2007
May 3 - 27 at the Beaconsfield Library,
303 Beaconsfield Blvd., Beaconsfield, Quebec
Library hours are Monday 1 to 9 p.m., Tuesday to Friday 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 5 p.m.

Gees Bend Quilts

Art Gallery of Nova Scotia
Barrington St., Halifax
Until September

Workshops

Workshops with Local Artists

Summer Academy of the Arts at Algonquin College

Submitted by Beth Cameron

July 3 – August 3, 2007

Week long workshops and a creativity lecture will be featured. For more information:

<http://www.algonquincollege.com/summerarts/index.htm>

Don't delay! Some classes are already full!

Even if you are not partaking of the Summer Academy series you might want to be aware of the lecture by William Hodge on Wednesday, July 25th, from 7:00 to 9:00, "Developing your Creative Potential":

This lecture will illustrate how you can increase your own creative potential through some practical and functional suggestions. Although this lecture has been directed at the fibre arts, the discussion is suitable for any individual who wishes to extend their creative potential as the information is totally transferable to any creative endeavour. I could barely do his 12 page enviable CV justice in a sentence but William Hodge comes highly recommended and I would be remiss if I didn't point it out to you all!

Beth Cameron, Coordinator for Algonquin College's new Summer Academy of the Arts, will be interviewed on

Rogers "DayTime" on Friday, May 18. Click on the above link for information regarding the Summer Academy of the Arts. The interview will also feature Heidi Pivnick, Rug Hooking course instructor for the Summer Academy of the Arts, and will air at 11:00 a.m. on Rogers Television Cable 22, and repeat again at 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m.

St. Lawrence College Summer School of the Arts, Brockville Campus

The members of Seven Threads Studios will be teaching at St. Lawrence College Summer School of the Arts. Most of these week-long fibre art workshops are credit courses applicable to a Fibre Arts Certificate in Quilting. We will be bringing brochures to the Out of the Box meeting when they are ready from the college. To receive a brochure by mail contact the college through their website at www.slc.on.ca

Exploring Fibre with Catharina Breedyk Law

July 23 – 27, 2007

Explore fibre and create a wonderful stretched art piece. We will be using a tree and leaf theme to make a textured contemporary sample. Techniques covered are: a corded tree, a knit leaf, trapunto, echo and channel quilting, weaving with ribbon, some crewel embroidery stitches, 3-D leaves, curved piecing, couched fibre, bobbin work, free motion, beading, paper piecing, and making colours pop.

The sample will be on my website after Feb. 1st.

www.catharinabreedyklaw.com

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

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techniques attractive to them. Suggested reading: Piecing – Expanding the Basics, C&T Publishing.

Suppliers

Wendy Foster Threads

Monopoly from Superior. It's a wonderful invisible thread made with polyester not nylon, recommend by Barb Olson? It's available in smoked and clear...and I'm currently out of clear)

Books For You

Inventory Reduction Sale

Saturday June 9, 2007

from 10:00 to 15:00

9391 Parkway Road

Edwards, Ontario

telephone 613 821-3096

Sale on selected books in stock, discounts of

15% to 30%

Come and find your bargains

Websites

Below is a* website on the subject of composition. It deals specifically with photography but can be applied to any medium.

<http://asp.photo.free.fr/Composition/photoProgramCompMa inClass.shtml>

Curator's review of the Grand National Show at the Kitchener-Waterloo Art Gallery

<http://www.kwag.on.ca/section/view/?fnode=107>

Minutes – Out of the Box

April 16th, 2007

1. Chantal Davignon chaired the meeting
2. Once again show and tell was amazing and inspiring.
3. The guest speaker, Ron Pilon, gave a very informative presentation including a demonstration of techniques to photograph our art pieces to be best received by jurors and galleries. He also answered many questions from the membership including recommendations for type of camera, set up, computer enhancing.
4. Elena advised he had 29 pieces for the display at the OVQG show and that there would be space for 5 slightly larger pieces (25" x 25"). Pieces are to be delivered to Elena or Bev by May 4th. Please call ahead before delivering. She still needed volunteers for 2 time slots.
5. Joan announced her concert on May 3rd at Centre Point and also that she had some high light tape for sale.
6. The 50/50 draw raised \$8.00 for the library.,
7. Cynthia Sanoy has returned from a trip to the UK and had some information concerning the Quilt Show in August if anyone will be traveling in the UK at that time.
8. Meeting adjourned.