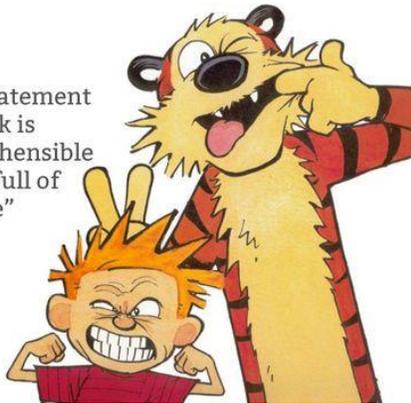


## Table of Contents

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Words of Wisdom .....                             | 1 |
| OOTB Program Lineup 2016/17.....                  | 1 |
| Fibrefest 2018: OOTB Coordinator Needed.....      | 1 |
| OOTB Website.....                                 | 2 |
| Creating with Scrap Fabrics .....                 | 2 |
| Playdates .....                                   | 2 |
| Praise from MVTM.....                             | 2 |
| OOTB Show .....                                   | 3 |
| 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Box .....            | 3 |
| Special offer for Artist subscribers!.....        | 3 |
| Basics of Nuno Felting.....                       | 3 |
| St Lawrence Island Summer School of the Arts..... | 3 |
| Conversation with... Lorraine Lacroix.....        | 4 |
| Statistics - Fibre Fling 7 .....                  | 6 |
| Exploring Eco Friendly Design .....               | 6 |
| Planning Committee .....                          | 6 |

## Words of Wisdom

“As my artist’s statement explains, my work is utterly incomprehensible and is therefore full of deep significance”  
- Calvin



## OOTB Program Lineup 2016/17

**June 18, Meeting.** **Esther Bryan**, the Quilt of Belonging. Esther will share her story starting with an idea and ending with the completion of Canada's largest ever textile art project. A book written by Janice Weaver is available at Chapters/Indigo online, Esther will also bring some books to the meeting. Members show and tell.

**July 16, Meeting.** The Good, the Bad and the Ugly. Bring in a piece that has worked, one that has not, and one that turned out just plain hideous! We can discuss what worked and why and what dis not work and why and have a laugh at the 'Ugly' and hopefully all learn something.

**August 20, Meeting.** Bring in a piece you made that is inspired by a trip/vacation and be ready to explain.

**September 17, Workshop.** Nuno Felting Workshop with Wendo VanEssen  
Held at Kitchissippi United Church  
Time probably 10:00-1:00pm but not yet decided.  
Cost \$60.00.  
Supply fee of \$30.00 to be paid to Wendo.  
Wendo will supply nice coloured silk scarves to use and some other needed supplies.

**September 17, Meeting:** This meeting will be dedicated to introducing new members to what we do as an art group, including Fibre Fling, exhibits we participate in as well as Workshops and Playdates.

**October 15, Meeting.** Naomi Smith a First Nations beader will be doing a presentation and showing her works.

**October 22, Playdate.** Linda DeVerno, wool appliqués.

**November 19, Meeting.** Elaine Quehl is an Ottawa Art Quilter who taught our introduction to Dyeing Workshop this past May. She will be doing a presentation and Trunk Show.

**November 26, Playdate.** Christine Johnson, to be finalized.

**December 17, Meeting.** Bring in your Christmas inspired works to share with the group.

**January 28, Playdate.** Janet Tulloch, wet felting.

## Fibrefest 2018: OOTB Coordinator Needed

OOTB is in immediate need of a coordinator to help organize our display at September's Fibrefest, so please consider volunteering. Ask a friend to partner with you.

Full practical details about the position can be found at our website: <https://out-of-the-box.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Almonte-Fibrefest-2017.pdf>

This year's Fibrefest will be held in Almonte on Sept 8 and 9, with set-up on Friday, Sept 7, 1 – 4 pm. Hosted by the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum, this is a special opportunity for OOTB to publicize itself and show samples of the distinctive work which is our hallmark.

As well as the website material, the previous coordinator, Nancy Leigh-Smith, is also available to answer questions and offer guidance.

