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Words of Wisdom

"A clean house is the sign of a broken sewing machine." *Unknown*

OOTB Program Lineup 2016/17

Mon, November 21, 2016, Meeting Guest speaker Ali Harle, Modern Quilter and Photographer. Topic: breaking down the complex world of online retail, websites and most importantly social media for crafters and artists. Members show and tell.

Sat, November 26, 2016, Playdate using golden products. Andrea Warren, the Golden Product rep, and Suzanne Caron-Richer will demonstrate how we can use the Golden Products in our art work.

Thurs. December 8, 2016 Colour Unbox,

Mon. December 19, 2016, Meeting Members are invited to share their art work in textiles, mixed media, business cards, art and holiday cards. Show and tell from participants of Golden Paints November play date. Colour Challenge Book will be available for sale.

Tues. December 20, 2016, Colour Unboxed – Show opens.

Sat. January 14, 2017, Colour Unboxed – official opening and reception for invited guests. Artists should be present.

Mon. January 16, 2017, Meeting Guest speaker Diane Lemire, Chelsea, PQ. Faculty member of Haliburton School of the Arts, specializes in felting and transitions from hard to soft materials. Members show and tell.

Mon. January 23, 2017, Playdate, creating textures Anne Warburton will be the Playdate Leader. During the day we will experiment with a number of different products to create texture in our art.

Mon. February 20, 2017, Meeting Fibre Fling briefing. Show and tell from participants of playdate, Creating Textures with Anne Warburton. Members show and tell.

Sat. February 25, 2017, Colour Unboxed – last day of the show.

Mon. February 27, 2017, Colour Unboxed – Pickup art work from the museum.

Mon. March 20, 2017, Meeting Guest speaker Sharon Collins, Arnprior, Ont. Fibre, watercolour, mixed media and stained glass artist. Members show and tell.

Fri & Sat. April 7&8, 2017, Fibre Fling, Kitchissippi United Church

Mon. April 17, 2017, Meeting Fibre Fling debriefing, Rita, Members show and tell.

May 15, 2017, Meeting Guest speaker, Hillary Rice, Sterling, Ont. Textile and mixed media artist. Members show and tell.

May 16 & 17, 2017, Workshop by Hilary Rice More info coming in the new year.

Check out the speakers' websites for inspiration & information.

Colour Unboxed update

We have 112 Colour Challenge pieces and 88 other works of art for the show with a combined insurance value of almost \$70,000! It will be an amazing show! There are still some rack cards to distribute. They will be at the meeting on Monday if you need some or want more. For those of you who picked up rack cards at the last meeting, don't forget to let Lorraine LaCroix, our publicity lady, lorraine.lacroix613@gmail.com know where you dropped them off as she is maintaining an "evergreen" list of contacts for ongoing publicity for our shows.

The Colour Challenge book has been ordered and will be available at the December meeting and at the Museum.

Meredith will be contacting people in the next few days regarding the final steps and the delivery of pieces.

Meredith

Conversation with... Frances Taylor



This new chronicle titled 'Conversation with...' aims to discover one of our members. Whether or not you already 'know' the textile artist in question, you will for sure discover something new about her/him. It is hoped that it will inspire you in your own artistic journey.

When did you start doing textile art, and how did that happen? I've always done some sort of textile art - at least ever since my grandmother taught me to crochet at the age of 15, just before emigrating to Canada. However, I really began my textile art journey after joining OOTB, before I retired. After retirement, I simply transferred all my energy from work to textile art.

What type of textile art have you been doing in your life, and what is your current preferred technique(s)? While working, I made many of my clothes for work, using designer Vogue patterns and altering them to my taste. I also made a lot of crocheted items. During the last few years that I worked I began making wearable art - hats, feather adornments, silver semi-precious stone jewellery. I set up myself as a business and began reporting business income. I also bought my first embellisher (needle-felting) machine, and began experimenting with it. Nancy Garrard introduced me to the joys of hand-embroidery, which I use to add detail to my needle-felted pictures.

