

New York Threads

The Newsletter of
The New York Guild of Handweavers

Next meeting – Saturday, April 25, 2020. 12 Noon (Check the website for the latest information!)

Deborah Silver

Split-shed Tied Beiderwand

Deborah Silver's art explores the concept of personal and cultural identity by uniting images of ancient tribal masks, totems, cave paintings and petroglyphs with contemporary portraits. The primal emotion and symbolism in totemic art combined with modern techniques creates a narrative that places the individual in society.

Deborah Silver's art explores the concept of personal and cultural identity through a reverse prism, taking disparate images and weaving them into a narrative whole. Based on a variation of traditional fabric, she combines ancient imagery and structure with a contemporary approach seeking to bridge the gap between tradition and innovation, respecting one while celebrating the other.

About the Artist

Deborah Silver is a native of Cleveland, Ohio. She discovered her love of weaving while attending the Cleveland Institute of Art, majoring in Fiber and minoring in Drawing. After a weaving internship, Deborah learned the craft of antique furniture upholstery. She then combined her skills to open her own fiber art business. She worked closely with interior designers, creating site-specific Fiber commissions for private residences, businesses and religious institutions. Her works are in the collections of Montefiore Home and B'nai Jeshuran Congregation in Cleveland, Ohio.

Currently, Deborah designs and weaves pieces that combine her interest in tribal imagery with contemporary faces. Her fascination with ethnographic art began when she served as the program chair of the Cuyahoga Weavers Guild. To create a more diverse curriculum, Deborah obtained grant funding, enabling Gilbert "Bobbo" Ahiagble to travel from Ghana. The master kente cloth weaver spent three weeks in Ohio. He lectured, gave demonstrations and taught workshops using traditional kente cloth looms. This marked the beginning of Deborah's fascination with tribal art, history and symbolism.

Using a split-shed technique, Deborah has transformed a traditional coverlet pattern into a signature method of hand-weaving. All horizontal yarns travel from edge to edge, differentiating this fabric from tapestry. The work is inspired by the increased cross-culturalism in our world, with an emphasis on our collective history.



Deborah's weavings have been shown in numerous local and national juried exhibitions. In 2015, she received a Cleveland Jewish Arts and Culture Fellowship award. In 2017, she received third prize in the ARTneo national juried competition. In 2018, she received the Complex Weavers Award and First Place at Complexity 2018. Deborah is the recipient of a 2019 Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award.

Deborah has recently released a book about the split-shed weaving technique, converting dozens of weave structure combinations for weaving with a split shed on four shafts.



MEETINGS

School of Visual Arts
133 West 21st Street, Room 602C
(between 6th and 7th Avenues)
New York, NY

12 Noon
Lunch!

Bring your latest work. See what others have been doing!

Program....1 p.m.

Speaker followed by a Q&A

Bring back your library books!



MEMBER NEWS

Welcome New Guild Members

Jessica Siegal
Kristen Goehringer
Evelyn Ray
Lily Gildore
Inge Nissen

Halyna Shepka Interviews Daria Yanda's Daughter



While in Ottawa researching Ukrainian-Canadian weaver Daria Yanda, Halyna Shepka met and interviewed Daria's daughter.

Click [here](#) to listen to the interview.

Request for help

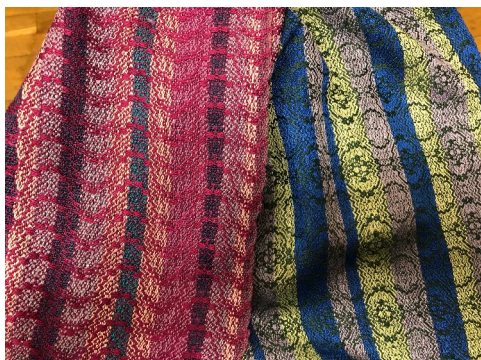
Halyna is researching Ukrainian weaving and seeking help publishing out of print books on the subject. Contact Halyna via [email](#) if you can help.

Thank you for your Halcyon Orders!

The guild was pleased to receive a check for \$82.65 from Halcyon for last year's orders. If you weren't aware of this program, the guild receives a rebate of 5% on each order placed during the year when your account is associated with our guild. Simply create an account at <https://halcyon.com> and then go to <https://halcyonyarn.com/guild/> and choose the NY Guild of Handweavers. Everything you order -- yarn, equipment, books, patterns -- are included in the rebate plan. They appreciate your business and so do we!

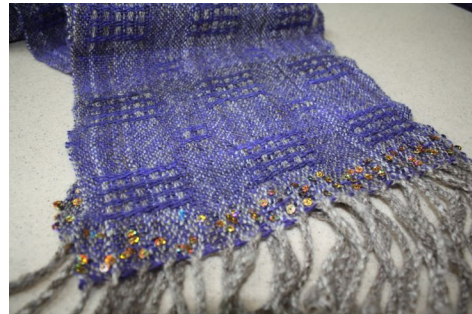
Remember Terry's draft published last month?

