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## Words of Wisdom

“People often say that this or that person has not yet found himself. But the self is not something one finds; it is something one creates” Thomas Szasz

## Program Lineup 2025

- **February 17:** Zoom Meeting – *Share a Tip for Making Art Easier* (techniques, supplies, or design tips) and *Editing Your Art Photos*
- **March 17:** Meeting – *Piece by Piece and Banner Projects Due, Fibre Fling Review, and Presentation on Photographing Artwork Using Everyday Lighting and Props*
- **March 4th Workshop** – Robin Whitford: *Intro to Oxford Punch Needle*
- **April 21:** Meeting – *Fibre Fling Review, TBD*
- **May 19:** Meeting – *New Piece by Piece Challenge, New Challenge to Be Started During the Meeting*
- **June 16:** Meeting – TBD
- **July 21:** Meeting – *Give away, Bring a piece of art need help with*
- **August 18:** Meeting – *Field trip to Remic Rapids*

As we step into the next couple of months, we have some exciting meetings ahead!

This month we'll be sharing our best art-making tips—so bring your favorite techniques and insights. We'll also discuss simple ways to edit photos of your artwork to enhance clarity and color.

In March, we'll focus on photographing your artwork using your phone. A great image can make all the difference when showcasing your work, so we'll be covering techniques, lighting setups, and best practices.

To get the most out of the session, take a moment to explore your phone's camera features beforehand.

We're also looking for Canadian artists to bring to Ottawa for a workshop, so if you have any recommendations, we'd love to hear them.

Looking forward to seeing you all soon!

Wendo and Sandy

## Fourward Fibre Artists

The Fourward Fibre Artists show at Cafe 349 in Shawville continues until Saturday, March 1. Meredith Filshie, Nancy Garrard, Karen Samanski and Wendo Van Essen thank all those who have made the trek. We hope that you enjoyed the exhibition as well as some treats at the Cafe. For those who think they might still go, just a reminder that the Cafe is open from 9am to 2pm every day but Sunday.

Meredith

## Play Dates

Many thanks to Wendo for her fun needle felting session in early December – lots of interesting character ornaments were made! And thanks to Lynne C. for her excellent January play date on altered books. It was packed with information and provided a chance to try our hands at creating a couple of pages. The results of both of the workshops were fabulous!



Altered Books



Needle Felted Ornaments

Many of our members are concentrating on getting art and merchandise ready for Spring Fling in April, so our next Play Date will hopefully be in May. **If you volunteered last fall to lead a session, please contact Patricia at [palderson2015@gmail.com](mailto:palderson2015@gmail.com) to discuss possible dates.** We rely on volunteers willing to share their expertise at play dates, so if you have a talent to share, please get in touch. We can't do it without you!

### **Object/Project Art Book Fair**

We received the following invitation to participate in the book fair. While you may not have time to participate, you may want to attend the book fair

We wanted to invite you to participate as an exhibitor in a new art book fair in Ottawa, [Object//Project Art Book Fair](#), taking place from March 28-29, 2025 at Arts Court.

About the fair: Object//Project combines an inclusive and boundary-pushing approach to print and publishing in a variety of forms, bringing together artists, small presses, zinesters, record labels, galleries, publishers, arts organizations and community organizations, from Ottawa and beyond. Programming will include readings, discussions, music performances, and workshops.

CBBAG is also participating.

Let us know if this is of interest to you or if you have any questions. The deadline to apply is **February 19, 2025**.

Looking forward to hearing from you.

Take care,  
Melanie and Jason  
Possible Worlds"

**\*Celebrating 10 Years in 2025\***  
**POSSIBLE WORLDS**  
ART • MUSIC • PRINT  
[info@possibleworldsshop.com](mailto:info@possibleworldsshop.com)  
[possibleworldsshop.com](http://possibleworldsshop.com)  
Arts Court (1st floor)  
2 Daly Avenue, Ottawa, K1N 6E2

### **The Coat Trail**

Book Review: The Coat Route: on the Trail of a \$50,000 Coat by Meg Lukens Noonan.