Having a presence at Fibrefest this year is important because of the exhibition partnership planned with the museum for June 2019. We don't want to take such partnership opportunities for granted. To volunteer, speak to Nancy Garrard, Sharon Johnson, or Nancy Leigh-Smith.

### **OOTB Website**

Focus on Fibre Links

You may have heard the term Smart Textiles used somewhere in your social media or online travels. I've included a couple of sites that help explain what that is. Researchers are finding a wide variety of uses for using technology in fabrics including medical, safety and entertainment.

There are a number of fibre artists and designers experimenting with the textiles, many of whom design clothing, but also others, I've found links for a couple for you to view.

The first is textile artist and designer Malin Bobeck Tadaa who combines traditional textile materials with optical fiber, LEDs and new technology.

The second is the New York based collaborative art team of Nora Ligorano and Marshall Reese who created 50 Different Minds, a nine-panel fiber-optic tapestry in an ongoing exploration of color, perception, and language. They were inspired by the following quote: "If one says Red—the name of color—and there are fifty people listening, it can be expected that there will be fifty reds in their minds. And one can be sure that all these reds will be very different." —Josef Albers.

Check out these sites via the OOTB Resource page - <http://www.out-of-the-box.org/resources.html>

MaryAnne

### **Creating with Scrap Fabrics**

On May 28, 2018, the Playdate led by Linda Palaisy was about using the using scraps of fabric and threads to make new fabric and transforming them into a beautiful piece of art.

Linda showed us three different techniques. The first technique I call Bits and Strips. The fabric is cut into strips and squares and the squares sewn to the strips. The strips are cut into pieces between the bits and these 3-part bits are joined to more strips. The pieces are then assembled into blocks as big as you want. It is very fun and you have to be creative!!!

The second technique is called Seamless Piecing or Bridge stitched joined together fabric. It is very interesting. Using a sewn-across type of stitch such as the multi-stitch zig zag, sew down the joint between the two pieces of fabric centred down the width of the zig zag stitch. Join the desired number of strips of fabric together to make a patchwork piece of fabric.

The third technique was 'Sashing' the block. Using a different colour of fabric create a 'frame' around the block. The effect is beautiful!!

It was very fun!! We learned how to use every last scrap of fabric.

Thank you, Linda.

### **Playdates**

First, I want to send a big thanks to Veronique for organizing interesting and fun playdates for 2017/2018. All playdates were well attended. Planning for the 2018/2019 sessions is off to a good start, with the help from the members survey input. The new hours this year will be 10:00-4:00. Three playdates are planned for each session at a cost of \$10 per playdate or \$25 when you register for a full session. The new hours this year will be 10:00-4:00.

Registration is open for session 1, register at the meetings or by contacting Lynn Keeler 614 224-9472 or [anottawagirl@yahoo.ca](mailto:anottawagirl@yahoo.ca).

Session 1

Monday October 22/18 Linda DeVerno, wool appliqués.  
Monday November 26/18 Christine Johnson, to be finalized.

Monday January 28/19 Janet Tulloch, wet felting.

Session 2

Monday March 25/19 to be finalized.  
Monday April 22/19 to be finalized.  
Monday May 27/19 Edwina Sutherland, doll making.

Looking forward to a creative year.

Lynn Keeler

### **Praise from MVTM**

OOTB members should be pleased to know that "Colour Unboxed", our show at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum received very favourable mention during the Museum's Annual General meeting on Saturday, June 2. The Executive Director/Curator noted that "we were astounded with the works in the exhibit and the attendance during the duration of the show".

Meredith

## OOTB Show

June 2019 at the Mississippi Valley Textile Museum

As many already know, Rita Rottman, Garrie Bea Joyce and Meredith Filshie have taken on the responsibility for getting us organised for this two week show and it is only a year away. It is an exciting opportunity for us and there is lots to be done! Rita, Garrie and Meredith will be presenting a plan at our June meeting. Details will then be sent out to all members. Come and get energized!

