

# New York Threads

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE NEW  
YORK GUILD OF HANDWEAVERS

Next Meeting - Saturday, December 7, 12p-3p

## Do You Shifu? Japanese Paper Spinning

Join us for a fun afternoon learning how to spin mulberry paper into weft yarn. A sheet of paper is cut into very narrow strips, zigzagging back and forth across the sheet to create a single long strip, which is then spun into paper yarn. Shifu is cloth woven from paper yarn. We'll be following the [methods](#) perfected by Susan J. Byrd, author of "A Song of Praise for Shifu" during her 25 years of research.

The program will begin with a brief slide presentation followed by a demo of how to cut, roll and spin Japanese paper. The resulting thread is roughly equivalent to 20/2 size cotton. Everyone will receive a piece of washi paper sufficient for making 20 yards of paper yarn. It's suggested that you view Susan J. Byrd's 2 [videos](#), before the party so that you'll be familiar with the techniques. John Marshall's [video](#) shows the beauty of shifu.

If you'd like to buy more paper for future Shifu projects, you can order it [here](#).

### Materials You Will Need

- A small spray bottle for water
- Small saucer for water
- Cutting mat or old magazine
- Sharp X-acto knife or rotary fabric cutter  
- Available at [Amazon](#)
- Metal edge ruler, cork backed is recommended for safety, available at [Amazon](#) (please don't use a plastic ruler, the knife will damage it.)
- Rough bath-size towel, bathmat or small rug to roll paper against to prepare it for spinning.
- Dish Towel for dampening paper- one that can be dipped in water and wrung out hard, so not your masterpiece handwoven one!
- 2 quart bowl or paper shopping bag, for fiber management during paper prep
- Drop spindle, (preferred) or your leg wearing sturdy fabric, like denim.
- Bobbin for winding your paper yarn



### Meeting Details

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

[Hybrid Meeting](#)

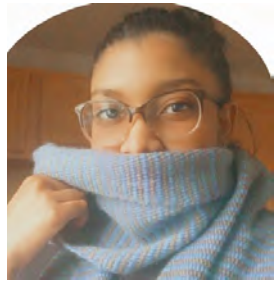
**NOTE TIME>>** 12pm - 3pm

**Every member is welcome! We may only have materials for folks who have already registered for this meeting.**

## Member News

### No Show & Tell This Month

Our next Show & Tell will take place at the January 25, 2025 meeting. With so many weaving days before then, we cannot wait to see what you have to share in January!



This month, the NYGH Member Social Media Spotlight is on **Sierra Neale**.

Sierra is a textile designer based in NYC, and specializes in woven and print design, as well as researching 19-20th century interior textiles. She has an MA in Fashion and Textile Studies: History, Theory, Museum Practice and a BFA in Textile/Surface Design with a minor in The History of Art.

[Sierra Neale's Instagram](#)  
[Sierra Neale's Website](#)



### Welcome New Members!

Allison Connell  
Debora Kaplan  
Rosanna Lovecchio  
Kelly Manjula Koza  
Paula Morrell  
Elizabeth Wang



**Fannie Lee's** work "I Matter" (photo below) is in the [Healreaf 5 International Exhibit](#), a British tapestry exhibition.

This exhibit will show at three UK galleries, in Shropshire, London and Cumbria.

Congratulations, Fannie!



**Katy Clements** had two works included in the exhibit "Portraits, Poses and Tableaux Vivants" at the [Core Art Space](#) in Lakewood, CO this past July. Congratulations, Katy!



## Member News

**Terry Henley** will be exhibiting and selling textiles at the 12th Annual Yorkville Holiday Exhibit and Sale!

Holy Trinity Church Draesel Hall  
316 East 88th Street  
(between 1st & 2nd Avenue)

Friday, December 13th 5-8 pm  
(opening reception)  
Saturday, December 14th 11 am-6 pm  
Sunday, December 15th 11 am-3 pm



### HGA Textiles & Tea Episodes Available!

Two guild members' episodes of Textiles & Tea are now available on YouTube.

[Episode 193: Andrea Alexander](#) (hosted by [Katy Clements](#)).

[Episode 196 with Vandana Jain](#)



### Rhinebeck Ribbon Recipients!

Congratulations to our guild members who won a variety of accolades at the New York State Sheep and Wool Festival last month in Rhinebeck, NY.



**Thomas Victor** won BEST HANDWOVEN for this stunning hand spun scarf.



**Astrid Tauber** won BEST YOUTH award for these incredible handwoven shoes.



**Anthony DiRenzo** won BEST OF SHOW in the photo contest for his early morning snap of these rams.



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## Member News

[Intertwine Arts](#) held its annual Woven Together Gala on October 24th at the Caelum Gallery in Chelsea. Intertwine Arts is a nonprofit organization that brings free-form weaving to people of all ages with developmental, mental, or physical disabilities.