It wasn't accompanied by a photo, but it's here on the left. Terry used the same draft but treadled 'tromp as writ' for a very different effect.



Terry's Challenge: 4-Shaft Swedish Lace

At February's guild meeting, I showed this scarf, which I wove for a challenge called "Glam Grunge."



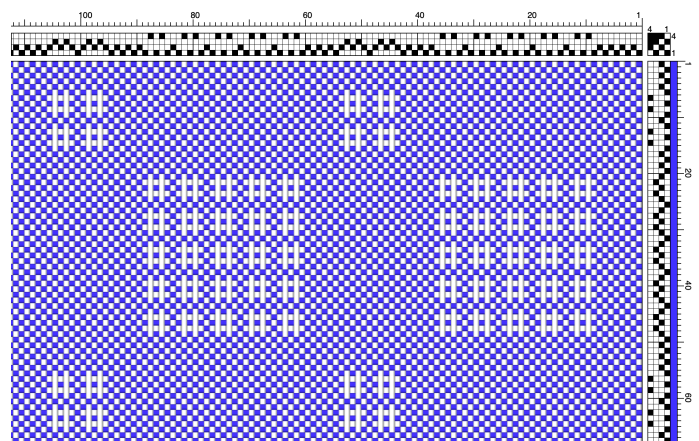
My interpretation used all my handspun wool (Bluefaced Leicester) for the 'grunge' and purple dye and sequins for the 'glam' with a Swedish Lace draft. I have used this draft many, many times since first introduced to it by Desiree Koslin, my beginning weaving teacher at F.I.T.

This draft is very versatile and suitable for a variety of projects. I have used it for towels, table runners, and place mats and, in my experience, find that even, smooth yarns like perl cotton work best. But, as you can see, it also works well with wool. Sett should be for a balanced plain weave.

Do not expect to see a beautiful lace as you are weaving. The structure is not apparent until you do the finishing wash when the floats shift to open up the lace sections.

Now that you have the draft, who will come up with a piece to show at a future Guild Meeting?

- Terry Henley



MEMBER NEWS

Workshops Nearby

Beginning Ukrainian 4-Shaft Weaving Workshop In honor of Daria Yanda

May 15, 16, 17, 2020

Halyna Shepka, Instructor
Ukrainian Museum
222 East 6th Street (bet. 2nd
and 3rd Aves.) NYC



In this intensive weekend course, students will learn Ukrainian weaving techniques on 4-shaft table looms creating an ancient Kyivan pattern. Topics include the parts of a loom, calculating and preparing warp, choosing yarns, understanding drafts, as well as learning plain weave, twill, and overshot weaving techniques. Workshop open to adults and children 16+. All materials provided.*

Detailed information [here](#).

Ukrainian Weaving on a Backstrap Loom

Learn the basics of band weaving on simple backstrap looms. Learn about identifying regional styles, weaving, color choices, and how to create your own designs using wooden backstrap looms and wool from Ukraine.

May 2, 2020

Halyna Shepka, Instructor
[Ukrainian History and Education Center](#)
South Bound Brook New Jersey

Silk City Fibers Weaving Class at the Outlet

Instructor: Daryl Lancaster

Thurs., April 23, 2020. 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Silk City Fibers Outlet
140 Kero Road, Carlstadt, NJ



Designed for beginners and using Silk City Fibers' cotton, this workshop will take participants through the warping process and teach them to understand patterning, how to read a draft, color interaction, and how to weave good cloth. Plain weave, twills, rib and basket structures, and 'color and weave' will be covered.

*All materials will be provided and students may take home their sampler. Coffee, morning snacks, and pizza lunch included.

Cost: \$105 per person*

Email [Silk City Fibers](#) for more information and to enroll.

Helena Hernmarck Color Workshops

Adults

Sat., May 2, 2020, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

\$25 per person

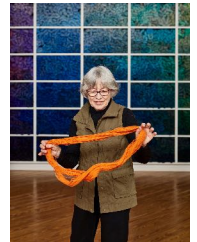
Children, ages 7-12

Sat., April 4, 2020 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

\$25 per person

Online registrations. Details [here](#).

Shelter Island Historical Society
Shelter Island, NY 11964



Tatter

Most of Tatter's classes focus on stitchery, both traditional and artistic, but two upcoming classes seem particularly relevant to handweavers and spinners:

[Fleece to Garment: A Deep Study of Wool](#)
and [Day-Long Dyeing Workshop and Hand-Pieced Quilting](#)



For an overview of all their classes, click [here](#).

