

New York Threads

The Newsletter of
The New York Guild of Handweavers

Next meeting – Saturday, February 27, 2021. 12 Noon

Sally Orgren

Textile Adventures in Sweden

A trip to Sweden for a family reunion in 2019 evolved into two weeks of non-stop textile adventures for Sally Orgren. Enjoy behind the scenes tours of Östergötlands Ullspinneri (a wool spinning operation), Klässbols Linneväveri (a four generation linen factory), Almgrens Sidenväveria (Stockholm's silk museum), and some of the student textile work exhibited at the University of Borås in this presentation.

Tag along virtually as Sally visits weaver Kerstin Froberg, the 14th Century Bocksten Man (with his clothing mostly intact!) and nearly 400-year-old textiles recovered from the Vasa, a famous Swedish ship that sank in 1628.



Sally Orgren is Editor of Shuttle Spindle & Dyepot magazine, produced by the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. (HGA). Sally has exhibited, won awards, and written about weaving and related topics throughout her more than thirty years of producing fiber art. Prior to working for HGA, Sally completed an extensive career as Creative Director for a marketing firm based in the Midwest. Sally belongs to three local guilds: Frances Irwin Handweavers, Jockey Hollow Weavers, and North Country Spinners, and two national guilds, Complex Weavers, and the invitation-only Cross Country Weavers. She posts projects at Ravelry.com and on Instagram (#instaHGA) regularly.

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

Bead Weaving with Gail Gondek

I enjoy making inkle woven collars for my dog, Fog, and for Rescue Dog auctions. They were an easy, affordable, portable project, but I was disappointed when I realized that the colorful 5/2 pearl cotton that I had been using was fading after about a year of heavy use.



I began experimenting with other materials...[Read more.](#)

"Our world goes to pieces; we have to rebuild our world. We investigate and worry and analyze and forget that the new comes about through exuberance and not through a defined deficiency. We have to find our strength rather than our weakness. Out of the chaos of collapse we can save the lasting; we still have our 'right' or 'wrong,' the absolute of our inner voice—we still know beauty, freedom, happiness...unexplained and unquestioned."

Anni Albers, 1944 essay, *One Aspect of Art Work*

Spinning From Brooklyn to the World

This month found member Gigi Matthews at Tatter (tatter.org), where she gave a presentation on 'new' eco-friendly plant fibers entitled, "From Plant to Cloth."

Gigi has also written an article about spinning unusual fiber combinations, including cotton, fleece of Ouessant sheep, flax, and soy that will appear in the upcoming Spring 2021 issue of *Shuttle Spindle & Dyepot*.



And in June, look for her at the MAFA 2021 Conference, where she will teach *Spin the World*, a fiber-focused series of four two-hour sessions that takes students on virtual tours of the fibers, textiles and histories of 33 countries. And while planning your schedule there, don't miss her daily Chair Yoga classes.

**NYGH is a proud sponsor of Gigi's MAFA classes.*

How to Participate in the Online Show & Tell

To share your project in the online meeting.

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

Deadline: Midnight, February 25, 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 are:

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



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.

Grad Student Seeks Weaving Stories

Kaori Otera Chen is an anthropology graduate student at the University at Albany, SUNY and a beginner weaver who practices weaving in Albany, NY. She is studying weaving as her doctoral dissertation topic.

Through her ethnographic fieldwork, she is trying to understand how weaving is a part of weavers' lives and what weaving means to weavers.

Kaori wishes to interview weavers via Zoom or Skype to learn about the stories of their weaving journeys. She is looking for a variety of weavers -- both weaving as livelihood or a hobby, long practitioners or beginners.

If you are interested in sharing your experiences, contact Kaori via [email](#).

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITIONS, & TOURS

FASHION CULTURE SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Fashion Culture programs are organized by The Museum at FIT to provide new perspectives on the culture of fashion. All programs, which are free, premiere on YouTube at 6 p.m. on the designated day.

EXHIBITION TOURS

Metropolitan Museum of Art

[About Time: Fashion and Duration with Andrew Bolton](#)

Join Andrew Bolton, the Wendy Yu Curator in Charge of The Costume Institute, on a guided tour of The Costume Institute's major 2020 exhibition.