Cheers

Meredith

## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Box

Those who were at the last meeting will remember the top I made for a golden anniversary box for my sister-in-law and husband (Jill and Tom). The anniversary date (6-10-18) and my initials are embroidered on the inside of the lid. Here are pictures of the finished product. It was greatly welcomed.



## Special offer for Artist subscribers!

Artengine is cohosting a workshop with Artscape launchpad. We are pleased to announce a special offer to all subscribers. Use the code IGN100 to receive a full bursary for the workshop (\$90 value).

This one-day program is a fast-paced and hands-on opportunity to assess how your creative practice and network could lead to a creative business or commercial project. Topics will include financial and legal questions, organizational structure and design, making money, working in a community, going digital, understanding audiences and more.

June 16th 9am - 5pm

For more details and to register click on the link below:  
<http://www.eventbrite.ca/e/launch-turning-your-creative-practice-into-a-creative-business-tickets-45982800795>

## Basics of Nuno Felting

Given the interest in nuno felting with Wendo, I thought people might be interested in the attached link for a free tutorial:

<https://permutationsinfiber.wordpress.com/2013/05/20/the-basics-of-nuno-felting/>

Frances

## St Lawrence Island Summer School of the Arts

From Nancy Scott

I was looking at some of the courses at the St. Lawrence 2018 1000 Islands Summer School of the Arts. I saw a couple focused on fibre arts that looked interesting. Courses are held at Brockville, Kingston and Cornwall over the summer. There is a 15% discount for those age 65 and over. Accommodation information is available on their site. I've attached a copy of the supply list for this course as well.

The PDF of the catalogue can be found at:  
<http://www.stlawrencecollege.ca/programs-and-courses/con-ed/ssoa-main/>

1) At the BROCKVILLE Campus  
Surface Design and Stitch with Bethany Garner  
Jul 30-Aug 3  
8:30AM-4:30PM  
\$268.20 (\$231.75 if you are 65 or over)

Surface Design and Stitch focuses on the development of technical skill, aesthetic, and conceptual interests through surface design. The emphasis is on techniques and approaches for paint/print work and hand/machine stitch on cloth. Students learn to colour fabric and add texture using surface design techniques to translate ideas into original works.

2) At the KINGSTON campus:  
Colour on Cloth with Bethany Garner,  
Jul 9-13  
8:30AM-4:30PM  
\$268.20 (before seniors' discount)

In this course, students develop a personal inventory of colour samples using paints, dyes, and other materials as they work with the techniques for colouring fabric. Students complement and develop their arts focused skills as they study application and design potential. Students apply current and innovative trends in the use of colour in fibre art, surface design, and project execution.

### **Conversation with... Lorraine Lacroix**

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

It is a pleasure to facilitate Lorraine's interview. We have been sharing the journey of discovering our members through these brief interviews for about two years now, and I'll tell you, it is so easy and fun to work with Lorraine! Plus, I find her artwork soooo amazing and well... out-of-the box! I never saw anywhere else her combination of rug hooking and ceramics or glasswork! and her frames-these harmonize so well with her pieces. Thanks to volunteering to do these interviews, I got to work regularly with a very creative and generous artist. Thanks for sharing Lorraine!

#### **Q. When did you start doing textile art, and how did that happen?**

As many of you, I started as a kid. I was interested in everything! I was registering myself to courses like enamel on copper, sewing, making miniature paper flowers, doll making, etc. But it is only later in life, after seeing the work of [Annie Laprise](#) in a studio tour in Cantley, QC many years ago that I started doing ceramic mosaic and being creative again!

#### **Q. What type of textile art have you been doing in your life, and what is your current preferred technique?**

I certainly haven't found a "niche". Indeed, I like to

experiment and don't think I will ever settle on one type of art! I have a fascination for mixed-media art because it allows me to use the knowledge I have accumulated over the years following classes here and there. Whether it is ceramic or glass mosaic, weaving, knitting, felting, embroidery, beading, punchneedle, rug hooking, etc., I have a very basic knowledge of a lot of things but no in-depth knowledge of anything in particular (this also applies to my personal life!). My hope is to follow some week-long art summer camps to refine my techniques. In the meantime, I am having a lot of fun creating!



