

OCTOBER 2025

New York Threads

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW
YORK GUILD OF HANDWEAVERS

Next Meeting - Saturday, October 25, 11a-3p

Lost in Translation... Why Color Theories Don't Guarantee Good Cloth with Ruby Leslie

Weavers seduced by gorgeous colored yarns often fail to use them successfully. The usual approach to this problem is to learn color theory, which is a daunting undertaking. Learning terminology is not the equivalent of learning to use color well. What is needed is a method to translate color theory, terminology and yarn wrappings into actual weaving. You don't need to master color theory to use color masterfully.

Ruby Leslie will share her extensive collection of samples for a production line of scarves, which document her evolving approach to color design. This progression led to the development of a practical approach to color theory as applied to weaving and a process for designing swatches for Handwoven magazine's 'Color Forecast' series that is applicable for all fiber artists.

Ruby Leslie will be with us in person at SVA.

[Ruby Leslie's Website](#) and [Instagram](#)



Meeting Details

School of Visual Arts
132 West 21st Street,
Room 418F
NY, NY

Hybrid Meeting
11 am- Social Hour + Help
12 pm- Show + Tell
1 pm- Program

The Zoom link for this meeting will be sent to members one week prior to meeting.

Share Your Work at Show & Tell

To share your project at the meeting:

1. Select one item and submit 2–3 photos (jpg, png). One over-all photo and close-up(s).
2. Label photos with first and last name and permission to share on social media.
3. List weave structure, fibers, number of shafts, measurements, and what was learned
4. Email to NYGH.info@gmail.com **Deadline: Thursday, October 23.**

Assembled photos will be shared in a slide show in which each project owner shares their experiences in turn. Those at the meeting have the advantage of examining the work in person.

Welcome New Members!

Suzi Ballenger
Sarah Kay Brimhall
Darby Charvat
Fiona Cowan
Zoe Gras
Axel Keppler
Denise Kovnat
Kirsten La Greca
Carole Leroux
Jane Potenzo
Alonda Robichaud
Anton Sarossy-Christon
Madeline Tingle
Samantha Uphoff
Xinyue Xia



Thank you to our Knit the Rainbow Contributors!

Gail Gondek
Terry Henley
Elisa Caporale
Jill Hanson
Carol Steuer
Susan Goretsky
Mary Taylor
Ingrid Buntschuh
Carol Kover
Claudia Monnone

Call for Guild Content on Social Media

Sarah Kay Brimhall, the newest member of the Guild's social media team, shares the following:

Where do you weave?

Weaving is no small feat, especially in a big city! Take a video showing us your weaving setup in your space. Where do you position your loom in your apartment? How much yarn and fiber do you have stashed? Do you have a collection of weaving books or inspiration you keep close?

Film a video walkthrough showing us your weaving space (less than 3 minutes please!) and send to nygh.info@gmail.com and we'll compile and post a video to our Instagram. Thanks!

Member News

Gigi Matthews at Creative Minds BK

My friends and I went to a new weaving venue in Williamsburg called Creative Minds BK. It's based on a concept that is very popular in Dubai: weaving as a fun night out!

We certainly had fun, sitting at square-shaped wooden structure supporting tapestry weaving spots for at least 20 people. We learned tapestry techniques, choosing from yarns of many different weights and colors. It is a very relaxed setting with drinks and snacks, and everyone able to learn and work at their own pace.

The entrance is via a carpet shop styled exactly like those in Istanbul's Grand Bazaar and the famous souk of Damascus. The studio is in the basement and it looks like an Aladdin's Cave with rugs lining the floor, walls, and ceiling. I really felt like I was back in Syria or Turkey.

It's a great setting for a get-together or party and I highly recommend it! The location is excellent too, on busy Bedford Avenue. Across the street is an excellent middle eastern restaurant, Mesiba, in the Moxy Hotel. *Gigi also ran into NYGH member, **Zach Jensen**.*

[Creative Minds BK](#) - 368 Bedford Ave in Brooklyn



Sophia Eller's Blog

Did you see that fabulous pulled warp piece at last month's Show and Tell?

Read about **Sophia Eller's** process of making *All Day on a Boat*

[Sophia's Blog](#)



Sarah Kay Brimhall, @sk.knitties on Instagram

"I'm brand new to weaving and LOVING it so far. I took a beginners class from Catskill Weaving, came to last month's NYGH meetup, and have now acquired a secondhand Wolf Pup 8-shaft loom that *just* fits in my narrow Brooklyn apartment. My cat Jade has been "helping" me thread my warps. I grew up quilting and sewing with my grandma, mom, and sisters, and have been an avid knitter the last few years. I'm happy to be a part of this amazing weaving community by helping run the social media accounts. :)"

[@sk.knitties on instagram](#)

MidAtlantic Fiber Association News



Online Lecture

November 18, 7-8:30PM

Judith Frater presents
*Artisans by Design: an
Odyssey of Education for
Textile Artisans in India*
[Free Registration](#)

Online Classes

MAFA offers a variety of virtual classes throughout the year. While many of this fall's classes are sold out, there might still be a spot or two in a class!