505 Carroll Street Suite 2B
Brooklyn NY

MUSEUMS and EXHIBITIONS

FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT TEXTILES: THE TALIESIN LINE, 1955-60

This installation features Schumacher's *Taliesin Line of Decorative Fabrics and Wallpapers*, and fabric samples from Wright's designs.
Through April 5, 2020

[The Met Fifth Avenue](#)
1000 Fifth Avenue, NYC



BALLERINA: FASHION'S MODERN MUSE

Illustrates the rise and subsequent influence of classical ballet and ballerinas on high fashion from the early 1930s to the late 1970s.
Through April 18, 2020

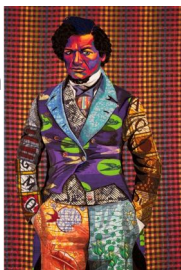
[Museum at FIT](#)
227 West 27th Street, NYC



BISA BUTLER: THE STORM, THE WHIRLWIND AND THE EARTHQUAKE

Debuts eight new quilted artworks, textile portraits of people of color fabricated from layers of brightly colored fabrics with a multiplicity of meanings
Through April 18

[Claire Oliver Gallery](#)
2288 Adam Clayton Powell Blvd., NYC



TAKING A THREAD FOR A WALK

This show includes Anni Albers's tapestries, gouaches, screenprints and drapery material from the 1920s to the 1980s, a wall hanging by Gunta Stölzl, and two sculptures by Sheila Hicks.
Through April 19

[MOMA](#)
11 West 53 Street, NYC



PRESENTATION: WEAVER DARIA YANDA AND HER WORK

Halyna Shepka
May 16, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

[Ukrainian Museum](#)
222 East 6th Street (bet. 2nd and 3rd Aves.) NYC

POWER MODE: THE FORCE OF FASHION

Explores the role fashion plays in establishing, reinforcing, and challenging power dynamics within society
Through May 9

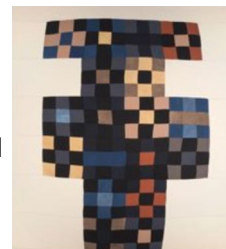
[Museum at FIT](#)
227 West 27th Street, NYC



AMANDA VALDEZ: PIECEWORK

Features brilliantly colored, patterned, and textured abstract paintings created by cutting, sewing, dying, painting, and embroidering canvas and other cloth
March 21-May 3

[Heckscher Museum](#)
2 Prime Ave., Huntington, NY



TERRI FRIEDMAN: REWIRE

A weaver's response to the current climate of anxiety and instability with deeply saturated, abstract weavings.
April 2-May 7

[Cue Art Foundation](#)
137 West 25th St., NYC



MUSEUMS and EXHIBITIONS

DIEDRICK BRACKENS: blessed are the mosquitos

Brackens employs techniques from West African weaving, quilting from the American South, and European tapestry-making to create both abstract and figurative works.

April 2-May 16

[Jack Shainman Gallery](#)

524 West 24 St., NYC



NATURE BY DESIGN: COCHINEAL

Exploration of the enduring legacy of cochineal and its innovative use among contemporary designers from across the Americas through a variety of medium.

Through September 7

[Cooper-Hewitt](#)

2 East 91st Street, NYC



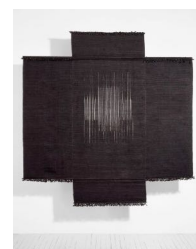
MAKING KNOWING: CRAFT in ART, 1950-2019

Explores materials, methods, and strategies of craft used over the past seven decades through more than 80 works by more than 60 visual artists.

Through January 2021

[Whitney Museum](#)

99 Gansevoort St., NYC



KNOTTED, TORN, SCATTERED: SCULPTURE AFTER ABSTRACT EXPRESSIONISM

View sculptures and installations by a generation of artists who saw in Pollock's visionary practice urgent questions about scale, materials, process, and environment

March 28, 2020 - February 28, 2021

[Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum](#)

1071 5th Avenue, NYC



BORO TEXTILES: SUSTAINABLE AESTHETICS

For the first time in the U.S., this exhibition assembles over 50 pieces from the personal collection of folklorist and cultural anthropologist Chuzaburo Tanaka (1933–2016).

Through June 14

[Japan Society](#)

333 East 47th Street, 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



When travel is an option, two nearby exhibitions worth the drive

OFF THE WALL: AMERICAN ART TO WEAR

Exhibition showcases a generation of mixed-media artists who pioneered a new art form designed around the body. Features unique works by more than 75 artists.

Through May 17

[Philadelphia Museum of Art](#)

Philadelphia, Pa.

Can't get there? An out of print book of the same name features many of the items on exhibit.



