

New York Threads

The Newsletter of
The New York Guild of Handweavers

Next meeting – Saturday, May 22, 2021. 12 Noon

Jane Ross

Weaving Ulos

Learning from the Weavers of North Sumatra, Indonesia

The patterns of the traditional textiles of Indonesia are both beautiful and intricately woven. Jane's first experience with Batak weaving happened many years ago. Her husband's family come from North Sumatra. In fact, their village is on the shores of Lake Toba.

Jane has always been fascinated by the traditional cloths of this region and was keen to learn how to make them herself. She spent a month learning how to weave on a backstrap loom but found it very difficult as not only were the patterns so complicated, but the traditional weaving looms were very heavy to manage. With some help from the weavers at Toba, Jane was

able to adapt some of the simpler patterns to be woven on a Louet loom.

Jane mostly weaves Ulos for herself to wear in ceremony and for her family members. An ulos cloth has special meaning in traditional ceremonies and is proudly worn by clan members.

This presentation will be about how she adapted the weaving to suit a 4 shaft loom with supplementary wefts.

You can find Jane on Instagram and Twitter @janeinjava



While in-person meetings remain suspended

JOIN US ON ZOOM

Invitations with live links are emailed to guild members at least one week before each monthly program.

Log on at 11:45 a.m.

Show & Tell at 12 Noon

*Share your work! Be inspired!
(Sharing how-to on page 2)*

Speaker at 1 p.m.

Want to borrow a book from the Guild Library? Contact Librarian

Carie Kramer via email at
NYGH.info@gmail.com

MEMBER NEWS

SUMMER WITH THE GUILD

The upcoming May program marks the end of the 2020/2021 Program Year but for the Guild, there will be plenty of inspiration and interaction this summer, beginning with the MAFA Virtual Fiber Conference. It's not too late to register. Although many classes are now full and you haven't yet [registered](#), have a look at what classes are still available.

June 24-27: [MAFA 2021 Virtual Fiber Conference](#)

Mark your calendars for Summer Dates With the Guild

July 24	Expanded Show & Tell*
Aug 28	Expanded Show & Tell*

EXPANDED SHOW & TELL

July and August Online meetings

July and August meetings will include more time, accommodate more slides, and offer more opportunities for each person to share.

Possible topics include:

- Current, past, or in-progress works
- Fiber art resources – new books or interesting items from old ones
- Inspirational photos and how they could be used in weaving, e.g., color choices, textures.
- Photos of fiber-related travels, such as museums, cultural traditions, exhibits.
- Inspirational weavings you have seen.

PLEASE SHARE!

Show & Tells Benefit All Guild Members

Weavers at all levels are welcome to show off their work.

To share your project at the meeting:

1. Select one item and take 2-3 photos (jpg, png)
One over-all photo plus close-up(s)
Label photos with first and last name
2. Email labeled photos to NYGH.info@gmail.com
 - Grant permission (or not) for sharing on social media
 - Phone photo? Select and send 'Medium' size.

Deadline: Midnight, May 20, 2021

Assembled photos will be shared in a slide show in which each project owner shares their experiences in turn.

When sharing, remember to use these talking points:

- Weave structure
- Fiber(s)
- Number of shafts
- What did you learn?

NYGH NOW MORE THAN 200 STRONG!

Over the past year, the NY Guild hit a milestone with 204 members, attributable largely to its virtual programs. While most are from the tri-state area, members live as far away as Canada, France and Australia. Welcome to all new members and especially to the most recent additions:

Ghislaine Bazir	Catherine Messina
Pat Higby	Jasmine Pai
Johannah Hutchinson	Carrie Santos Terry
Jenny Lauer	Paula Wilson

MAFA ROUNDTABLE

The Eco-nomics of the Fiber Arts - It's time to change the way we make and appreciate textiles

Tuesday May 25, 2021 at 7 p.m.

with Gigi Matthews, NYGH and MAFA member

Discussion to include:

- How to make use of materials for fiber arts projects that are sustainable for the planet and supportive of those who are producing such materials.
- Suggestions for fiber arts projects that rely on reclaimed or recycled materials such as Japanese sakiori and Saori weaving, etc.
- Sources of inspiration include, for example, Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum's recent Triennial that showcased eco-friendly textiles and production methods.

Open to all MAFA members
(NYGH members are MAFA members.)

[Click to Register to Attend](#)



NYGH Movie Nights

Bring your popcorn!

Movies, documentaries, and shorts focus on textiles--the people, the processes, and the finished pieces.

