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Words of Wisdom

I found I could say things with color and shapes that I couldn't say any other way--things I had no words for.

Georgia O'Keeffe

2013 Programs/Workshops:

October 21, 7:15pm – Trunk show by thread painter Judi Miller (www.judimiller.ca)

November 1-30th– OOTB members' show at Library in Stittsville.

November 18, 7:15pm – Visuals from OOTB's Fibre Fling 2 show held in April.

December 16, 7:15pm – How do you promote your work? Member Show and Tell of cards (greeting, business, etc.) and promotional materials.

2014:

February 28, Due date for 12x12 Colour Wheel Challenge, year 2 (turquoise, sun yellow or black and white with choice colour)

OOTB Colour Challenge:



The purple and orange submissions from Part One (2013) of the Colour Challenge are on display at Canada Beading Supply and are getting a lot of enthusiastic attention. If you are in the area, consider dropping in to see how wonderful they look

together. Bring your family/friends as it is truly an impressive display! Everyone is happy seeing it. Address is 210 Colonnade Rd. S., Unit 12B. Hours are

9-5, Mondays to Saturdays. Telephone number is 613 727-3886 if you need directions.

As background for new members, the Colour Challenge is a three year project. The goal is to have sixteen 12"x12"pieces for each of the primary and secondary colours in the colour wheel plus another 16 in black and white. In 2013, members completed purple and orange which are on display here. In May 2013, members signed up to complete yellow and turquoise as well as the black and white squares by February 2014. In 2015, we will do red and green. Members who volunteer to create a square are given a colour sample and are then free "to do whatever" to make a little piece of art that "reads" the colour chosen. We are hoping that we are given a suitable time at the Mississippi Textile Museum for an OOTB show in 2016. We would love all the pieces to be on display there.

For members who are working on pieces, the following is a reminder of the requirements:

Requirements:

1. Create a 12"x12" art piece, using any techniques and any medium in yellow or turquoise or black and white. 20 % of the work needs to be in the challenge colour you have chosen and the entire piece should "read" that colour. Other colours you use should largely be in the same palette. This should not preclude adding some exciting accent colours! For the black and white pieces, add 20% of a colour, if you wish.

2. Attach (glue or stitch) to a 12"x12"x 5/8"stretched canvas. It is important that you mount the pieces this way as any other way will affect how the pieces will be displayed in a show. Pieces mounted on a 12"x12" frame without canvas will not line up with those mounted on a canvas frame. Please note that your art work can be 3 dimensional as long as it is mounted on a stretched canvas 12"x12" x5/8".

3. Please supply 12" of wire for hanging but DO NOT put any mounting mechanism on your piece. We will supply the D rings, which are hard to find, and put them on your piece at the time of hanging them to ensure consistency of presentation.

4. Label your piece on the back with the name of the piece (use "Untitled" if not naming it), your name, your telephone number, email address and the date.

5. Take a picture and send it along with

- a. Your name - Y (for yellow) or T (for turquoise)
- b. Name of the piece if you have one. If not, just put "Untitled".
- c. techniques and materials
- d. Inspiration for the piece

to Marie-France mariefranceg@mac.com and Chris Burbridge burbridges@rogers.com.

6. Package your piece and ensure that the name of the piece, your name and contact information are clearly marked on the packaging material. If possible attach a photo of the piece. When choosing packaging, remember that your piece will be packed and unpacked many times for the various exhibitions. Some plastic bags disintegrate and are not as durable over time as cloth bags.

Think about using quilted cloth to provide a buffer and have the size appropriate to the size of the square (not too big and not too tight). Don't use tape for sealing as the adhesive on most tapes disintegrates over time.

7. Due date is February 28, 2014. Please bring them to the February OOTB meeting or deliver them to Canada Beading Supply, 210 Colonnade Rd. S. in Ottawa (613)727-3886

Any questions should be addressed to Marie-France Gosselin at mariefranceg@mac.com or 613 435-3793.