The Met Cloister

[Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination](#)

Gallery views of The Costume Institute's spring 2018 exhibition, narrated by exhibition curator Andrew Bolton.

Focus on Lenore Tawney

[Lenore Tawney \(Smithsonian\)](#)

[Lenore G. Tawney Foundation](#)

[Lenore Tawney](#)

[Lenore Tawney \(MoMA\)](#)

[Lenore Tawney \(Art Institute of Chicago\)](#)

[Lenore Tawney: Mirror of the Universe](#)

[The Transcendent, Spiritual Artwork of Lenore Tawney:](#)

[Lenore Tawney](#)



VISTAS ALONG THE APPALACHIAN TRAIL

HGA Takes its 2020 Yardage Exhibit Online

Juried by author and fiber artist Robyn Spady and produced by the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. (HGA), this yardage exhibit explores the harmony and rhythm of nature.

This exhibit showcases lengths of woven, constructed and/or embellished cloth produced using any fiber arts technique. Yardage can be created for a variety of reasons: clothing or accessories adorning the body; fabricating useful objects such as towels or home décor; or sometimes as a piece of art.



*First Place:
Appalachia: Dogwood Spring.
Nancy Peterson*

Did you know HGA has an [events calendar](#)?

Damascus Fiber Arts School Summer Lecture Tour 2020

Links to the videos of all 12 lectures are available online. Among the titles are "Wacky Ways of Wedge Weaving," Terry Olson; "Little Weavings, Big Impact," Molly Elkind; and "The Art of Tapestry Weaving," Rebecca Mezoff.

Terry Olson's "Wacky Ways of Wedge Weaving" covers the techniques, different weavers who are known for their use of this technique, and the different ways that they use wedge weaving to make very distinctive tapestries.

ROBIN KANG: MOTHERBOARD MEDITATION

Explores the connections between contemporary technology and the history of textile fabrication and manufacturing.

Through April 23, 2021

[Tata Innovation Center](#)

11 E Loop Rd

New York, NY 10044



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



ONLINE EVENTS, MUSEUMS, and EXHIBITIONS

[THE HANDWEAVERS GUILD OF AMERICA \(HGA\): TEXTILES and TEA](#)

Tuesdays at 4 p.m. (EST)

HGA will host a conversation with some of the most respected fiber artists in the field today. The discussion will focus on their artwork and their creative journey and allow time for questions at the end. Make a cup of your favorite tea and join the chat about fiber, creativity, inspiration, process and more. (Registration for each segment required.)

[BUILDING BRIDGES](#)

An exhibit of work by 24 members of the Weavers Guild of Greater Baltimore. This exhibit highlights the diverse possibilities that weaving offers and includes tapestry weavings, 3-D weavings, clothing, home décor, and more.

[THE GAWTHORPE TEXTILES COLLECTION](#)

Textile artist Ruth Singer has created an ebook and podcast exploring textile making during the 2020 pandemic lockdown.

[MUSEUM of ART and DESIGN ONLINE COLLECTION of TEXTILES](#)

More than 2,000 objects representing 95% of the museum's collection are available online, including more than 500 fiber objects. These are both classic and contemporary works by familiar and new artists.

[MUSEUM AT FIT FALL FASHION CULTURE PROGRAMS](#)

Programs are streaming live but registration is required. Upcoming events [here](#).

[METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART ONLINE COLLECTION & EXHIBITION TOURS](#)

15,000+ objects from over 200 regions of the world of the world.

[TEXTILE HIVE](#)

The Andrea Aranow Textile Design Collection, the largest digitized independent textile collection in the world, comprised of 40,000 objects and growing. Membership (\$99) required.

[COOPER HEWITT](#)

Significant textile collection of the world.

[PHILADELPHIA MUSEUM OF ART FIBER ART ONLINE](#)

Collection of 121 textile items, worldwide.

[THE TEXTILE MUSEUM OF CANADA](#)

The online collection allows you to access all 15,000+ objects from over 200 regions of the world

[McCORD MUSEUM](#)

The Dress, Fashion and Textiles collection: 20,000 garments and accessories spanning the past three centuries.

[VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM ONLINE COLLECTION](#)

More than 15,000 objects from over 200 regions of the world

[THE TEXTILE SOCIETY, U.K.](#)

List of online-databases to various textile collections.

[THE TEXTILE RESEARCH CENTRE](#)

TRC digital exhibitions is a project that was set up in early 2017 to highlight some of the most interesting and intriguing objects housed in the TRC collection. In June 2019, there were nearly 25,000 objects.

[KYOTO COSTUME INSTITUTE DIGITAL COLLECTION](#)

More than 15,000 objects from over 200 regions of the world

[DUMBARTON OAKS](#)

Collection of Byzantine and early Islamic textiles.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

CONFERENCES



Don't Miss the MAFA 2021 Virtual Conference

One of the few fiber-focused conferences going forward this year, MAFA's virtual conference not only introduces a new format, but makes it possible for anyone with an internet connection to participate.

The four day event will host nearly 80 classes in hands-on, lecture, and webinar formats covering a wide range of fiber art and craft options.

The experience is affordable. A \$25 Conference Pass grants access to all conference events, including seven lectures, activities, socials, and the Marketplace with vendors. Classes are optional and priced by two-hour segments. There are so many outstanding classes and instructors, the real challenge is in the choosing.

Mark your calendar

- Feb. 20: Conference details posted on the web and as a downloadable PDF brochure.
- April 10: Registration opens to MAFA guild members. (If you are a member of NYGH, you are a member of MAFA.)
- June 24-27: MAFA 2021 Conference

Exhibits and Towel Exchange

Sign-ups for the Fashion Exhibit and Show, Fiber Art Exhibit, and Towel Exchange are open on the MAFA website. More about each exhibit and the entry forms [here](#).

Stay informed and up to date:

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

Sponsor: NYGH is sponsoring member Gigi Matthews' spinning classes, *Spin the World*. Gigi will take her students on a virtual trip to 33 countries over four 2-hour sessions that features fleeces, fibers, textiles, and histories.

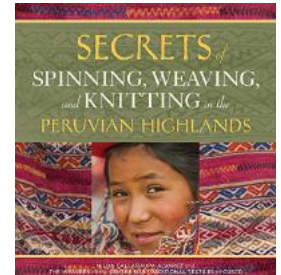
Plan your June weekend amid friends old and new.
It's going to be a grand event!

BOOKS OF INTEREST

Secrets of Spinning, Weaving and Knitting in the Peruvian Highlands

by Nilda Callañaupa Alvarez

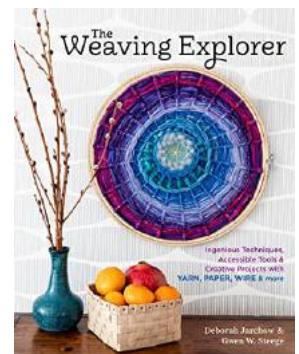
This is a well-written practical guide to many traditional Andean textile techniques, now being studied by a new generation of young enthusiasts at the Center for Traditional Textiles of Cusco.



The Weaving Explorer

by Deborah Jarchow & Gwen W. Steege Storey

If you enjoy trying out weaving techniques beyond the constraints of a shaft loom, then this book is sure to be of great interest. Most of the very many techniques covered require minimal equipment, so would be ideal for Guild 'corners' activities, a youth group or public demonstrations.



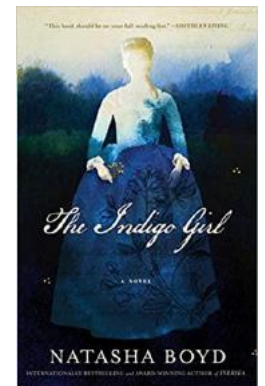
The Indigo Girl

by Natasha Boyd

[Red Stone Glen's](#) Spring '21 Book Club

Based on historical documents, including Eliza's letters, this is a historical fiction account of how a teenage girl produced indigo dye, which became one of the largest exports out of South Carolina, an export that laid the foundation for the incredible wealth of several Southern families who still live on today.