- Date: Second Saturday of each month
- Time: 7 p.m.

Members: Check your email the week prior for details and the Zoom link.

MEMBER NEWS

ANNOUNCING THE 2021-22 GUILD PROGRAMS

Because the School of Visual Arts (SVA) will not be open to the public this fall, the Guild will continue to meet on Zoom. Once SVA announces their plans for 2022, we will be able to advise you when in-person meetings will resume.

Note: When in-person meetings resume, the Guild intends to continue to offer its programs online via Zoom.

September 25, 2021

Testing, testing, testing: Weaving 'tech checks' in Tapestry Molly Elkind

A free three-hour online workshop about the importance of sampling in tapestry. No loom needed, Molly will lead us in design exercises with pencil and paper. This program will begin at Noon. (No Show and Tell for this meeting.)

October 30, 2021

Kente: Ghana's Cloth of Royalty, Honor and Leadership Kwasi Asare, Master Weaver

Mr. Asare's extraordinary journey as a 3rd generation Kente weaver has taken him from his roots in Ghana to Europe, to the United States – and even to the world's greatest diplomatic body, the United Nations General Assembly in New York City. He blends his work as a master Kente weaver with his wisdom and knowledge as an educator, a mathematician and an African oral tradition teacher.

December 4, 2021

Holiday Craft Party

Have a fun craft idea? Email nygh.info@gmail.com.

January 29, 2022

Loom Interventions: Making that Loom Work for You Sally Eyring

Sally will share weaving tools that she has built including a horizontal warping mill, warping trapezes, and a fly shuttle and discuss changes you can make to your looms to increase the weaving area, prevent treadles and shafts from "floating," and ways to add warp beams and back beams, and increase the size of the shed on certain looms.

February 26, 2022

Inside the Larsen Design Studio: Working with a Legend Krista Stack

Krista Stack was Director of Design at Jack Lenor Larsen from 1994-1999 where she worked closely with Mr. Larsen, designing fabrics for interiors from sources all over the world. She continues to design a print collection for her own firm, Wild Birds Flying, serves on the advisory board of Nest, an advocacy group for artisans, develops hand knotted custom carpets in India, and does fine arts weaving in her studio on her CompuDobby loom.

March 26, 2022

So You Want to be a Shepherd? Kristine Byrnes

Modern day sheep farming is demanding, both physically and mentally, but ultimately rewarding. Kristine Byrnes will describe the cycle of life on a farm, keeping rams and ewes, and how breeding works. She'll share her strategies for obtaining award winning Coopworth fleeces, (hers have won many honors at Maryland Sheep and Wool Festival and at 4H shows) and talk about what it's like to live with sheep. Baaaaaa!!!

April 23, 2022

Simply Overshot and Simply Shadow Weave Susan Kelser-Simpson

Textiles have always been a passion for Susan. She excels at making weave structures understandable for novice weavers. In this program, we will learn the basics of overshot and shadow weave, and see some of the projects that Susan has included in her books, *Overshot Simply* and *Shadow Weave Simply*. and *Creative Treadling with Overshot*. Susan is currently weaving/writing her fourth book *Crackle Weave Simply*.

May 21, 2022

Victorian Hairwork Karen Bachmann

Karen Bachmann specializes in jewelry, hollowware, and decorative art, with special interests in medieval, memento mori, Renaissance, Baroque, and 19th century hairwork. Her studio work revolves around modern iterations of the genre of hairwork, incorporated into jewelry, wearable art, and decorative objects. She is a practicing studio jeweler with over 25 years of experience creating fine jewelry and a former master jeweler at Tiffany & Co.

MEMBER NEWS

IN MEMORIUM: Nell Znamierowski

After a short illness, Nell Znamierowski lapsed into unconsciousness and died on April 29. Born in 1931 in Amsterdam, NY, Nell had a long and active life--one filled with joy, art, travel, friends, and students. Through her books, articles, lectures, and workshops, she was a powerful influence on many weavers and fiber artists.

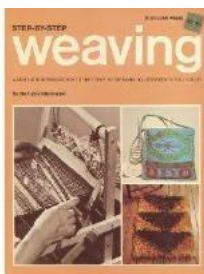


Nell Znamierowski,
NYGH Speaker, March 2017

Nell Znamierowski was an artist, writer, weaver, designer, color consultant and educator. She has a BFA in Textile Design from Rhode Island School of Design. Her Fulbright Fellowship to Finland's School of Industrial Design left her with a love of Rya rug design because she could "paint with wool". Nell's rug designs, both hand knotted and commercially produced, earned her many awards. Her Rya rugs, tapestries, and fiber art works are in the Smithsonian, the Cooper Hewitt, the Art Institute of Chicago, and the American Craft Museum, among others. She has had many exhibits of her work and been the subject of numerous articles.