RED: Respect, Equality & Dignity Exhibition

From Carol Howard Donati

I am honoured to be one of the local artists included in RED: Respect, Equality & Dignity Exhibition hosted by the Human Rights Research and Education Centre at the University of Ottawa. The show will run October 23 - November 22, 2013.

Opening events on October 23rd include a panel discussion (11AM) followed by the Exhibit opening and reception (1 - 3 PM)

I hope to see you there!

Exhibit and Event Information:

<http://www.cdp-hrc.uottawa.ca/?p=7509>

Human Rights Research and Education Centre
University of Ottawa
Fauteux Hall
Room 550



23 Oct 2013

Gratuit, déjeuner sera servi | Free admission lunch will be served

11:30 - 13:00

Common Law Speaker Series

Panel Discussion: Art & Law Experts Examine Labels and Judgments
uOttawa, 57 Louis Pasteur, Fauteux 351

13:00 - 15:00

Vernissage et spectacle de danse | Exhibit Opening Reception & Performance
uOttawa, 57 Louis Pasteur, Fauteux 550



Spring into Art Conference

The West Carleton Arts Society 2104 'Spring into Art Conference' will be held on Saturday, April 12, 2014 from 8:45AM to 4PM. There will be 5 speakers, including Shawna Tregunna, founder and owner of Relevant Social Media, who will discuss the appropriate choice and effective use of social media for your art. Christina Lovisa will discuss her experiences with Cirque du Soleil, how she got involved and the challenges of working with such a well known and artistic enterprise. Other speakers will be announced this fall. Lunch is included. Registration will open in January 2014.

thanks,
jo-ann

Profile: Wendo van Essen

By Rebecca Dufton



Fun, whimsical, curious, and definitely out of the box defines both Wendo van Essen and her fibre work. Since 2001 she's been working primarily with felt, along with embroidery, rug-hooking, batik, silk and any kind of hand stitching.

Wendo has been sewing since childhood. "My mom worked at the glove factory and she taught my sisters and me how to sew."

A sewing machine was one of her first purchases when she left home. Although Wendo made some of her own clothing, she never liked working from patterns.

She started quilting with a group of friends in Prescott, where she lives, and wanted to do more. In 2006, Wendo joined Out of the Box and enjoyed "round robin" sessions and workshops at the meetings. She left the group for a few years and then rejoined OOTB last year. She finds the group very welcoming.

Her favourite books and videos from the OOTB library are "anything by Beanie and Littlejohn."

Her inquisitive and inventive spirit has also ventured into pottery, wire sculpture and glass beading. "If I had a million dollars, I would travel the world taking courses," Wendo says.

She's always ready to explore something new and the seemingly unrelated paths somehow always manage to converge. For example, a one-week wire sculpture course at Haliburton inspired her to employ the technique as the armature for her "trophies" – a menagerie of fun, felted animal heads -- as well as dolls and animals. Wendo has also begun to incorporate hand-made beads into her felt pieces, as stamens for flowers.

Fibre seems to be a logical career path for Wendo, who worked for more than 22 years in animation. When you see her charming felted creatures, it's no surprise to

learn that she worked on film subjects such as Babar, Care Bear, Curious George and the Racoons.

The introduction to felt came in 2001 when she was in Berlin working on a film. Wendo visited an art gallery exhibit by Mongolian artists working in felt.

"Berlin has a huge Mongolian population," Wendo says. "Felting actually came from the Mongols. Five thousand years ago, they stuffed their boots with wool. The pressure, heat and moisture turned it into felt.

"When I came home from Berlin, there weren't many animation jobs. I knew that the classical animation I was doing wasn't going to last. It was all going to computer. I found a little film job in Ottawa and was casting about for something to do. I heard about a one-week felting class with Maggie Glossop in Almonte that was starting in two weeks.

