

Out of the Box

November 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 organization, 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 Joanne Batchelor 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.**

Submission Deadline for the December Newsletter is December 7, 2007.

Contacts

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Library	Joan Harrison Rita Rottman	celloquilter@sympatico.ca ritarottman@sympatico.ca
Publicity/Marketing	Karen Goetzinger	quiltopia@sympatico.ca

Dates of Meetings with Program Topics

2007	
November 19	Heather Dubreuil - Trunk Show
December 17	Elissa Wright on Printmaking
2008	
January 21	
February 18	
March 17	
April 21	
May 19	
June 16	

This is the first issue of the OOTB Newsletter that we are producing, and Elaine is a hard act to follow. We want to remind you that this is **YOUR** newsletter and it will be only as informative as you make it. We depend on you for information, articles, book reviews and other items. If you don't have the time to put your info into printable form, we will do it for you, but keep your contributions coming. We look forward to hearing from you, both contributions and comments. We aim to make this newsletter as good as we can and your help is much appreciated.

Helen and Elena

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Black and White Challenge

Submitted by Elena Keen

At the June meeting, we decided to have a black and white challenge. Just a reminder about the rules.

1. All eight fabrics should be used in the challenge, in sufficient amounts to be recognizable.
2. Any additional black, white and black and white fabrics may be used and ONE single colour, either solid, print, or gradation of a colour. If using a print, the fabric should "read" as a single colour.
3. The work should be no smaller than 80" and no larger than 120", overall measurements. Any shape goes.
4. Embellishments are allowed, in either black, white, or same colour of the coloured fabric used.
5. There is no theme imposed, but "**Black and white, and read all over**" is suggested.
6. Deadline for completion will be the **February 2008** meeting.

News from our Members

OOTB Show at the Montreal Centre for Contemporary Textiles.

The Montreal Centre for Contemporary Textiles, at 5800 rue St-Denis, Montreal, is the venue for our latest show. The show will be in studio 501. The centre's phone number is (514) 933-3728.

The show runs from Nov 15th to Dec 13th, 2007, and the hours are Monday to Friday from 9am to 4:30pm. The vernissage is (was) on Nov 15th at 5pm.

The Montreal Centre for Contemporary Textile is a school (CEGEP) dedicated to the fabrication of fabrics (weaving, knitting, felting, etc.). They offer a professional diploma in textiles and get teachers from all over the world for lectures and workshops. They also take commissions from fibre artists to create their designs on the Jacquard Loom which is a computerized loom.

Our members participating in the show are:

Joanne Batchelor
Heather Dubreuil
Wendy Feldberg
Beverley Hastings
Carmella Karijo Rother
Fortunee Shugar

Chantal Davignon
Margaret Dunsmore
Karen Goetzinger
Neera Huckvale
Elaine Quehl
Kit Vincent

Among the pieces shown will be Kit Vincent's "Harbour".

The show was organized by **Chantal Davignon**, who called this venue to our attention and has done all the legwork and other necessary work, including translation into French of various and sundry necessary items. Thank you, Chantal.

Other Shows by Our Members

Other Shows our members are participating in are:

Kit Vincent's "Wild" was juried into the **Ontario Crafts Show in Toronto**, which runs from November 13 to December 31, 2007. Location: 990 Queen Street West.

Karen Goetzinger will have her work exhibited at the following venues:

- **Ottawa School of Art Holiday Sale**, to be held November 29 to December 20th, 2007.
- **Stepping Stones Gallery**, during the month of December. This is a private gallery and viewing is by appointment only. You can get more information at info@steppingstonesgallery.net.
- **Cube Gallery – Great Big Smalls III Show**, November 29 to December 23, 2007. Opening reception is December 7 at 7:30 p.m.

Studio Space Available

Studio space, Byward Market area, available as of December 1, 2007, \$200/month. This space is suitable for visual artist, designer, writer or textile artist. Apply immediately to Lis at (613) 565-2726 or lis.smidt@rogers.com.

Websites

Bev Hastings has called to our attention a website which is a source for Paverpol, as well as a location where you can take workshops using this product. It is thedutchhill.com. The location is Spencerville. Check the website out, it is quite interesting.

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Minutes – Out of the Box October 15th, 2007

1. Neera opened the meeting and introduced the panel which consisted of Kit Vincent, Artist, Dale Smith, Gallery Owner, and Joanne Batchelor, Collector of Fibre Art.
2. The panel assessed approximately 10 pieces from members of OOTB. The feedback from everyone on the panel was straight forward, honest, and constructive for the artists as well as all members of OOTB.
3. Following the panel presentation, there was a short break.
4. Neera then welcomed four guests.
5. Joan advised that she has added 2 new books and a video to the library. The 50/50 draw resulted in \$12 for the library fund.
6. Show and Tell was amazing as usual.
7. Kit brought to everyone's attention the Canadian Portrait Competition. More information regarding submissions can be found by googling 'The Kingston Prize'.
8. The meeting adjourned.

Out of the Box Planning Committee Meeting November 13, 2007

Planning Committee (PC) Members Present: Joanne Batchelor, Karen Goetzinger, Meredith Filshie, Bev Hastings, Elena Keen, Mary Pal, Rita Rottman, Cynthia Sanoy

1. **Publicity and Exhibitions:** In view of the difficulties that exhibition organizers have faced, there was considerable discussion about future OOTB exhibitions and how to encourage members to meet the requirements of entry into exhibitions, especially meeting deadlines. The first step is to find out how many members are interested and Karen will put this question to the membership at the next meeting. Depending on the level of interest, some proposals will be developed for further discussion.
2. **Library--Acquisition Plan:** As the 50/50 draws don't bring in enough money to build up our library, we will devote a specific amount of membership income to purchases (see Budget below). Guest fees will also be used for library materials. It was suggested that the budget could be further supplemented by asking members to donate old books and/or fabrics, embellishments, etc. which would be sold at meetings with sale proceeds going to the library. Mary and Joanne will start the process off. Rita will explain the process at the next meeting.

3. **Web Site Hosting:** Our ISP is folding and the standard rate is \$300/yr. Cynthia will ask the membership if they wish to keep the website in its current form or start our own Yahoo group, which would cost nothing (except Cynthia's time!). Cynthia will provide some elaboration at the next meeting.
4. **William Hodge Talk/Workshop:** Meredith will send an email to members to determine the interest in having him present a lecture and workshop.
5. **Budget:** Meredith presented a balance sheet summary showing a current balance of \$1502.25 and indicated we will be discontinuing our Ontario Crafts Council membership. It is proposed that we allocate 30% of membership fees (\$300) to the Library annually for as long as our meeting venue is free.
6. **Newsletter:** Elena and Helen asked for a received a list of PC members and positions, and to have their names added to the email contact list.
7. **Emails:** We need to give members a "Netiquette" reminder: nothing extraneous or off-topic and never to hit "Reply All."
8. It was proposed that we devote one meeting (maybe January?) to "OOTB Focus for 2008" and combine it with a social evening in lieu of the traditional December social event. The next meeting of the Planning Committee is Tuesday, December 11. The meeting adjourned at 8:30pm