Nell worked in the textile industry as a print designer, color consultant and woven fabric designer, among other jobs. She was an instructor and the coordinator of the fiber program at the Brooklyn Museum Art School and a professor at FIT. She gave lectures and workshops for guilds and other textile groups and taught at several craft schools. Nell published two books and wrote for textile publications such as *Craft Horizons*, *American Craft*, *Handwoven*, *Fiberarts* and *Piecework*.

A memorial service is planned for this fall in Amsterdam, NY, when her cousins from Poland will be able to attend.



NY Sheep & Wool Festival Seeking Instructors

NYS&W is looking for teachers to propose virtual Zoom workshops (two hours, but can be multipart), lectures or demonstrations (one hour with time for Q&A) on Thursday and Friday (Oct 14 and 15). Rigid heddle topics are of particular interest. For more info here is the link to the proposal form. Deadline May 15.

NYC Rehab Center Needs Yarn



An art therapist at a NYC rehabilitation center is seeking yarn donations for a weaving project. She is using small individual frame looms and will later do a community weave on a large standing loom. She needs thicker yarns suitable for weaving by hand on a frame loom. Email Maria.Alineabravo@nychhc.org to donate.

HOW THEY DID IT--via VIDEO

[Weavers at Work on the Isle of Skye](#)

How Skye weavers design and weave their woollen cloth, scarves, throws as well as inspiration for their designs and colours from their walks in the hills of Skye.

[Life Cycle of a Handwoven Mohair Throw](#) follows the process of bringing these luxurious throws to life on the loom.

[Handwoven Aurora Borealis Lace](#) Weaver Frances Levi demonstrates the process of creating her colourful Aurora Borealis Lace.

[Jim Lambie and Dovecot Studios, Soft Machine](#) In collaboration with Scottish artist Jim Lambie, Dovecot Studios created a rug that mimics a 3D object.

THE VIOLET PROTEST: UPDATE



As of April 30, the project has 14,967 pledged squares representing 1,981 makers, from all 50 states, Washington D.C., and Canada.

Artist Ann Morton will continue to accept squares up to August 1, 2021, and these final submissions will be added to letter stacks and gallery walls over the run of the exhibition, providing viewers with the opportunity to see the work grow. [Click here](#) for more information.

Deadline for submissions: Aug. 1, 2021.

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITIONS, & TOURS

CRAFT FRONT & CENTER

New major exhibition celebrates the soaring interest in craft as an art form and highlights the key historical touchpoints that have brought us to this moment. More than 70 iconic and beloved works from the Museum's permanent collection are organized into eight themes exploring craft's impact, from the field's first important assertions of materiality and process to the bold explorations of race, identity, and sexuality that continue today.

May 22, 2021–Feb 13, 2022

[Museum of Art and Design](#)

2 Columbus Circle, NYC

[Virtual Walkthrough of California Fibers: Historical References at Studio 203](#)

Examination of history through the lens of fibre art. Each artist addresses a different aspect of history, including art historical movements, personal histories, craft history, historical sites and world mythologies.



Arts Gowanus Exhibition and Creative Bazaar

Exhibition featuring over 100 portraits of Brooklynites by Brooklynites celebrating the resilience, strength, and diversity of the Brooklyn community.

May 15 – June 25, 2021

Old Stone House of Brooklyn

J.J. Byrne Playground, 5th Ave. at 3rd St.,
Park Slope, Brooklyn



Opening Day Bazaar

May 15, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Rain date, May 22)

Bazaar in conjunction with an outdoor artist market with 30 local vendors, including a guild member, who will sell their art and creative products.

Annual Sinton Lecture: Online Presentation via Zoom Ryukyu Bashofu: **Banana Fiber Textiles of Okinawa**

Presented by Kana Taira

Saturday, June 5, 2021, 3 p.m. PDT

Admission: Free to TAC Members,
\$5 Students and members of
FAMSF, \$10 General Admission.

[Purchase Tickets Here](#)



Bashofu cloth is made from the bast fibers of the Okinawan ito-basho, a variety of banana tree. For centuries this weaving tradition thrived among people of all walks of life on the Okinawan islands. But after World War II, with changes in lifestyle, Bashofu nearly died out.