"I loved her work and we became friends. The class was in wet felting. We were given a felting needle that we were to use only to push the fibres back in, but I took the medium in a new direction. I did three small felted pieces in the class and then continued playing on my own."

She kept moving on to bigger and bigger works and pushing the boundaries of this new medium. She's even made animal portraits in felt. By 2003, Wendo had enough pieces to enter the One of a Kind spring show.



"Preparing for the show wasn't work," Wendo said. "It was the best year I ever had."

Today, she does about 20 shows a year and teaches a number of workshops. To supplement her fibre income, Wendo works three days a week at Service Ontario. She still keeps her eyes open for interesting animation projects.

You can see Wendo's work at the Spinners and Weavers show at the Glebe in November, the Originals show this December and at the Creative Festival in Toronto where she'll be selling her wool fibre and kits. Visit her website at www.wendovanessan.blogspot.ca

Profile: Frances Taylor

“Canola oil is Canada’s gift to the world.”
Submission by Meg Seal



“Canola was bred by Agriculture Canada scientists to eliminate the toxic substances from rapeseed. Canola is produced in Canada and is used as meal for animals as well as edible oils for cooking and margarine. Canada has shared this innovation - at no cost - with other countries and is Canada’s gift to the world.”
Frances Taylor.

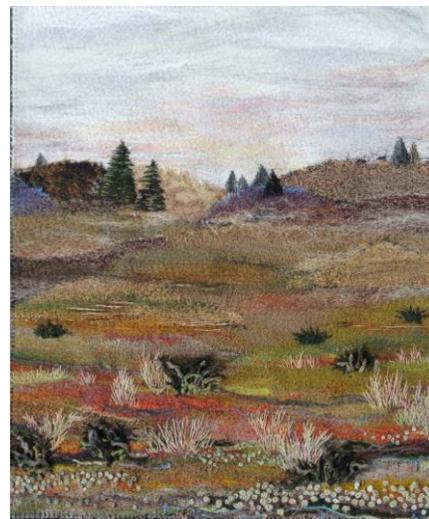
Though modest, easily approachable and down to earth, there is so much more to Frances Taylor than her role as an artist. She was a Senior Executive in the Office of the Auditor General of Canada, federal Department of Justice and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, has a Bachelor of Science Degree and a Masters of Business Administration.

Art making is at the very “fibre” of Frances Taylor’s being. This prolific artist is unafraid to experiment and finds as she delves into any chosen medium her pieces improve and take on a life of their own. Frances has always had a passion for making art; this activity is as essential as eating, breathing and sleeping and has been for over forty years. From a very young age Frances has always done something with her hands.

Ever conscious of the environment and a lover of nature and various exploratory processes, Frances finds that her background in Biology, and an inspirational landscape ecosystem on her property called an “alvar” helps to create a mental image. This “image” is the starting point from which she lets the work flow. Frances never sketches out her work and advises that experimentation is key. She has used icing paste food colouring to colour as an acid dye. Hand embroidery gives life to her pieces and is the final addition to many of her art works.

Frances is well connected with a Couture Bridal Studio where she obtains scrap silks and with a sheep farmer who gives her his fleeces. Frances has a large supply of salvaged copper wire which she gleaned from her

father-in-law’s stash and copper pipe salvaged when she replaced her heating and cooling systems. She recycles old coats and jackets which she machine washes and felts and uses Procion dyes to colour her silks.



Her pieces are delicate and often wispy with a combination of both muted and bright tones. Frances uses a variety of stitches in a favourite piece; her crocheted shawl is intricate and fascinating in its many swirls and varied patterning.

Of the many groups Frances belongs to including; Artwear, West Carleton Fibre Guild, West Carleton Art Society, Ottawa Valley Quilters’ Guild, and previously All Dolled Up and Ottawa Valley Weavers’ and Spinners’ Guild, “Out of the Box” (OOTB) continually motivates her to produce works with fibre as a medium. She joined the group in the a few years before she retired when Meredith Filshie saw one of Frances’ works at Canada Beading invited her to attend a meeting. Frances has been hooked ever since.