Some of the NYGH members present included **Ria Hawks** / President & CEO of Intertwine Arts, **Maurine Packard** / Treasurer of Intertwine Arts, **Anna-Maie Southern** / Creative Director of Intertwine Arts, and Intertwine Arts Teaching Artists **Vandana Jain** and **Qiqing Lin**.



Qiqing Lin participated in the fundraiser's fashion show.



The fashion show was a big hit with the crowd!



Anna-Maie Southern's creative design was in the fashion show.



Ria Hawks and Vandana Jain



Qiqing Lin, Vandana Jain, and Katy Clements



NYGH members, **Katy Clements**, **Fannie Lee**, **Thomas Victor** and **Vicki Aspenberg**, enjoyed and recommend "[Line + Thread](#)", currently on display at the [New York Public Library](#). The exhibit explores the close interplay between textiles and prints from the 1600's to the present. Through January 12, 2025.





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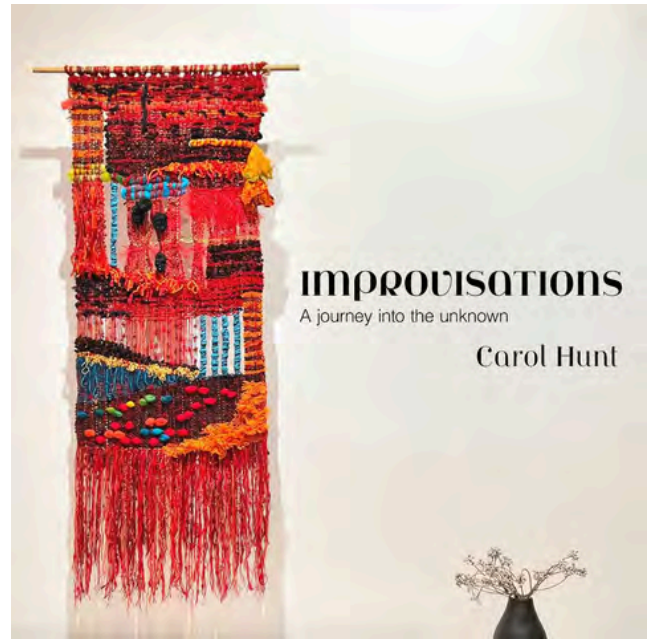
## Fiber News

### [IMPROVISATIONS](#) by Carol Hunt

IMPROVISATIONS showcases 12 weaving works of Carol Hunt. An abstract, expressionist artist, she saw a new means of creating art. All of these works progress as a journey into the unknown.

Nov 7 - Dec 15, 2024  
11am - 6pm (closed Mondays)

Loop of the Loom  
197 Plymouth St, Brooklyn



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## [Anne Samat - The Origin of Savage Beauty](#)

Anne Samat's work is informed by the textile traditions of Malaysia, particularly those of the Iban people of Sarawak, the largest of Malaysia's 13 states. Combining items that we are familiar with from our homes, gardens, and surroundings, the traditional method of weaving gives way to a unique approach; instead of using thread as weft, we see rattan sticks (palm stems); instead of using a resist dye to color the thread, Samat threads together strands of yarn to create a single, completely new and original strand, which she likens to the act of a painter mixing colors on a palette.



November 14 - December 21, 2024  
Tues-Sat, 11-6 pm

Marc Straus Gallery  
57 Walker St.

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## Fannie's Finds

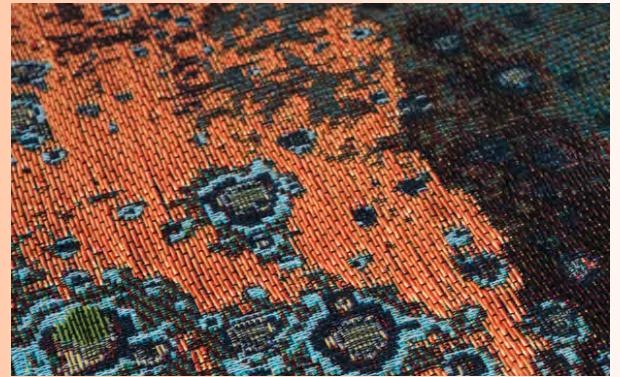
Guild Member **Fannie Lee** is excited to share with all of us a curated list of fabulous fiber events each month! Let her know at the next meeting if you went to one of these shows! (All dates are 2024 unless noted.)

### Otobong Nkanga

Museum of Modern Art (MOMA)  
11 W 53rd St.

Through June 8, 2025

The large-scale tapestry features a kaleidoscopic range of natural and synthetic fibers created by the artist using innovative digital weaving techniques at the TextielLab in Tilburg, the Netherlands.