EXPLORATIONS IN FELT

Exhibition features 29 works created by 25 artists from around the world.

Through April 19

[Hunterdon Art Museum](#)

Clinton, N.J.



NEW and NOTEWORTHY

CONFERENCES

April 30-May 1, 2020

[26th Annual Weaving History Conference](#)

Thousand Islands Arts Center
Clayton, NY

July 24-30, 2020

[Handweavers Guild of America's 2020 Convergence](#)

Knoxville Convention Center
Knoxville, Tenn.

July 19 - 22, 2020

[Complex Weavers Seminars 2020](#)

Hilton Knoxville
Knoxville, Tenn.

June 24-27, 2021

[MidAtlantic Fiber Association's 2021 Conference](#)

Millersville University, Millersville, Pa.

This an all-volunteer event: Can you help? Email
Conference Chair [Margaret Briggs](#), who can help
match you with what you like to do.

REGIONAL CLASSES and WORKSHOPS

[Silk City Fibers](#) Weaving Class at the Outlet, Calstadt, NJ.
[Email](#) for more information

[Sugar Maples Center for Creative Arts](#), Maplecrest, NY

Studio arts workshops and classes include floor loom
and rigid heddle weaving and fabric marbling.

[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

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

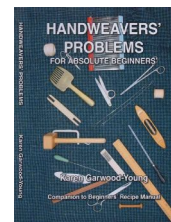
Year-round workshops and classes in the tradition of
Swedish weaving schools.

BOOKS OF INTEREST

Handweavers' Problems For Absolute Beginners

by Karen Garwood Young

The author says her aim is "attempt to unravel the mysteries of handweaving for novices who may wish to practice the craft yet need explanations of what has become historical information. For instance the planning of a cloth, the simple way of laying a warp; inexpensive calculation; the enigma of tension; the reason for peculiar words in a glossary, the historical count system; the maze of the draft and how to enjoy the 'doing' as well as the result.



Tapestries

by Rosita Sheen

Talented amateurs as well as highly skilled artisans in studios and workshops around the world weave tapestries. In this beautiful illustrated introduction to the history of tapestries, Rosita Sheen reveals the fascinating story of these masterpieces, exploring their conception, manufacture, and symbolism up to the present day.



habu textiles has a new website:

<https://www.habutextiles.com>

Woolery Weave-Off

Weave a dish towel with Bluegrass Mills to compete for prizes in four separate categories--and support a good cause: All entries will be donated to a local women's shelter.

Four divisions: Beginners, Rigid heddle; Color; Pattern.

Prizes: Grand Prize Winners in each category win 21, one-pound cones of yarn in a whole array of colors!

Second and Third Place Winners in each category will receive \$50 Woolery gift cards.

Deadline for entries: Contest entries must be postmarked by April 15, 2020 (NB. Must use Woolery's Bluegrass Mills 6/2 Cotton Yarn to enter.)

Click [here](#) for more information.

RESOURCES

2019-2020 GUILD CALENDAR

March 28, 2020

"Split Shed Tied Beiderwand"

Deborah Silver

March 29, 2020 (Sunday)

Workshop: "Split Shed Tied Beiderwand"

Deborah Silver

10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

April, 25, 2020

"Texture in the Art of Anni and Josef Albers"

Fritz Horstman

Guild meetings resume September 26, 2020.

Cancelled due to the coronavirus public health emergency. We plan to reschedule at a later date.

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: Gigi Mathews

Treasurer: Vicki Aspenberg

Newsletter Editor: Charlene Marietti

Membership: Terry Henley

Membership questions: NYGH.membership@gmail.com

Programs: Gail Gondek

Publicity: Halyna Shepko

Librarian: Carie Kramer

SOCIAL MEDIA

[Facebook](#)

[YouTube](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Ravelry](#)

[Pinterest](#)

[Weavolution](#)

MAILING ADDRESS

The New York Guild of Handweavers
P.O. Box 1507
Chelsea Station
New York, NY 10113-1507

WEAVING SUPPLIES AND CLASSES IN NYC

Manhattan

[Loop of the Loom](#)

227 E. 87th St., #E.
NYC, 10128

[Textile Arts Center](#)

26 W. 8th St.
NYC, 10011

[School Products Yarn](#)

13 E. 37th St, 6th Floor
NYC, 10016

Brooklyn

[Loop of the Loom](#)

197 Plymouth St.
Brooklyn, 11201

[Textile Arts Center](#)

505 Carroll St.
Brooklyn. 11515

[Woolyn](#)

105 Atlantic Ave.
Brooklyn, 11201

NEED SUPPLIES?

Halcyon and The Woolery reward guilds 5% of every purchase made by members. To take advantage:

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

Use this direct link to access the automated reward program when purchasing at [The Woolery](#)

(note: new website link)