This is a book describing craft, luxury and obsession and the \$50,000 US value was in 2010 dollars! I have just read it for a second time prompted by a chat with someone about weaving while at Woven Histories (National Art Gallery exhibition) and buttons.

A journalist in the US was curious when she came across a brief mention of a \$50,000 coat, wondering what could possibly make it so expensive. So, she embarked on her quest to discover why. The coat was made of vicuna, one of the rarest fibres in the world. Harvesting in the mountains of Peru only happens every three years and then it is very difficult to weave because the fibres are so short. It was made by an Australian bespoke tailoring firm, stitched entirely by hand, lined with silk made by a renowned firm in Italy and had buttons made by the last button manufacturer in England. It is an interesting story as the author presents aspects of history, geography, and craft as well as an insight into the tiny world of bespoke tailoring and the world of the super rich as well as on the impact China is having on the world of fashion. Interestingly, the owner of the coat lived in Vancouver at the time the book was written, and he had another vicuna coat made as well as a cape!

One sentence that really stood out for me was this statement attributed to Leonardo da Vinci: "For those colours which you wish to be beautiful, always first prepare a pure white background." This was in the chapter discussing the art of dying silk.

The book is available from the Ottawa Library.

Meredith Filshie

### **Temporary Closure of the Textile Museum of Canada**

*(Note, this is the Textile Museum in Toronto)*

Dear Members, Visitors, Partners and Supporters of the Textile Museum,

We are announcing the temporary closing of the Textile Museum of Canada as of this Sunday, February 16th, 2025. I know this announcement will be of concern to you and I would like to ensure that you are fully aware of the reasons for this temporary measure and our next steps. Along with other cultural institutions, the Museum has been faced with the significant challenge of regaining and expanding our audiences following the COVID-19 pandemic shutdowns. In response, over two years ago, the Museum launched an ambitious expansion of our exhibition programming and fundraising to attract new audiences. Unfortunately, changes in audience behaviours and funding priorities have resulted in an unexpected shortfall in our finances, resulting in operating constraints.

In addition to this, our building needs urgent repairs to remain accessible for all, which requires us to be temporarily closed for renovations. Given this, we have had to make the difficult decision to reduce our public-

facing staff numbers and streamline our operations during this time.

### What This Means for You:

- **Final Week to Visit:** We are open for **public hours from Tuesday, February 11th to Saturday, February 15th, with special late closing hours on Friday, February 14th for Valentine's Day** for you to visit, experience our exhibitions, and stock up on Reuse fabrics.
- **Online Access to Collection:** During this time, our **website [textilemuseum.ca](http://textilemuseum.ca)**, will continue to provide you with **online access to our textile collection**, exciting new online content and operational updates.
- **Visits By Appointment: Onsite tours and collection visits** will also be **available by appointment only** – please contact our Chief Operating Officer, Mab Coates-Davies at [MDavies@textilemuseum.ca](mailto:MDavies@textilemuseum.ca) for requests.
- **Fundraiser and Fabric Sale Update:** Our March fabric sale will be postponed until we reopen.

This is a difficult, but necessary step to ensure the future of the Museum. We deeply appreciate your support and look forward to welcoming you back to the Museum when we reopen later this fall to celebrate our 50th anniversary. We will keep you updated through this newsletter.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at [UDesai@textilemuseum.ca](mailto:UDesai@textilemuseum.ca)

### Planning Committee

PC Convenor	Wendo Van Essen, Sandy Goldsmith
Education	Patrica Alderson (playdates)
Secretary	Cheryl Ford
Membership	Andrée Faubert
Treasurer	Marilyn White
Web-coordinator	MaryAnne Toonders
Newsletter	Helen Gordon
Facebook/Instagram	Cathy Haley <a href="mailto:haley.cathy@gmail.com">haley.cathy@gmail.com</a>
Library	Nancy Scott & Carol Reid
Publicity/Marketing	
Exhibitions/Shows	Connie ten Bruggenkate, Andree Faubert, Wendy Chaytor, Madeleine Rousseau, Sally Rutherford, Wendo Van Essen, Sandy Goldsmith
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