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Words of Wisdom

"To practice any art, no matter how well or badly, is a way to make your soul grow. So do it." Kurt Vonnegut

OOTB Program Lineup 2015:

March - 12x12 Colour Challenge 'Green' display at Wabi Sabi

March 16, 7:00pm - Margaret Dunsmore and Pat Hardie share their African experience with visual presentation and display items

April 10-11 - Fibre Fling 4, Kitchissippi United Church hall

April 14-mid-May – 12x12 Colour Challenge 'Magenta' display at Wabi Sabi

April 20, 7:00pm – Post FF4 discussion, member Show & Tell

April 27, 9:30am-3:30pm Member Playdate (design elements & principles with Lynn Ruff)

May 18, 7:00pm – Guest: Calligrapher Richard Draffin

June 8, 9:30am-3:30pm Member Playdate: landscapes on post cards with Juanita Sauve

June 11-12, 9:30am-4:00pm – OOTB class: Intro Eco Printing with Wendy Feldberg held at Wabi Sabi

Cultural Tour of South Africa

March 16 - Join Margaret Dunsmore and Pat Hardie on a cultural tour of South Africa. Featuring an 11-part video of still photos, live video & African-themed music you will absorb San history via artisan tapestries. Traipse through the amazingly diverse Markets of Warwick. Sing & dance with Zulu and Eastern Cape performers. Participate in an early morning's game drive. Laugh at the African penguin's antics. Visit the many women's groups who embroider cloth with their stories. Marvel at the fanciful nature of Ardmore ceramics, aka the Royal Dolton of South Africa. Admire the Mambo sculptures of Kirstenbosch Botanical Gardens. Following this Margaret will present an amazing trunk show of jewelry, embroidered placemats & pillow covers, stuffed teddy, African print fabric, mud cloth, embroidered raffia cloth (Kuba), recycled telephone wire bowls, beaded animals, pottery, zipper bags, woven baskets, and much more. An adventure in South Africa's past & present cultural history that surely will inspire you.

The video and more reference information should be on the OOTB web site shortly.

Playdates

What is a Playdate?

A Playdate is a date with your artistic self. It is an opportunity for our members to get together, practice art and share ideas. Each Playdate starts with a practice exercise led by an OOTB member. The exercise consist of design, creativity and techniques that the Playdate leader uses in his or her art. Playdate participants can choose to participate in the exercises, or work on their own projects.

Where, How Many, Time and Cost

Playdates take place at the Kitchissippi United Church Hall, located at 630 Island Park Drive in Ottawa. There is free parking in designated areas and members can bring a lunch to eat in a communal kitchen. Coffee and tea milk are provided throughout the day.

There are two sessions of three Playdates with a total of 6 Playdates per year.

Playdate days start at 9:30 am and finish at 3:30pm

The cost of each session is \$10.00 per Playdate or \$25.00 for all three.

You can register for Playdates at OOTB meetings or by e-mailing Lynn Ruff at lynnandjack@hotmail.ca

The Next Two Playdates

Dates for the next two Playdates are April 27 and June 8, 2015.

All the Playdates are on Mondays but not the same date as the OOTB meeting nights

April 27 Leader is Lynn Ruff. The discussion topic is Elements of Design Principals. There will be handouts with information on elements and design principals and how to critique your work. Participants will be asked to take in 2 to 3 art pieces they can critique.

June 8 Leader is Juanita Sauve. The techniques and design of landscape postcards.

June 8th playdate is full. You can put your name on a waiting list and if someone cancels you will be contacted. Roberta Russell will be at the March meeting with the playdate sign up sheet.

Handstitching Playdate:

What we learned and practiced.

MaryAnne and Helen were our leaders at our February 23rd Playdate. They taught us a number of embroidery stitches using different threads and yarns. They also explained the equipment they used including hoops, hoop stands and needles. The stage was full of reference books that we could examine and use during the day. We concluded the day doing an exercise that involved the use of one stitch that we learned during the day. The exercise consisted of using different threads and yarns, stitching different lengths of stitch and stitching vertically, horizontally and diagonally on our fabric.



MaryAnne demonstrating



Helen showing an embroidery piece



Sharon and Cheryl at work



A participant's sample

One of the highlights of the day was looking at and examining the beautiful embroidery pieces MaryAnne and Helen brought in to show us.

We went home with our samples, two pages full of reference material and exercises.

Thank you, MaryAnne and Helen for an informative and fun day.

Introduction to Eco Printing

We are delighted to announce a Workshop June 11-12, 2015:

Master class 1: Introduction to Eco Printing
With Wendy Feldberg

At Wabi Sabi, 1078 Wellington Street, Ottawa

9:30 – 4:00 both days

30 minutes for lunch.

Last date to register: May 18th meeting of OOTB

Number of participants: six

Fees: \$145 payable to OOTB.

Please note this is non-refundable but you may find a replacement.

\$5 (max) for basic supplies* payable to the instructor at the first class

Parking, restaurants and cafes nearby (Hintonburger, Bridgehead)

Ready to embrace a new fibre addiction?

Participants will gain hands-on experience making eco prints on textiles and paper using plants locally available from gardens, kitchens, wayside or florists.

The class will cover:

Preparing fibres to receive the dyes and conditioning them later



Selecting appropriate plants and plant parts for dyeing (NB: NO poisonous plants may be used, e.g. Lily of the Valley, Monkshood)

Processing plants and fibres to get a good print

Planning and adjusting the colours

Contact printing, solar dyeing, rusting and plant pounding

Resources for future reference (plant lists, dye colours, process notes etc)

Participants can expect to take home several samples of eco printed substrates to use in future fibre art projects as well as ample resource materials.

