



# NEW YORK THREADS

The Newsletter of  
The New York Guild of Handweavers  
Box 1623, Madison Square Station, New York 10159-1623  
Web: [www.nyhandweavers.org](http://www.nyhandweavers.org) e-mail: [info@nyhandweavers.org](mailto:info@nyhandweavers.org)

Meeting at The School of Visual Arts  
214 East 21st Street, Room 703A  
Holiday Party Noon-4:00 PM

November/December 2013

## HOLIDAY PARTY & OPEN HOUSE

December 7, 2013 Noon-4PM



Dear Guild Member,

You're invited to the NYGH Holiday Party and Open House! This year's Holiday Party will have a crafty theme, with a variety of projects and activities for you to explore. Remember, friends and family are welcome!

-NYGH Board Members and volunteers will be teaching the basics of the Native American Art form of Fingerweaving, an off-loom band weaving technique, pictured at left.

-Building on our Kumihimo program, we will learn to make Japanese Temari Balls, which are yarn-wrapped decorations given in Japan at New Year's as a symbol of deep friendship.

-And we will learn some fringe twisting techniques while preparing donated hand woven swatches for display. The swatches will be tagged with our QR code for the Guild, and used to publicize the NYGH on International Yarn Bombing Day in June.

-We'll also share our New Year's Weaving Reflections, thoughts on our weaving goals for 2014,

-A delicious Organic Gourmet Buffet, catered by Vice President Soraya Shah will be enjoyed by all  
Please join us on this special day of fellowship, fun, fiber and food!

*-Gail Gondek, President*

## SHOWS & EXHIBITIONS

### Brooklyn Museum

200 Eastern Parkway  
Brooklyn, New York 11238-6052  
718-638-5000

<http://www.brooklynmuseum.org/>

On Saturday and Sunday, December 14-15, 2013 check out the *First Annual American Fine Craft Show Brooklyn*. The show, produced and directed by Richard & Joanna Rothbard, founders of New York's "An American Craftsman Galleries" will be held inside the magnificent two story high Beaux -Arts Court, and will include wood, ceramics, glass, jewelry, wearable and decorative fiber, leather, and mixed media. For more information visit the organizers' website at <http://www.americanfinecraftshowbrooklyn.com/>

Best of all, fellow member Carol Chave will have tapestries and rugs in her Woven Winds booth at this event!



### START THE NEW YEAR WITH VOGUE KNITTING LIVE!

Vogue Knitting Live, complete with international market, workshops, demos, classes, yarn tastings, fashion shows, and free knitting and crochet lessons, returns to Manhattan on January 17, 18 and 19, 2014. It will be at the New York Marriott

Marquis, 1535 Broadway (between 45<sup>th</sup> and 46<sup>th</sup> Streets). And this year, the New York Guild of Handweavers will be there, too!



We'll have a booth in which to display samples and photos of our work, hand out material about the Guild, and set up a table loom for visitors to try out, just as we did at the Hallockville Museum Farm fair. And just as we did then, we need volunteers to help make this event a success for NYGH!

### Guild members who staff the booth receive free admission to Vogue

**Knitting Live!** Start the new year with a fiber feast – sample a new yarn, take a class, enjoy a free toy-design workshop, try out "Yoga for Knitters", snap photos and take free workshops in the guest artists' gallery, check out the book-signing tables, browse through a marketplace filled with vendors from Europe, Asia, the Mideast, North and South America, **and** promote the Handweavers' Guild to visitors who all love yarn as much as we do.

The days and hours that we expect to have our booth open are:

- ❖ Friday, January 17: 5:00 – 8:00 PM
- ❖ Saturday, January 18: 10:00 AM – 6:00 PM
- ❖ Sunday, January 19: 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Join us to meet fellow fiber artists, share ideas and spread the word about the Guild!

If you have:

- ❖ **Samples** of your handwovens that we could display
- ❖ **Photos** of past NYGH events
- ❖ **Time** to help us staff the table

then we want to talk to you! We'll have a sign-up sheet at the Holiday Party, but we'd love to hear from you before then. Please contact Linda Sax And check out the Vogue Knitting Live website at [www.vogueknittinglive.com/ehome/6641\\_0](http://www.vogueknittinglive.com/ehome/6641_0) for a full description of this exciting event!