What inspires you? and How do you go about going from inspiration to completing a piece (your creative process)? I like to experiment with new techniques, materials and designs. My first degree being in Biology, I am inspired by the natural world (e.g., my alvar series). I'm also inspired by the grey-blue-greens and rocks of the North Sea where I grew up in Folkestone, Kent, England, but also from pictures from my various travels (e.g., my Cape Hatteras sand dunes pieces). Sometimes I hear of a challenge issued by another group and want to try to create something in response (e.g., my horizons series). I sometimes work from a photograph or picture -- or from a technique used by another artist (e.g., I liked Tom Thomson's approach to the sky and lake in his Jack Pine picture - so for my fibre art piece I reproduced his approach in strips of silk). However, more often I just start and then

when the work begins to take shape, I just go with that as inspiration. I don't work from sketches as many artists do, though I might try that in the future.



Tell us about your studio space, and how you organize your supplies. a few tips to share? I am fortunate enough to have been able to buy a house that provides fabulous studio space. I have separate work stations permanently set up for various machines and techniques. I use tote boxes and shelves to store my supplies. But since I sometimes forget where I've put something, if I think I might forget, I write down its location in a Rollerdex! That works so long as I don't reorganize!

Tell us about a couple of Fibre artists whose artwork you enjoy very much. Maggie Grey, Jan Beaney and Jean Littlejohn are perennial favourites. I buy lots of books by many fibre art and multi-media authors and tend to browse through them when I need to check on a technique or style.

Tell us about your current project! Right now I'm preparing for the Ottawa Artwear group's show and sale on October 23rd (Maki House). I brought a big bag of balls of yarn to do some free-form crochet on my current trip (to Yellowstone) and am applying them to a bog coat (check the Threads Magazine website for bog coat instructions). I would like it to be ready for the show.



Is there any other art form you have explored that complements well fibre arts? I love to make functional, unique wearable art. I also believe that hand embroidery really enlivens my work (thank you Nancy).

Where do you get your material for your pieces? Any recycled articles? I try to use a lot of recycled materials in my work - I use recycled silk in my needle-felted paintings and use many recycled elements in my wearable art. Otherwise, I purchase my materials from art stores and from vendors at fibre-art shows. I often hand-dye my materials.

Any good addresses to share? Anything by Beaney and Littlejohn. Workshop on the Web run by Maggie Grey.

Any pearls of wisdom or advice for fellow OOTB members? Don't be afraid to make mistakes or have things not turn out the way you like. I have lots of UFOs (aka things that didn't turn out!) that are put away in a box. I sometimes cut them up and use them in something else. Also, you don't need to spend a lot of money on supplies - thrift stores often have really good bargains in fabrics, craft and office supplies, even toys! However, the biggest piece of advice I have to offer is to just try - experiment, try new things, learn from others and books (from the public library or OOTB's fantastic resources).

From the first time I saw Frances' Art pieces at the Fibre Fling two years ago, I was mesmerized by her creation and techniques. As a gift to myself, I took a one-on-one class with her last Summer. She was really generous of her time and was really wonderful at explaining the various techniques she is using while creating pieces like her sand dune for example.

Thanks very much Frances for your communicative excitement and your curiosity. Your advice is great and I am sure you will inspire and convince many to always try!

Collaboration: Lorraine Lacroix

Opus Anglicanum

AT LONDON'S V&A MUSEUM

By Sharon Johnson

Rather than giving inadequate verbal sketches of these exquisite medieval embroideries that defy description, I draw your attention to the following link where you can view for yourselves many samples from the Opus Anglicanum exhibit currently on display at the Victoria & Albert Museum in London, UK.

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/exhibitions/opus-anglicanum-masterpieces-of-english-medieval-embroidery#objects>

Make sure you scroll all the way down through the many features posted on the V&A's website page - you're in for a visual feast. In fact, the detail viewed on a computer screen is (almost) more sumptuous than my chance to see these works in early October when I spent a satisfying day at the V&A (and an evening at a live performance of Les Misérables in the West End). Because the exhibit was behind glass and dimly lit to preserve these precious and fragile textiles, the website photos and expansions to be viewed by computer actually reveal much greater detail and at much closer range than the exhibit permitted.