### Africa's Fashion Diaspora

The Museum at FIT  
227 West 27th St.

Sep 18-Dec 29

An innovative exhibition that explores fashion's role in shaping international Black diasporic cultures.



### Lee Jensen Exhibition: Seven Cities, Woven Worlds.

Espresso 77  
35-57 77 Street  
Jackson Heights, NY

November 7 - December 3

Her hand-quilted pieces are constructed from reclaimed fabrics and are inspired by urban environments, seasonality, and the feeling of home.



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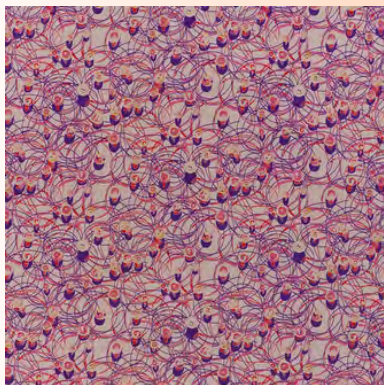
## Fannie's Finds

### Detritus: One Man's Trash is Another Man's Treasure

Williamsburg Art & Historical Center  
135 Broadway  
Brooklyn, NY

Through December 7

The materials used to create the artworks must have been found from trash cans or whatever is thrown out as useless.



### Jazz-Age Silks: The Stehli Silks Americana Collection, 1925-1928

Metropolitan Museum of Art  
1000 5th Ave.

Through April 8, 2025

This installation introduces a charming and historically significant group of 1920s dress silks designed by some of the leading commercial artists of that era.

### The Lady and the Unicorn, New Tapestry

Salon 94  
3 East 89th St.

Through December 21

8 artists working in disparate parts of the world whose work simultaneously evokes and rejects the spirit, scale, and laborious nature of Old World textile fabrication, creating inventive explorations of material, color, form, and technique that challenge historical, Eurocentric definitions of tapestry.







# Conference 2025

June 26–29, 2025 • Millersville, PA

## Planning your MAFA Experience

MAFA will be returning to Millersville University, June 26–29, 2025, for the MAFA 2025 Conference. For those who won't be able to join in-person, MAFA plans to livestream and post videos of several events from the conference, including the Keynote and Fashion Show, tours of the exhibits and vendor hall, late-afternoon Yoga for Crafters sessions, and Open Studio visits to the classrooms.

MAFA has fabulous workshops planned with instructors both familiar and new, in all the usual fiber arts categories—weaving, spinning, dyeing, and felting. Plus, they've added special topics, such as basket making, sewing, broom making, book binding, knitting, and sprang.

[Download the Brochure](#)

[Visit the Conference Website](#)

[Join the Conference Email List](#)

**Did you know?** NYGH is a member of MAFA! All NYGH members can access the member benefits of MAFA, including conference registration, virtual programming, and grant applications!

## Important Dates

### January 3

[Application deadline for First-Time Attendees Scholarship](#)

### February 1

Registration Opens for MAFA members (this includes NYGH members!)

Classes fill up FAST! Be sure to have a first and second choice for classes.

### February 15

Registration opens for non-members

## New for 2025

### Weekend Classes

Can't attend the four full days of MAFA? [Check out the new offerings of half-day classes](#)

### Makers Meetup

There will be a fabulous schedule of drop-in demonstrations, make-and-take activities, and [ways to connect with fiber arts friends](#).



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# New York Guild of Handweavers Information

## Board and Committee Members

**President**, Carol Steuer  
**Vice President**, Carie Kramer  
**Secretary**, Ria Koopmans  
**Treasurer**, Oren Redinger  
**Newsletter**, Anthony DiRenzo  
**Membership**, Katy Clements  
**Programs & Librarian**, Gail Gondek  
**Publicity & Socials**, Kymona Tracey

## Contact Information

**Newsletter Submissions**  
NYGH.editor@gmail.com

**Membership Matters**  
NYGH.membership@gmail.com

**Library Requests**  
NYGH.librarian@gmail.com

## 2024-2025 Programs

September 28, 2024  
**HandwovenTextiles**  
with Laura Adburgham

October 26, 2024  
**Unweaving**  
with Tia Keobounpheng

December 7, 2024  
**Holiday Craft Party**

January 25, 2025  
**Weave with Me**  
with Michelle Driver

February 22, 2025  
**A Wee Scottish Textile Tour**  
with Sally Orgren

March 29, 2025  
**Weaving an Object for the Viewer's Mind**  
with Jacqueline Qiu

April 26, 2025  
**Textile Art**  
with Ruben Marroquin

May 24, 2025  
**My Production Weaving Journey**  
with Tina Bliss

*Thank you for weaving with us!*

[NYHANDWEAVERS.ORG](http://NYHANDWEAVERS.ORG)



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[YouTube](#) [YOUTUBE](#)

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