## ATA NEWS

The American Tapestry Alliance (ATA) has published the first ever annual digest of their newsletter *CODA: Tapestry Art Today*.



**CODA 2013** features full color images of 54 works by contemporary tapestry artists around the world, with articles presenting a broad spectrum of

perspectives on the art as it is celebrated today. It can be downloaded from their website at:

<http://americantapestryalliance.org/2013/11/11/coda-tapestry-art-today/>

Do you weave tapestry? Would you like to share how you discovered tapestry? ATA would like to collect stories about people's experience with tapestry. If you would like to share your story, fill out their online form at

<http://americantapestryalliance.org/resources/share-your-story-2/share-your-story/>

## 'TIS THE SEASON

The holiday season is upon us, and many of us are looking for original gifts. Aside from the American Fine Craft show at the Brooklyn Museum mentioned earlier, there are plenty other opportunities in the city to find nice handmade gifts. Here is just a sampling.



### Grand Central Holiday Fair

November 14-December 24, 2013

One of the old standbys, and always good fun (and it is indoors! No worries about freezing). More information can be found at:

<http://www.grandcentralterminal.com/event/grand-central-holiday-fair/2145390317> (no phone)

The hours are as follows:

Monday - Saturday 10:00am - 8:00pm

Sunday 11:00am - 7:00pm

Thanksgiving Eve Closing at 8:00pm

CLOSED THANKSGIVING DAY

Christmas Eve Closing at 6:00pm



### **Holiday Shops at Bryant Park**

November 1, 2013-January 5, 2014

Already going on, and continuing through the holidays. More information on the website

<http://wintervillage.org/holidayshops/overview> (no phone)

The hours are:

Monday-Friday: 11am - 8pm

Saturday: 10am - 9pm

Sunday: 10am - 6pm



### **Union Square Holiday Market**

November 21-December 24, 2013

Now in its 19th year, and just around the corner, so to speak, from our meeting place at SVA. More information is available at

<http://urbanspacenyc.com/union-square-holiday-market> (no phone)

Hours of operation are:

Weekdays 11am to 8pm

Saturday 10am to 8pm

Sunday 11am to 7pm

### **Columbus Circle Holiday Market**

December 3-December 24, 2013

Union Square's uptown equivalent. More information at

<http://urbanspacenyc.com/columbus-circle-holiday-market/> (no phone)

Hours of operation are:

Weekdays 10am - 8pm

Saturdays 10am - 8pm

Sundays 10am - 7pm

The list could go on. For complete local information see the official website of the New York City Vacation Packages at:

<http://www.nyctrip.com/pages/Index.aspx?PageID=1393>



Of course, if you cannot, or do not want to travel around town the Handweavers Guild of America has lots of wonderful gifts as well. Check them out on Cyber Monday (the Monday after Thanksgiving) for lots of goodies that will please any weaver:

<https://www.weavespindye.org/shop/?act=viewitems&scid=31&nxt=store&ctid=2>

And don't be shy to treat yourself!



If you happen to be traveling upstate in December, our friends of the Thistle Hill Weavers in Cherry Valley, NY are having a Holiday open house and reception. Starting December 5th, Their showroom doors will be open. You can browse their ready-made items, or make a selection from their over-run fabrics to be custom made into a special Holiday gift. Then, on Saturday December 14th, to celebrate their very successful year, they will offer a reception and lecture. There will be mill tours, items for sale, and time to pick up custom orders. Read all about it on their website at: <http://www.thistlehillweavers.com/whatsnew.html> or call them at 518-284-2729

## MEMBER NEWS

We are delighted to welcome no less than seven new members to our guild this month:

Elaine Harrison

Sue Lucas

Juliet Martin

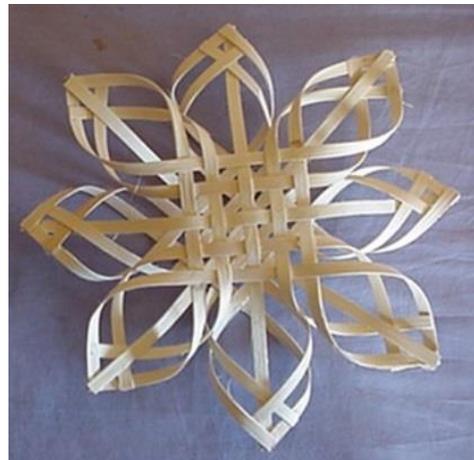
Jonathan Miller

Ellen O'Connor

Pamela Peterson

Reina Scheiber-loeis

Welcome All! We look forward to getting to know you better.



On Friday, November 8, former member and current FIT Professor Désirée Koslin gave a talk at the Textile Museum in Washington, DC under the title *The Larsen Design Studio: Bringing Ikat West in the 1970s*, in which she discussed the interior design collections created by Jack Lenor Larsen, and their roots in the resist-dyed fabric traditions of Central and Southeast Asia. She highlighted some of Larsen's most prescient work—handwoven Thai-

silk ikats and his Afghan collection, which reached new audiences in fashion and fiber arts.



At our October meeting, fellow member Elizabeth Starcevic, donated the book "Weaving in the Peruvian Highlands" to the Guild. Since we already have this book in the library, she suggested that we use it as a raffle prize for the guild 50/50 + Raffle. The raffle was won by a new member/first time visitor, which was very exciting!! Thank you, Elizabeth.

## JAPANESE FIBER ARTS

Although I don't think it was on purpose, our fall program has evolved into a series of programs on Japanese-themed fiber techniques. In September, we welcomed Marsha Bateman Atkinson who talked about *kumihimo*, the Japanese weighted-bobbins braiding technique, which was already highly developed as early as the seventh century. Research has shown that in early times a free-hand braiding technique, generally known as loop manipulation, was used, though today a *marudai* ("round stand") is most commonly used.



Then, last month, our fellow member Yukako Satone, founder of Loop of the Loom, introduced us to Saori weaving, the weaving philosophy founded by Misao Jo, that encourages freedom of expression through improvisation. Saori weaving is characterized by its simplicity and colorfulness, and does not require long training and complicated patterns or tools, so anyone regardless of physical or mental ability, gender, age or aptitude can enjoy this technique.



AND, even at our upcoming holiday party we will be exploring Japanese *temari*! These are balls wrapped in yarn, and then "embroidered" with colorful yarns into patterns. Traditionally, these balls were made of kimono scraps, but we will be using Styrofoam balls as a basis

instead. *Temari* (literally “handball”) were originally used in a kind of handball and in tossing and juggling games. Today, we mostly use them for purely decorative purposes. Depending on their size, they make great Christmas tree ornaments!



## 2013-2014 PROGRAM

12/7/2013 – Holiday Party & Open House

1/25/2014 – A Simple Box of Weaving Equipment with Sandra Rux

2/22/2014 – Show & Tell

3/29/2014 – Intro to Tapestry with tapestry weavers Archie Brennan and Susan Martin Maffei

<http://www.brennan-maffei.com/>

4/26/2014 – Weaving Tools and Beyond – an interactive program that will get the wheels turning for both new and old weavers.

## OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS & COMMITTEE MEMBERS

General info: [info@nyhandweavers.org](mailto:info@nyhandweavers.org)

Web Master: [webmaster@nyhandweavers.org](mailto:webmaster@nyhandweavers.org)

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**Librarian:** [librarian@nyhandweavers.org](mailto:librarian@nyhandweavers.org)

**President:** Gail Gondek

[president@nyhandweavers.org](mailto:president@nyhandweavers.org)

**Vice-President:** Soraya Shah

**Secretary:** Martha Glenn

**Treasurer:** Pamela Pataky

**Programs:** Position currently vacant

**Publicity:** Linda Sax

**MAFA Representative:** Kathy Vermilye

**Newsletter Distribution/Hospitality:**

Bea Aubrey

**Newsletter Editor:** Ria Koopmans



Closing date for submissions to the January issue: January 10, 2014