Largely overlooked by historians, the accomplishments of Eliza Lucas influenced the course of US history. When she passed away in 1793, President George Washington served as a pallbearer at her funeral. [Read more](#).



NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Warp and Weft Revival

A magazine for weavers, Warp and Weft was first published Chicago-based Marglad Corp. in 1947 and sold in 1955 to Robin and Russ Handweavers, a weaving shop located in Oregon, 1955. Owned by Russel and Robin Groff. Robin and Russ Handweavers published the periodical for 30 years, until 1985. Each issue included a 4-harness weaving draft along with a woven sample, and instructions on cloth construction and end use.

Rachel Snack, fiber artist and owner of the textile studio and shop in Philadelphia Weaver House, is in the process of planning the first in-print magazine version of the *Warp and Weft* periodical. The website features an online archive of [weaving and textile related periodicals, pamphlets and books](#), which are available to download.

The online archive is currently unavailable as this goes to press, but in the meantime, don't miss the artist interview series Field Notes. (Read the interview with Charlotte Edey [here](#).)



Charlotte Edey

The Loom in the Attic

Complete weavers' and spinners' workshop found in the attic of a late 18th century house in Connecticut.

"...research in probate records and found an "old loom" valued at \$1.50, listed in the 1833 inventory of Sadoce Wilcox Jr., the first Wilcox to live in the house. There is also a loom in the 1777 inventory of his father, Sadoce Wilcox Sr. of Simsbury."



Read the story [here](#).

WEBS Acquired by LoveCrafts

[WEBS](#) - America's Yarn Store has been acquired by LoveCrafts, but nothing changes for WEBS customers, say owners Steve and Kathy. They plan to continue operating WEBS with their existing team.

CALL FOR ENTRIES: YOU STILL HAVE TIME!

The Violet Protest

Deadline for distribution to Congress: Aug. 1, 2021



Organized by artist Ann Morton and funded by public donations and the Phoenix Art Museum, the Violet Protest is a public effort to send 50 hand-made textile squares to each and every member of Congress in support of core American values: Respect for the other, Citizenship, Compromise, Country over party and corporate influence, Courage, Candor, Compassion, Creativity.

Each submission carries a tag identifying the maker and the space for an optional message to Congressional recipients. Currently, the project has 13,630 committed squares representing 1,815 makers, from all 50 states, Washington D.C., and Canada.

A number of NYGH members has submitted squares to participate in this exhibition and distribution.

Know of a Dorset Loom For Sale?

Halyna is looking to purchase a Dorset loom to take to demonstrations and workshops.

She also loves the fact that Bertha Frey had some say about the design of this loom.

"I like weaving on smaller looms that I can take places and need them to be light after shoulder surgery," says Halyna.

If you can have a loom you'd like to see or hear of one, [email Halyna](#).

WEAVING BASICS: MORE SELVEDGES

TWO-TIE WEAVES, SUMMER and WINTER,

Many weavers like to add extra shafts to draft, but many don't have extras. Even for those with 12, 16, 24 shafts, it sometimes seems that four more for selvedges would be 'just perfect.'

I recently encountered an interesting selvedge challenge with a simple four-shaft pattern draft. I added an additional four shafts dedicated to the selvedge, but none of my usual solutions--plain, twill, basketweave, doubleweave--worked to my satisfaction. Although only a four-shaft draft, it was a three-treadle twill, and I was weaving with a handspun weft. The problem was the combination of elements--the math, the twill, and the handspun. So I went back to basic rules for the weave structure, in this case, a modified twill and applied a version to my draft. (Twill selvedges were discussed the October issue of this newsletter). It worked--and that's the point of sharing these basic guidelines. Basic though they may be, even experienced weavers sometimes need to rethink a selvedge, especially when weaving less familiar structures.