[MAFA Virtual Catalog](#)

Book Group - October 28

Threads of Life: A History of the World Through the Eye of a Needle by Clare Hunter

7:30 pm Eastern, on Zoom

Clare writes: "Sewing is a way to mark our existence on cloth: patterning our place in the world, voicing our identity, sharing something of ourselves with others and leaving the indelible evidence of our presence in stitches held fast by our touch"

Join the book group email list to receive details on upcoming dates, books, and Zoom links: [Google Form](#) If you are already on the list, you do not need to sign up each time.

Book group questions? Email Patty Chrisman at events@mafafiber.org.



Save the Date - MAFA 2027

**MAFA 2027 is scheduled for
June 24-27, 2027**



HGA Convergence - New Orleans - August 2026

Welcome to the ultimate international fiber art experience, HGA's Convergence® conference where you can immerse yourself in the inspiration and stimulation of exhibits, classes, textile tours, shopping and more!

[Convergence Website](#)

August 12-16, 2026

Advanced Registration is open now

General Registration opens November 10



Fiber News



Guild Trip to the Antonio Ratti Textile Center

February 20, 2026
2 PM - 4 PM

Come along to the Metropolitan Museum's Textile Center for a closer look at some of the items normally kept in collections! Space is limited.

[RSVP Here](#)



Jeremy Frey, MacArthur Fellow

Maine-based Passamaquoddy basketweaver Jeremy Frey is among the 2025 MacArthur Fellows! Jeremy's baskets are stunning. See the links below to learn more about his work.

[Jeremy Frey's Website](#)
[Jeremy Frey's Instagram](#)
[MacArthur Foundation Page for Frey](#)

WEAVER HOUSE

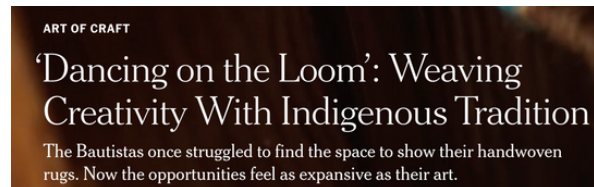
Weaver House is Closing

Weaver House in Philadelphia is closing! Here are some important information and dates:

November 1: in-store and online sales begin
November 15-16: goodbye party and sale
December 6: Fiber Craft Holiday Party

All sales are now final, use your gift cards, fall workshops will continue as scheduled.

More information from Rachel Snack on [the Weaver House Website](#).



“Dancing on the Loom” from the New York Times

The New York Times published a story with stunning footage of a Zapotec couple's journey of rug weaving.

[Link to Article](#) (requires NYT subscription)

Submit to the Newsletter!

We want your words about your successes, exhibit visits, book reviews, workshop and travel experiences, and your fiber related art.

[Newsletter Submissions](#)

Guild Library Information

Welcome members to Guild Year 2025-2026!

One of the benefits of guild membership is access to the guild's library; many titles are hard-to-find or out-of-print. Members are invited to check out books, CD's, and periodicals from the Guild Library of over 200 titles!

Visit our website at <https://www.nyhandweavers.org/library>, where you can search the collection by subject, author, title or skill level.

To check out a book, members should e-mail the request to the guild Librarian, Gail Gondek, at NYGH.librarian@gmail.com. You may pick up your books from the doorman at 310 West 55th Street, or from Gail at the next guild meeting. To borrow periodicals, please email Ria Koopsman riakdb@gmail.com

The loan period is one month. You may return books to Gail at the same address above or bring them to the guild meeting. **If returning a book at a meeting, please hand directly to Gail to avoid having them misplaced.** The front table at our meetings are filled with so many treasures, we want to ensure the guild books stay in our collection. Our whole community is grateful for the prompt return of library items.



NYGH Lending Library by Subject

Books may be checked out for one month. They may be renewed if no one else has requested the book. Email NYGH.librarian@gmail.com to borrow books.