Kana Taira will discuss the history and post WWII revival of Kijoka bashofu, the weavers and traditional techniques still used today, and the bashofu kimono and other products being produced by these bashofu craftspeople.

ART FOR THE COMMUNITY: THE MET'S CIRCULATING TEXTILE EXHIBITIONS, 1933-42

In honor of The Met's 150th anniversary, Art for the Community will highlight a series of groundbreaking exhibitions organized by the Museum between 1933 and 1942.

Through June 13, 2021

[The Met Fifth Avenue, Gallery 599](#)

1000 Fifth Avenue, NYC



THE NATURE OF COLOR

This exhibition focuses on color's information about the natural and human worlds--and specifically, feeling, living, meaning, and making color and offers an immersive and interactive experience.

Through August 8, 2021

[American Museum of Natural History](#)

200 Central Park West, NYC



A comprehensive list of online events, museums, and exhibitions is now readily accessible on the Guild website. Click [here](#). Know of a resource to share with the guild? [Email](#) to share with the guild.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY



June 24-27, 2021
Registration is Open

On the [MAFA Conference website](#),
click [Register Now](#)

(Alternately, register at the [Cvent registration page](#).)

Registration for classes will remain open until each class fills, or until the class begins. Classes that require prior work or materials for participation may close early.

Note that many classes are currently full.

For general registration instructions, click [here](#)

Note: You can register from your phone, but a computer or tablet is recommended.

Click these links to access and download the latest [Conference brochure](#) and [Schedule-at-a-Glance](#)

Wonder what virtual classes will be like at MAFA 2021? Watch recordings of Edie Eckman's two sample classes on the [Conference FAQs](#) page. Click on the descriptive links to view the

1. [Sample interactive hands-on or lecture class](#) and
2. [Sample webinar-style class](#).

Fiber Art Exhibit submissions close May 15. This year's theme is "Escape." You can inspire others by submitting an expression in fiber of where you go or what you do to escape these difficult times.

More information and entry for [here](#).

Fashion Show & Exhibit submissions close May 15. This show highlights originality in fashion and we'd love to show your work!

More information and entry form [here](#).

Stay informed and up to date:

- Check the [MAFA conference page](#) for latest news and information.
- Join the MAFA News email list by adding your address at the bottom of any online page.
- Follow MAFA on social media.

****If you are a member of this Guild, you are a member of MAFA and can register now!***



An international craft school located on the Atlantic Ocean in Deer Isle, Maine, Haystack was founded in 1950 as a research and studio program in the arts. In response to the pandemic, Haystack 2021 is offering online programming featuring 70 presentations across 10 program threads led by an innovative group of artists, designers, writers, curators, and historians.

Each of these online programs will be presented as free and open to the public. For program information and to register, click [Haystack 2021 Online Programs](#)

[New England Weavers' Seminar \(NEWS\)](#)

July 16-17, 2021

NEWS is going virtual this year and offering talks by four internationally-known weavers and fiber artists:

- Cally Booker, *Making Creative Connections*
- Carol James, *What's Sprang, and What Can You Do With It?*
- Stacey Harvey-Brown, *Woven Optical Illusions*
- Janet Phillips, *Designing Woven Fabric*

All four talks are available for a single \$10 registration fee. Registration is required. Click [here](#) for details.



[Hallockville Fiber Festival](#)

May 22, 2021 (Rain date, May 23)
10 a.m. -4 p.m.
Riverhead, NY

A unique day on the farm that brings together the diversity of fiber arts activities. See and learn how local artisans craft wool and other animal fiber into beautiful finished pieces of clothing and art.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

New Weaving Store in Park Slope

The Weaving Hand has moved to Park Slope, Brooklyn. The store, located at 197 7th Ave between 2nd and 3rd Streets, carries cones of 8/2 and 3/2 cotton from WEBS, and assorted silks in skeins. They have a small selection of stick, boat, and rag shuttles.

Classes started in March on topics including tapestry, rigid heddle, and multi-shaft weaving, carpets, ikat and backstrap.

More information [here](#).

[Selvedge Library of Free Craft Projects](#)

Many issues of [Selvedge](#) magazine include a project and many of them have been consolidated into an online library of free projects. Projects include how to make a boro-inspired tote from *Make & Mend: The Japanese Art of Sashiko Embroidery*, by Jessica Marquez. Other projects include sewing tutorials, visible mending, and block printing.

In case you missed it.....