-Charlene Marietti

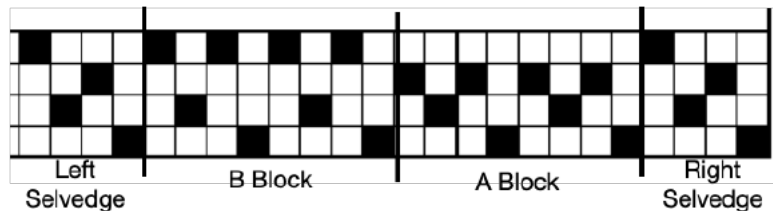
SELVEDGE GUIDELINES for Two-Tie Weaves Such as Summer and Winter

General Rules:

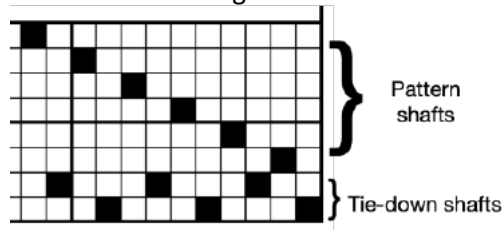
- Identify the two shafts that are the tie-downs and those that are the pattern shafts.
 - In the first example, shafts 1 and 2 are the tie-downs and 3 and 4, the pattern.
- Selvedges must include all pattern shafts alternating with the tie-down shafts.
- How the selvedge is structured depends on how the draft is written.

DRAFT A: Tie-down shafts are on shafts 1 and 2 and pattern blocks on 3 and 4

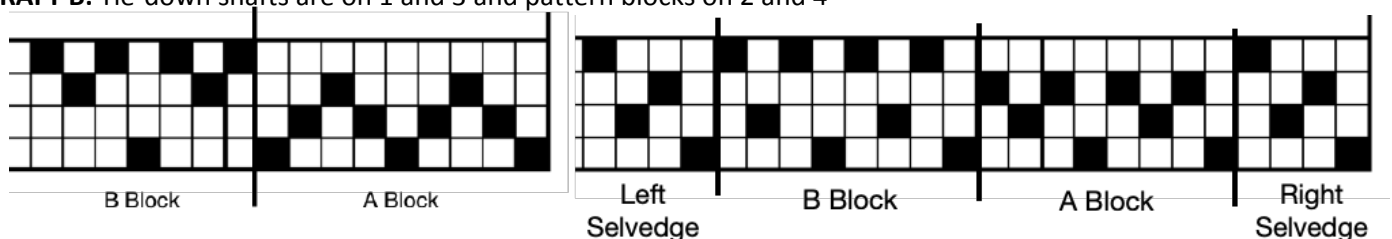
Example One: If the two-block draft is written as 1-3-2-3-1-3-2-3 (A Block); 1-4-2-4-1-4-2-4 (B Block), as below, the plain weave is 1+2 and 3+4



Example Two: With more than four shafts, more pattern blocks are possible, but the number of tie down shafts remains the same: two. Selvedge on an 8-shaft draft might look like this:



DRAFT B: Tie-down shafts are on 1 and 3 and pattern blocks on 2 and 4



Credits: Peckham, Anita. *Seattle Weavers' Guild Bulletin*, Nov. 1978; Tod, Osmar Gallinger. *Manual of Helpful Hints for Handweavers*. Creative Crafts School. p.11-12

RESOURCES

March 20, 2021 **Online Meeting**
Split-shed Tied Beiderwand
Deborah Silver

April, 24, 2021 **Online Meeting**
Artworks
Fuyuko Matsubara

May 22, 2021 **Online Meeting**
Weaving Ulos -- Learning from the Weavers of North Sumatra, Indonesia
Jane Ross

SOCIAL MEDIA

[Facebook](#) [YouTube](#)
[Instagram](#) [Ravelry](#)
[Pinterest](#) [Weavolution](#)

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 for 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. Order by Tel: (1-800-899-7455) or Email, service@silkcityfiber.com

OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS, and COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Questions or information to share?

Contact us at NYGH.info@gmail.com

President: Carol Steuer

Vice President: Carie Kramer

Secretary: Ria Koopmans

Treasurer: Vicki Aspenberg

Newsletter Editor: Charlene Marietti

Membership: Terry Henley

Membership questions: NYGH.membership@gmail.com

Programs: Gail Gondek

Publicity: Gigi Matthews

Librarian: Carie Kramer

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 8 virtual lessons with videos are available.*

WEAVING SUPPLIES IN THE BOROUGHS

[Loop of the Loom](#)

Online sales only

[Woolyn](#)

Online sales only