Subject	Cover	Title	Author	Description	Format	Skill level
Clothing		Cut My Cote	Burnham, Dorothy K.	Clothing - History & Patterns - Intermediate sewers & up - 1973	Book	Intermediate
Color		A Fiber Artist's Guide to Color with Laura Bryant	Bryant, Laura	A Fiber Artist's Guide to Color with Laura Bryant DVD	DVD	All levels
Color		Color Works, the crafter's guide to color	Menz, Deb	2004	Book	All levels
Color		Color in Weaving - Successful Color Choices for Handwoven Cloth	Essen, Deb	Using visual exercises and woven samples, learn the tools for making good color choices.	DVD	All levels
Dyeing/ weaving		ikat the essential handbook to weaving with resists	Zicalfoose, Mary	Handbook and projects in ikat dyeing and weaving	Book	Advanced beginners
Dyeing/ weaving		Japanese Ikat Weaving	Tomita, Jun and Noriko	Ethnic weaving - Introduction & instruction - 1982	Book	Intermediate

**DID YOU WEAVE
SOMETHING FROM WHAT
YOU LEARNED IN A
GUILD LIBRARY BOOK?
WE WANT TO KNOW!**

**LET US KNOW AT SHOW
AND TELL WHICH BOOK
YOU BORROWED FOR
YOUR PROJECT!**

Online Events

New England Rug Society (NERS) Online Webinar Series



Nov 15, 1 PM - Flowers along the Way: The Evolution of Christian and Dietlinde Erber's Textile Collecting, Free on Zoom, [register here](#)

Feb 14, 2026 - Dorothy Armstrong, research fellow at the Ashmolean Museum, will discuss insights from her recent book *Threads of Empire*

March 7, 2026 - Thomas Wild will present *The Tuyuhun Gül: Tracking Tribal Motifs in Eastern Central Asia*

April 18, 2026 - Ahmet Balkan, an architect and historian preparing a university dissertation on Anatolian tribal rugs will present *Tribal Emblems in Karakeçili Rugs*

Some events do not yet have registration links. Look in a future newsletter for links!



Karun Thakar: A Collector of Collections

The Karun Thakar Collection is internationally recognized for its focus on antique textiles and dress. It consists of many thousands of items whose provenance ranges from India and Afghanistan, through to Japan, Europe, and North and West Africa. Karun Thakar has been collecting textiles and other objects for over four decades. He is drawn to forms of making and designs that speak of human creativity, skill and artistry across cultures and time. He believes that every object in his collection tells a story about the people who made it and how they lived. In this program, HALI Editor

Ben Evans elicits Karun's own personal collecting story, how his collection has evolved, his collecting process, and his wide-ranging textile interests, illustrated by examples in his book, "Book of Textiles," his seventh publication to date.

Virtual on Zoom
Saturday, October 25
1 pm ET

[Zoom Registration Here](#)

Fannie's Finds

Guild Member **Fannie Lee** is excited to share with all of us a curated list of excited fiber events each month! Let her know at the next meeting if you went to one of these shows! (All dates are 2025 unless noted.)

Ruth Asawa: A Retrospective

Museum of Modern Art
11 W. 53rd St

October 19, 2025 - February 7, 2026

Ruth Asawa: A Retrospective charts the artist's lifelong explorations of materials and forms in a variety of mediums, including wire sculpture, bronze casts, drawings, paintings, prints, and public works. This first posthumous survey celebrates the ways in which Asawa continuously transformed materials and objects into subjects of contemplation, unsettling distinctions between abstraction and figuration, figure and ground, and negative and positive space.

Asawa made art every day, pursuing the inexhaustible possibilities offered by simple materials such as paper and wire since her days at Black Mountain College, where she studied in the late 1940s. Following a move to San Francisco in 1949, her practice grew exponentially as she produced a body of work ranging from endless variations of abstract looped-wire sculptures to calligraphic ink paintings.



Marie Watt | Thirteen Moons

Marc Straus
57 Walker St

through December 20



Though the Gregorian calendar has become the dominant standard for measuring time, cultures across our planet independently crafted their own systems, often guided by solar and lunar cycles, seasonal changes, and religious events. A member of the Turtle Clan of the Seneca Nation of Indians with German-Scottish ancestry, Watt explores and honors her Haudenosaunee heritage through her art practice, and her latest body of work is a modern homage to the traditional system of marking one year.

Watt's exhibition also includes thirteen embroideries and thirteen watercolors. In Euro-American ethos, the number is thought to be unlucky. For Watt and the Haudenosaunee, it is a foundational number, not only the amount of months in a year but also the quantity of plates that make up a turtle's shell. According to their ancestral creation story, North America was formed on the back of a giant turtle.

Fannie's Finds

Express Newark Presents: Pure Joy

Express Newark
54 Halsey St., 2nd Floor
Newark, NJ



through February 8, 2026

Pure Joy, Newark Arts' inaugural group exhibition at Paul Robeson Galleries @ Express Newark, celebrates Newark Arts Festival 2025 and features over 70 visual artists responding to the festival call to explore joy as a creative force. The exhibition features a wide range of works, including bold paintings, film, and mixed-media pieces that celebrate joy as a vehicle of cultural and community resilience.