To give some dimensional perspective to the various semi-circular copes on display, especially exemplified by the Butler-Bowdon Cope on the website, such garments easily measure 12 feet in diameter. Zooming in allows viewers to examine the stitching of various motifs in much closer detail. Prepare to be amazed!

My favourite video shows the digitally reconstructed Steeple Aston Cope. Altered to become an altar hanging during the Reformation, the animation transforms the cope back into its original 1330's shape and design. Having viewed the brief video 5 or 6 times while at the museum, I was thrilled to watch the reconstruction several more times online.

I also toured the exhibit entitled Undressed: A Brief History of Underwear. The many garment examples gave quite the historical overview of underwear's developments over time and was quite revealing, to say the least!

As you will appreciate from viewing Opus Anglicanum online, the V&A, like many other museums, is exploiting digital technology in order to bring their contents to a much wider public. This policy, as exemplified in the medieval embroideries we can now readily access, performs a tremendous service to textile artists like ourselves. I was deeply moved by seeing the exhibited

works in person; I hope the digital version provides you with a similar rich experience.

Celebrate!

Stittsville Library Show



On November 1st a few members hung up the Stittsville Library show. The show is hanging in the attractive new display area on the far corner to the right as you walk into the library. The theme this year is "Celebrate!" We have a nice variety of colours and interpretations of the theme on the wall and in the display case. Please go and have a look at the show during library hours before the end of the month of November. Thank you to Rita Rottman, Lynn Ruff, Loree Tannett, Sherree Bradford-Lea and Connie ten Bruggenkate for coming out to help to set up the show. The show will be taken down again on November 30th. Any members interested in helping with take down please contact Rita Rottman: ritarottman@sympatico.ca

World of Threads Festival 2016

Closing Nov. 27, 2017

From Garrie Bea Joyce "I would like to make members aware of the World of Threads Exhibition currently on in Oakville. Both Rita Rottman and I had the wonderful opportunity to attend the exhibition on Opening Day. Here are some images from the show and the announcement which you can put into the newsletter in any manner you wish... The Exhibition has an AMAZING array of styles, sizes, materials, methods and imagery. Since it is on every second year those who can't make it this year should put 2018 in their calendars immediately for the next show. Perhaps members after their MVTM experience will submit pieces for the next show???"

Twelve days to go. Don't miss out! Festival 2016 has been a huge success.

Artists and guests have visited from around the world.

"Just the other day, we met a lady from England, who had timed her visit to family and friends in Canada on purpose to coincide with the Festival dates. She was determined to see the Festival, and she loved it."



The last day is Sunday, November 27, 2016.

Festival 2016 features **315 artworks by 134 artists** from Austria, Australia, Belgium, Canada, England, France, China, Hungary, India, Iran, Israel, Japan, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, South Africa, Spain, Ukraine and USA.



Comments from a visitor to the Festival

"I just have to tell you that yesterday two friends and I met to tour this show and we are bowled over with not only the creativity and great beauty on display but the excellent display sites and hanging you and Gareth have done with layout . . . The venue and presentation are just as awesome as the entries, so you deserve huge pats on the back and the viewers' grateful congratulations . . . Well done--we are returning on the 16th to complete the show, as we covered only half in 2 hours! This is truly a stunning achievement on the part of all . . . "

M. Adams

Investment Give-Away

By Sharon Johnson

I need your networking help: I want to give away 2 domestic knitting machines, assorted accessories and books, and many sacks of coned yarn. The range and quantity could set a person up to start a small business, if interested. A reasonably sized room is required to house this collection of goods. Donating to a strongly-motivated and willing-to-learn refugee woman or small collective would be my deepest desire and hope. The give-away would be a tangible investment in her/ their future. Together they could learn to use the machines, knit for family and friends, and develop their skills sufficiently to be able to sell their work. Numbers of fashion designers use such domestic knitters to produce their designs, for one instance.