Note* on basic supplies:

Wendy will supply basic materials such as scouring agents, mordant's, dye assistants, powdered natural dyes, etc., a selection of plants, handouts for future reference, and a small set of textiles and papers for sampling.

Wabi Sabi has on hand natural dye powders for participants to purchase., as well as silk chiffon scarves useful as eco print substrates.

Once registration is complete, Wendy will email the participants with more information about plant materials, textiles and paper to bring, preparation to do (as needed) and be available for questions.

IMPORTANT Health and Safety note:

Some people are allergic or sensitive to certain plants and chemicals commonly used for natural dyeing; some plants are dangerous for everyone (Lily of the Valley and Monkshood are two, as previously noted). Participants must be duly diligent and take full responsibility for obtaining information of this sort; the instructor can only speak for herself and share "best practice"

If you are interested in the workshop please let me, Connie ten Bruggenkate, know at the next OOTB meeting or email me at connietb@sympatico.ca as soon as possible.

Fibrefest 2015

The 20th annual Fibrefest is being held in Almonte on September 12 and 13, 2015. We have been approached to apply for a vendor's booth – separate from the booth that promotes OOTB as a group.

Roberta Russell and I have agreed to organize it again but we need information from you. Specifically, we need to know if you are interested in participating, and what items and, if large, roughly how many, you have in mind to bring for the sale. We may have to limit the

number. All booths are 10' x 10' this year and cost \$100. We had one booth last year and the participants shared the cost of the booth, took turns looking after the booth, and also with set up and take down. No commission was taken by OOTB since everyone did their part.

If you are interested in taking part in this venture please let Roberta (robruss@sympatico.ca) or I (vvjrr@gmail.com) know by March 31. A list of items you wish to sell and photos of the items (or ones similar) should accompany your indication of interest in participating.

Valerie Rochester

Just for laughs



Gelli Printing

From Frances Taylor

I bought a Gelli plate while in Savannah and have been experimenting with it. You can also use a home-made plate using gelatin and water. Rayna Gillman's recipe is to mix 4 tbsp. gelatin with 1 cup of cold water. Then add 1 cup of very hot or boiling water. Mix everything in an aluminum foil 8" x 8" disposable square dish. Refrigerate until firm. Double the recipe for a 9" x 13" dish / plate.

Here is a really good blog on things you can do with a Gelli or gelatin plate:

<http://gelliarts.blogspot.ca/search?updated-min=2015-01-01T00:00:00-05:00&updated-max=2016-01-01T00:00:00-05:00&max-results=5>

Member Shows

Sharon Collins



I will be part of a group show: "OUR WAY", at the Foyer Gallery, Nepean Sportsplex, March 10th to March 28th. The Vernissage is Thursday March 19th, 6 to 8pm. Thank you. Sharon

Out of Town Shows

Montreal Quilters

The Beaconsfield Quilter's Guild and the West End Quilters in Montreal are both have shows on May 2 from 10-5 and May 3 from 10-3. The Beaconsfield group will be at Centennial Centre, MacDonald Campus, 21 111 Lakeshore Rd., Ste Anne de Bellevue. Free parking, \$5.00 admission. They have a great colour challenge to see: 24 pieces based on Joen Wolfron's palette. The West End Quilters will be at St. Ignatius of Loyola, 4455 West Broadway in NDG (Notre Dame de Grace. Apparently they will have a number of vendors.

Peterborough Fibre Arts Festival

5th Annual Peterborough Fibre Arts Festival

Hourly Door Prizes

Buy Unique Gifts

Displays, Demos and Hands-On
basketry, caning, cording, crocheting, embroidery, dyeing, fibre upcycling, knitting, millinery, needle & wet felting, quilting, rug hooking, spinning, twining, finger & loom weaving, and much more

Vendors:
Alpaca Store, Fullin' Woolens, Happenstance Yarns & Books, Hooked Goods, IndigoDragonfly, Lanensend Farm & Fibre, Needles in the Hay, Peers Caning, The Priddle Collection, P'tula Original Hats and Accessories, Stoddart Family Farm, and Warped & Twisted Designs

Saturday March 21, 2015
10am-3pm
Peterborough Public Library
\$2, children under 10 free

Sponsored by the Peterborough Handweavers and Spinners Guild, and the Knitery Society

Edge of the Forest

Surface Design Association exhibition

March 1-30 – First exhibition – Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts

March 11, 2015 – Opening reception

April 20-May 4th, 2015 – Art Square Gallery Toronto

June 4-July 9, 2015 – Exhibition at Parrot Gallery Belleville, ON

August 15 – October 18, 2015 prior to & during Fibre Arts 2015 Conference, Woody Point, NL

please join us for the launch

Edge of the Forest

A juried textile exhibition by Canadian members of the Surface Design Association

Richmond Hill Centre for the Performing Arts
10268 Yonge St, Richmond Hill, Ontario

March 11, 2015 6 to 8 pm

Exhibition dates March 2 to March 30, 2015
edgeoftheforest.ca

OMIARIO ARTS COUNCIL
CONSEIL DES ARTS DE L'ONTARIO

Meetings

Meetings are normally held the third Monday of the month, from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Ottawa Citizen Main Floor Board Room, Baxter Road, Ottawa.

Submission deadline for the April Newsletter is April 12, 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	Doreen Meyer, Suzanne Caron-Richer, Lynn Ruff, Connie ten Bruggenkate
Secretary	Meredith Filshie
Membership	MaryAnne Toonders
Treasurer	Sandy Goldsmith
Web-coordinator	Sally Rutherford
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
Library	Rita Rottman
Publicity/Marketing	Open
Shows	Rita Rottman & Meredith Filshie
Contacts: info@outofthebox.org	



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