Eric N. Mack: Fishers of Men

American Academy of Arts and Letters
Audubon Terrace
Broadway (Between 155th and 156th)

through February 8, 2026



Mack has been experimenting with custom steel armatures that temporarily anchor his paintings to existing architecture while anticipating future mobility. He describes the works as site-responsive, rather than site-specific, with the flexibility to perform differently as they move from one context to another. In this installation at Arts and Letters, Mack transforms the skylit North Gallery into a dynamic environment of suspended textile paintings that rely on these armatures. The first work, hung like a curtain across the threshold, acts like a filter or a lens, shaping our sense of the room as we enter. Others lean against a wall, cantilever over a passageway, or grip a corner of the room. Seeing the exhibition requires moving through and around these objects.

Veronica Ryan: Retrieval

Paula Cooper Gallery
521 W 21st St.

October 16 - November 22

Veronica Ryan: Retrieval presents new works alongside a major historical piece, Archaeology of the Black Sun, 1956–2002. Known for her meticulously handcrafted work, Ryan's sculptures and installations examine environmental concerns, personal narratives and memories, as well as the wider psychological implications of history, trauma and recovery.



Fannie's Finds

Tamara Kostianovsky: Moved by Forces

SLAGG&RX
522 W. 19th St.
through October 25

Tamara Kostianovsky: Moved By Forces suspends a menagerie of "eviscerated animal carcasses" made of textiles and hung on chains. Using recycled clothing, fabric, and organic materials, she creates powerful sculptures and installations that engage with themes of the violated body and its connection to broader cultural and environmental concerns.



Onerva Luoma: Lead Me out of here (even if I Do not Know if such a Place Exists)

ARTyard
13 Front St.
Frenchtown, NJ

through December 14



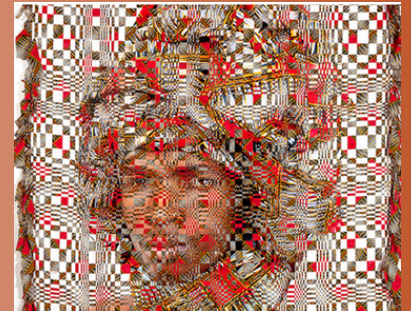
This is a conceptual artwork consisting of paintings made on clothes, which can be borrowed by anyone with a library card for a week at a time. The work explores what a meaningful relationship with clothing might look like in an environmental catastrophe and how we might see clothes as more than commodities.

Interwoven: Rupture and Repair

Morris Museum
6 Normandy Heights Rd.
Morristown, NJ

through November 2

Kyle Meyer's Interwoven series consists of hand-woven photographic portraits of gay men from Eswatini (also known as Swaziland), a country in Southern Africa where the LGBTQIA+ community is criminalized. Meyer photographs each individual wearing their chosen vibrant wax-print fabric, then meticulously shreds and weaves the print together with the fabric, creating a textured, three-dimensional portrait.



Donna Bassin's My Own Witness: Rupture and Repair is a poignant photographic series that delves into themes of trauma, resilience, and the transformative journey toward healing. She physically tears the photographs, creating visual "wounds"; then, inspired by the Japanese art of kintsugi—the practice of repairing broken pottery with gold lacquer to highlight, rather than hide, imperfections—Bassin meticulously mends the torn images using gold rice paper and embroidery thread.



New York Guild of Handweavers Information

Board and Committee Members

President, Katy Clements
Vice President, Anthony DiRenzo
Secretary, Ria Koopmans
Treasurer, Oren Redinger
Special Events, Sophia Eller
Programs, Gail Gondek
Publicity, Gigi Matthews, Anjuli
Bernstein & Sarah Kay Brimhall
Newsletter, Anthony DiRenzo
Membership, Carol Steuer
Librarians, Gail Gondek (books) &
Ria Koopmans (periodicals)

Contact Information

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Membership Matters
NYGH.membership@gmail.com

Library Requests
NYGH.librarian@gmail.com

General Inquiries
NYGH.info@gmail.com

2025-2026 Programs

September 27, 2025
**Echo Threadings: The Warp that
Keeps on Giving**
with Denise Kovnat

October 25, 2025
**Lost in Translation... Why Color
Theories Don't Guarantee Good
Cloth**
with Ruby Leslie

December 6, 2025 / January 10, 2026
Holiday Craft Parties

January 31, 2026
Career Highlights
with Bhakti Ziek

February 28, 2026
**Open Warp Transparency Weaving in the
Style of Frida Hansen**
with Robbie LaFleur

March 29, 2026
Virginia West Was my Grandmother
with Sole Salvo

April 25, 2026
**Knitting and Weaving Physical Therapist:
Ergonomics for Healthy Weaving**
with Andrea Lui

May 24, 2025
Natural Dye Studies in Oaxaca, Mexico
with Anthony DiRenzo

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