Do any of you OOTB'ers know or have links to individuals, groups, agencies, etc. who might appreciate having such an investment give-away? If so, please contact me at 613 563 8752 or email me: sharondjohnson(at)me.com

Please keep this in mind as the right person or group may cross any of our paths at any time. Everything she/ they need is ready to go to the right home.

Fibre Art Workshops

Almonte, Ontario



Tues., Nov. 29, 1-3 pm - Weaving Drop-in – You bring the loom you want and you join friends and kindred spirits to weave for the afternoon. (\$5 fee will contribute towards the rental of the room and all the tea you can drink. The inspiration and fun are priceless). L'Atelier Weaving Studio will provide support for technical questions.

Sat., Dec. 3, 10 am-4 pm - Learn to Weave – Details on the Carriageway Studios website

Sun., Dec. 4, 10 am – 4 pm Paintstiks - details on our website

Sat., Jan. 14 Carriageway Studios Drop-in 10:30-12:30 – visit us before attending the **Out-of-the-Box** vernissage at the Textile Museum at 2 pm

Tues., Jan. 31 Weaving Drop-in (\$5 – details above)

Sat., Feb. 4, 1-3 pm - Free-Style Weaving – details on our website

Questions? Contact us:

email: hello@carriagewaystudios.ca

phone: 613.796.2675

visit our studios:

Tuesday - Friday 10 am - 4 pm

Saturdays by chance

or by appointment

Find us through the carriageway behind 65 Mill Street, Almonte
We are next to the Barley Mow

Solo Print Exhibition by Madeleine Rousseau

Madeleine, one of our members, is having a solo print exhibition in Ottawa. Madeleine presents prints depicting seemingly random subjects, but linked together by her journey of exploration of several printmaking techniques since she started printmaking three years ago. Thirteen prints based on linocut, wood engraving, collograph, drypoint, ecoprinting, suminagashi marbling and letter press techniques make this exhibition.

Organized by Ottawa-Gatineau Printmakers' Connective

November 3-December 23 2016

Nepean Creative Arts Centre

35 Stafford Rd (Bells Corners) Ottawa Ontario

For gallery hours call ahead 613-596-5783

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protective, archival layering, etc.

Letter-Sized Storage Bags

\$1 for 10 bags
Please contact Sharon Johnson BEFORE the November 21 meeting because the lease precludes any direct, public sales at the meeting itself. A private exchange between purchaser and myself can then happen in the room. Phone: 613 563 8752; email: sharondjohnson(at)me.com

2017 Stone School Gallery

Call for Exhibition Proposals
www.artpontiac.com
2017 Stone School Gallery Call for Exhibition Proposals
The Pontiac Artists Association (PAA) is looking for artists and craftspeople to exhibit at the Stone School Gallery in Portage-du-Fort Qc in 2017. Exhibitors must be a member of the PAA. The PAA is looking for art works not previously exhibited at the Stone School Gallery.

Please fill out the application
<http://www.artpontiac.com/gallery.html>
and return by email to
: galerie@artpontiac.com or
by mail to PAA, Stone School Gallery,
CP 1063, Shawville, QC, J0X 2Y0

Deadline for application: November 15, 2016 (but I am told that a wee extension to apply is possible if an OOTB member is interested. The application is not complex.

Submitted by Madeleine Rousseau

Planning Committee

PC Convenor	Open (Sally Rutherford & Nancy Garrard)
Programs	Lynn Ruff, Roberta Russell, Madeleine Rousseau, Lynn Keeler, Veronique Lapierre, Cheryl Brooks
Secretary	Nancy Leigh-Smith
Membership	MaryAnne Toonders
Treasurer	Sandy Goldsmith
Web-coordinator	Open (Sally Rutherford)
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
Library	Rita Rottman
Publicity/Marketing	Lorraine Lacroix
Shows	Rita Rottman & Meredith Filshie
Contacts: info@outofthebox.org	



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