*Intemporal Flower - Another example of contrasts. Mix-media including rug hooking and ceramic mosaic*



*Stars - Good example of contrasts with those fused glass stars (given to me by a friend) and punch needle technique*

#### **Q. What inspires you?**



I am really inspired by textures, shape and colours and the infinite possibilities they offer. I am moved by nature's beauty. When I look at something that strikes a chord, I tend to deconstruct the elements of the image to re-present it in a fashion that allows me to incorporate a range of media to achieve the desired effect. I am motivated by the challenge of doing something with what I have at home without buying new material. I also look to such sources as Pinterest [Mix-Media Inspiration/Pinterest](#) and [Fibre Art Inspiration/Pinterest](#) for new and stimulating ideas. And finally, I have a passion for Indian material/carpets. The patterns and intricate designs in these art forms are deeply inspirational.

#### **Q. How do you go from inspiration to completing a piece (your creating process)?**

Often, a project will see the light of day after a ride on the bus, a walk to the park, a quiet time at night looking at books, websites, magazines for ideas. At other times, the spark of inspiration will come from visiting exhibitions/museums. But the process of completing a piece comes only when I take the time at home to sit and allow myself a chunk of time to play and be submerged in it. My head is bubbling with various ideas but I need quiet time to bring those ideas to a more concrete stage. Often, I will book time in my calendar for art and/or invite a creative friend at home for an art day. But I ultimately

prefer to do art alone... this is when my brain is fully attentive to all my senses and when my creativity is at its fullest.



*Spring - mix-media including rug hooking with wool and synthetic fibre (I love the sky!)*



*The Bird - ceramic mosaic/felting/recycle frame*

**Q. Tell us about your studio space and how you organize your supplies. A few tips to share?**

I am very fortunate to have two distinct studio spaces, along with the occasional stints of work in the living/dining room or outdoors on the deck in the summer. One of the studios is located in a corner of our basement and is better suited for work on glass and ceramic mosaic. The other one is located on a higher level with a lot of natural light and a view on the garden. I have a tall work desk with multiple storage cubes on each side where I keep at close proximity the things I need often. I tend to keep all the material related to fibres in different bins by colors or type of craft. I have access to a sink in both studios and find it very practical.



I strongly recommend regular cleanup/purging. And I try to focus on either using what I have on hand, or things I can find in garage sales, kijiji, etc. as material sources for my projects. I personally find that you can become even more creative this way! I do, of course, sometimes spoil myself by buying a few necessary articles at specialty stores/craft fairs.

**Q. Tell us about an artist whose artwork you enjoy very much, or has been an inspiration in your practice.**

I find the work of Out of the Box's members very inspiring. Whether it is [Juanita](#) with her beautiful

stitching pieces, [Helen Gordon](#) with her wonderful boxes, all the beautiful intuitive beading work done by some of the members, the eco-printing done by [Connie](#) and the list could go on and on. I also find the work of [Deanne Fitzpatrick](#) and [Laurie Swim](#) very inspiring and will stop in Ahmerst and Lunenburg Nova Scotia in June of this year to visit their shops/galleries.

I'm inspired not only about the art of Out-of-the-Box's members, but also by the enthusiasm they bring to presenting their latest pieces at the show-and-tell every month, and by their heartfelt dedication in volunteering hours and days every year to make things possible for all of us. I would like to take a moment to thank all of you for your participation and involvement. Without all of you, there would be no Out-of-the-Box!

**Q. Tell us about your current project?**

Well... I have started working on smaller projects lately in order to have the satisfaction of accomplishing something. I have been focusing on cards using felting and punch needle techniques. They were well liked at the last Fibre Fling and I would like to prepare some more for Christmas shows and the next Fibre Fling. I am also working on another project but I will not tell you what it will be... you will find out at one of the next show-and-tell sessions! I had a lot of fun with the table saw yesterday cutting dozens of rectangles as an integral part of this particular project inspired by something I saw in a B&B years ago.