[Fabrics From Your Fridge](#)

What does the food in your fridge have to do with the clothes on your back? More than you may think.

Open your fridge and what do you see? The ingredients for a meal, perhaps, or something to snack on.

Yet a growing number of sustainably minded textile entrepreneurs are cooking up something else. Though many are still in the prototype phase, food-related fabrics may be part of the next great fashion frontier. This New York Times article is a guide to the fruit and veggies that could end up in your closet.



World's most valuable dye existed in Peru 1,800 years before anywhere else

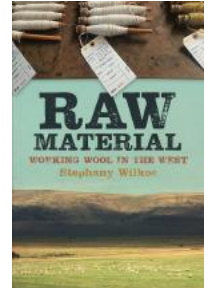
[Arstechnica](#) report highlights a study in Science Advances that reveals the people of South America were also the first to use indigo blue dye on their cotton fabrics. This dye, still in use today, is one of the most valued and popular in the world.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

Raw Material: Working Wool in the West

by Stephany Wilkes

Stephany Wilkes tells the story of American wool through her own journey to becoming a certified sheep shearer. What begins as a search for local yarn becomes a dirty, unlikely, and irresistible side job. Wilkes leaves her high tech job for a way of life considered long dead in the American West.



The Eye of Fiber: An Uncommon Story from Around the World

by Linda Cortright

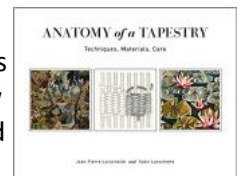
Traveling the globe for decades with her trusty Nikon and a rare ability to locate rare animals, Linda Cortright has published the results of her peregrinations in *Wild Fibers* magazine since 2004. Musk oxen, cashmere goats, rare sheep, alpacas, vicuñas, hairy bats—well, maybe not bats, but why not? Linda finds the beasts, and she also finds the humans who care for them.



Anatomy of a Tapestry: Techniques, Materials, Care

by Jean Pierre Larochette, Yadin Larochette, et al.

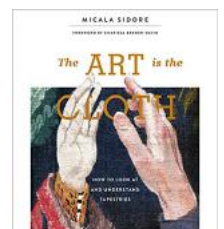
The history, legacy, and boundless creativity of weavers over the centuries is the base in this helpful guide for new weavers, seasoned tapestry artists, and enthusiasts.



The Art is the Cloth - How to Look at and Understand Tapestries

by Micala Sidore

A colorful guided tour from an expert, enabling weavers, textile lovers, and art lovers to notice and appreciate what tapestries can do and how they do it.



RESOURCES

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Susan Kelsner-Simpson
- May 21, 2022
Victorian Hairwork
Karen Bachmann

Guild Member Online Sale Catalog

Supporting members of the New York and the Philadelphia Guild of Handweavers, the catalog provides direct links to the online shops of participating guild members. [Click here](#) to access the online catalog and [here](#) to download the PDF version.

SUPPLIERS SUPPORTING NYGH & ITS MEMBERS

Halcyon and The Woolery reward the Guild with 5% of NYGH member purchases. To activate this support:

Sign up for Guild Rewards at [Halcyon Yarn](#)

Access the automated reward program at [The Woolery](#)
[Silk City Fibers](#) offers guild members a 10% discount on regularly priced items through Aug. 31, 2021. Check out as a guest and use promo code 2021125.

OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS, and COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Questions or information to share?

Contact us at NYGH.info@gmail.com

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SOCIAL MEDIA

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Ravelry](#)

[Pinterest](#)

[Weavolution](#)

CLASSES and WORKSHOPS IN THE REGION

[Red Stone Glen Fiber Arts Center](#), York Haven, Pa.

Year-round workshops and classes across a wide range of fiber arts, including weaving and spinning.
[Retail store](#) onsite.

[Tatter](#), 505 Carroll Street Suite 2B, Brooklyn, NY

Main emphasis on stitchery, but some classes on dyeing and spinning.

[Textile Arts Center](#) *Virtual classes*

505 Carroll St., Brooklyn. 11515

[Vävstuga Weaving School](#), Shelburne Mass.

Workshops and classes in the tradition of Swedish weaving schools. *Temporarily closed for in person classes, but virtual lessons are available.*

WEAVING SUPPLIES IN THE BOROUGHS

[The Weaving Hand](#)

197 7th Ave. between 2nd and 3rd Streets
Park Slope, Brooklyn

[Loop of the Loom](#)

Online sales only

[Woolyn](#)

Online sales only