Frances’ teaching experience ranges from instruction in Needle and Faux felting to how to make Fascinator Hats and ways to work with Polymer Clay. As well as providing instruction Frances takes a stitch class where she learns new embroidery stitches. Her works include wearable art, household items, semi-precious stone and silver jewellery and hiking sticks. She has exhibited her wares in Ottawa, Kingston, Perth, Smiths Falls, the Byward Market and Westborough, to name a few.

A needle felting machine is Frances' tool of choice in her studio which spans the basement of her current residence. Frances' art outgrew her last home; she needed more space to continue production. Maggie Grey and D.J. Bennett are inspirational authors for Frances as are Jean Littlejohn, Jan Beaney and Kim Thittichai. She likes to flip through her books for fresh ideas and push the limits so her work will continue to grow.

When asked about her next project, Frances said she has several in mind. The West Carleton Art Society asked thirty five artists to present a piece working with the theme of abundance. Frances chose to create an embroidered landscape illustrating canola, "Canada's gift to the world".



1.) "Rapeseed oil contains a high proportion of erucic and eicosenoic acids which are not essential for human growth, and render the oil unfit for human consumption. In addition, the protein meal fraction left over after crushing, contains compounds called glucosinolates which inhibit growth in livestock." 2.) The Prairie Regional Library (PRL) applied gas-liquid chromatography (GLC) to analyze the erucic acid content of the seeds. This 3.) half seed technique reduced the amount of toxic euroacid found in rapeseed – an oil used to fuel steam engines in North America and as a cooking and smokeless lamp oil in Asia—thus helping to analyze the seed and enable it to be used in planting. The elimination of toxic products from rapeseed oil converted it into an edible form. The development of canola which has the 3.) "best nutritional profile of any vegetable oil on the market" made ingestion safe as meal for animals and as a nutritional oil fit for human consumption. This production of canola

was an important contribution. Canada's "gift to the world" was, soon afterwards, eagerly adopted by other countries.

Frances' landscapes, to be included in the West Carleton Art Society Show will be on display on October 11th, 12th and 13th at the Carp Agricultural Hall. On October 19th and 20th she will take part in the Stittsville Studio Artists' Tour. Please check out this body of work and take a peek at Frances' website: www.francestaylorfiberartist.com

*1.), 2.) and 3.) Topic: The Transformation of Rapeseed Into Canola: A Cinderella Story
Prepared by Amy McInnis, May 21, 2004, for the Winning the Prairie Gamble: The Saskatchewan Story exhibit, North Battleford WDM <http://wdm.ca/skteacherguide/WDMResearch/CanolaResearchPaper.pdf>

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. Visitor fees are \$10.00 when we have a paid speaker and \$5.00 for regular meetings.

Meetings

Meetings are normally 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 September 2013 Newsletter is September 8th at 5:00 pm.

Really Bad Weather & Meetings

If there is any weather condition that makes travel risky, members will be notified by e-mail by 4:00 pm the afternoon of the meeting. If you do not have email or cannot access email at work, please partner with someone who has access. Members should NOT call the Citizen for this information as nobody there would have it. (They lend the facility to organizations for a nominal fee and do not want any involvement in administrative matters).

Planning Committee

PC Convenor	Sally Rutherford & Nancy Garrard
Programs	Marie Anzai, Doreen Meyer, Wendo Van Essen
Secretary	Meredith Filshie
Membership	MaryAnne Toonders
Treasurer	Sandy Goldsmith
Web-coordinator	Anna Wagner-Ott
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
Library	Rita Rottman
Publicity/Marketing	Rebecca Dufton
Shows	Rita Rottman & Meredith Filshie
Contacts:	info@outofthebox.org

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