I would like to explore a little more the combination between ceramic/glass mosaic and fibre so I will focus on this in the next few months.

**Q. Any other art form I have explored to compliment what I am doing?**

I am always open to new techniques and working with new material. I recently took the fabric dying course with Elaine Quehl and found it very interesting. I am always on the look out for fabric I can buy in second hand shops to include in my projects (wool, silk).

I am very interested in summer courses given in various Art Schools and events like the [Twist Festival in St-André Avelin](#) Qc (close to Ottawa). I am also interested in exploring a membership with the Old Forge hooking group. I am self-taught in this type of art and have so much to learn. Joining this group would certainly be very beneficial.

**Q. Any pearl of wisdom or advice?**

As Sharon Johnson suggested when I interviewed her, I find it is better to tackle smaller projects than nothing at all! Also, do not hesitate to do volunteer or committee

work. I find both really rewarding. Have a great and creative summer!

Text and photos: Lorraine Lacroix  
Facilitation: Madeleine Rousseau  
June 2018

### **Statistics - Fibre Fling 7**

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| Where did people learned about the event? | %   |
| Family and friend                         | 35% |
| Kitchissippi United Church Notices        | 6%  |
| Newspaper notice                          | 8%  |
| Poster or rackcard                        | 14% |
| Internet/Facebook/Social Media            | 17% |
| Stephen Lewis Grannie network             | 4%  |
| Textile guilds                            | 8%  |
| Street signs                              | 1%  |
| Other sources                             | 3%  |
| Website                                   | 1%  |
| NO ANSWER                                 | 3%  |

Following the compilation of the 77 surveys completed during Fibre Fling 7, you will be able to see that Family and friends remain our main source to distribute our publicity. However, we can see that Internet/Facebook/Social Media and Poster/Rackcard represent an important source of information for our targeted clientele. This survey represents only the response from 12% of the estimated 900 total visitors.

### **Exploring Eco Friendly Design**

From Frances

**If you can get to the UK.**

Our next event is now up. It'll take place at R.A.W Lab on the 28th of June when we'll be celebrating the release of the Summer Issue 2018 with a workshop, talks, networking and snacks!

Please book your ticket via Eventbrite only if you're planning to attend the event at RAW Lab in East London. For our online followers, the talks will be livestreamed online so no need to book!

Events are FREE. We advise to book your free ticket online so we know how many people will be attending, but you can simply pop by (for the event) if you cannot book in advance.

You must book in advance if you want to attend the workshop (details below).

### **Workshop Details**

Mark Making with Natural Inks and Handmade Brushes with Ross Belton

Join us for a natural Mark Making and Natural Inks workshop with artist Ross Belton. Ross will be teaching us how to make homemade natural inks and handmade experimental brushes, before undertaking a series of mark making exercises.

The workshop includes all materials and you will take away your own handmade brushes, a factsheet and a small bottle of natural ink to continue on your own.

The workshop will take place at R.A.W Lab (London, UK) before NSN Mag event. R.A.W. Lab is just a 5-minute walk from Gallions Reach DLR station.

### **Planning Committee**

|                     |   |
|---------------------|---|
| PC Convenor         | Sharon Johnson & Nancy Garrard                                    |
| Programs            | Madeleine Rousseau, Lynn Keeler, Veronique Lapiere, Cheryl Brooks |
| Secretary           | Nancy Leigh-Smith   |
| Membership          | Val Rochester   |
| Treasurer           | Sandy Goldsmith   |
| Web-coordinator     | MaryAnne Toonders   |
| Newsletter          | Helen Gordon  |
| Library             | Rita Rottman  |
| Publicity/Marketing | Lorraine Lacroix  |
| Exhibitions/Shows   | Connie ten Bruggenkate, Debbie Boyd-Chisholm, Sheree Bradford-Lea |
| Contacts:           | <a href="mailto:info@outofthebox.org">info@outofthebox.org</a>    |