

SDA-NP MINUTES 9/12/2018

WELCOME/GUESTS/NEW MEMBERS

16 members and four guests attended the meeting at the Port Townsend School of the Arts.

Jana Edmondson is new to PT and is obsessed with fiber. She spins, dyes with natural materials, knits, felts and has returned to weaving after 40 years.

Tracey Appleton recently moved to PT although her parents have been here for over 30 years. She spins, naturally dyes, and embroiders.

Liisa Fagerlund has lived in Sequim for 17 years. She creates art quilts, does fiber collage, mixed media, dyes, knits and embroiders.

They learned about SDA-NP after discovering the uptown Fiber Habit window.

UPCOMING SHOW at OLD ALCOHOL PLANT (OAP) IN PORT HADLOCK UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF FIBER

Kathie Cook, Caryl Bryer Gentry and Cathie Wier are chairing the show to be hung midJanuary until midMarch 2019. All the information about the show is on our website sda-np.com (password sda-np).

Online submission is due December 1, 2018. The submission form is on the website. The OAP gallery is a large space and 1-3 pieces can be submitted. Work can be large and can hang from the ceiling. The show will be curated by Caryl, Cathie and Kathie - everyone entering will have at least one piece chosen. A champagne opening reception will be 1/13/2019 probably from 3-5:00. Work can be for sale with a 30% commission take by the OAP. Old or new pieces can be submitted.

The OAP would like to schedule classes and/or lectures while the show hangs. They have a large classroom with water and sinks if needed. Let C, C or K know if you would like to offer something. There are many jobs needed to bring the show together. A sign up sheet was passed around but there are plenty of openings for help.

UPTOWN WINDOW - FIBER HABIT

Mary Tyler, Leslie Dickenson and Janice Speck are curating the next display. It will be installed 9/21. The window will include mostly dyed fabrics - Diana Gipson - shibori; Leslie - botanical dyeing; Mary - ice dyeing and Janice - felted, beaded necklaces.

Curators are needed for midJanuary-midMarch. Any number of members can participate in a window display. There is a \$10 fee for each artist who participates. Months later in 2019 are also open.

ALPHABET PROJECT

Letters for the alphabet project commissioned by the Port Townsend Library are due October 19. All letters have been spoken for. Finished letters can be brought to the next meeting or arrangements can be made to deliver them to Diana Gipson by the 19th.

GRANT

Sue Scott met with the Kitsap chapter about collaborating on a grant. They already have three classes scheduled and grant money must be used for new projects. Sue knows of a seaweed artist in Portland. The artist sews and makes unusual sculptures using seaweed that can be collected from local beaches (not state or federal) with an annual permit. She teaches workshops called Playing with Seaweed. Sue will contact her about a workshop in PT and apply for the \$500 grant to defray costs. The grant application is due October 15.

ARTIST TALK

While passing around over 70 of her woven samples, Joyce Wilkerson fascinated us with the story of her life as a professional weaver.

After graduating from art school in 1973, Joyce moved to Albuquerque and set up a printmaking studio. While setting up at her first arts and craft fair, her car blocked the entrance for other artists to get in and set up and she could not find her keys to move it. The angry artist at the booth next to hers helped push her car a long hot way down the road so he and others could set up. He is now her husband, John. He was making and selling looms. That year he gave her a 4 harness loom for Christmas, she took ten lessons and is mostly self taught. No more printing.

In 1980 she and a friend started a weaving business. They sold blankets and pillows at craft fairs. A patron suggested a hole could be cut into a blanket to make ponchos and ordered six. Hundreds of ponchos later they began designing other clothing. They worked together for seven years.

In 1987 she purchased her first multiharness loom. Her current loom has 24 harnesses and a computer. It allows her to design over 1,000,000 patterns and color combinations. She likes designing with curves.

In 1989 she began showing at national shows - the American Craft Council in Baltimore and San Francisco. In the mid90's she entered the interiors market in Los Angeles and San Francisco. Her samples were in galleries and four showrooms and sold by commission - for example the interior of Robin William's jet and a plethora of sofas. It was a very productive time. She hired an expert weaver to weave her designs to her exact specifications.

9/11/2001 all orders stopped. Two years later she stopped designing for interiors and only sold in galleries. She participated in the Atelier Design Show in NYC for 3 years. An Italian seamstress helped her tweak her clothing patterns but Joyce does all the designing. Because the finished woven fabric is so expensive, Joyce does all the cutting in her studio. Forty yards of fabric costs thousands of dollars.

In 2010 she had a breakthrough in her weave structure, making very complicated fabrics. She invented a way to weave fabric that is completely different on the front and back - not doubleweave. She chooses her yarns and then the design.

Marketing has changed, galleries are closing. At a recent visit to NYC, she discovered an industrial weaving studio that custom weaves Jacquard fabric with poly/nylon fabric. They offer a limited color palette and little drape or texture. She was intrigued - played with graphic design, learned photoshop and sent a design for three yards of fabric - their minimum - that came back to her as cloth in three weeks.

The muted blue and gray vest she sewed from it had a graphic geometric pattern, was not stiff and had a good hand. She plans to continue designing with this new venture.

SHOW AND TELL

Jean-Marie Tarascio brought B is for Birds and Berries constructed with handmade paper

Elaine Girard's brother died last year. She made his daughter a quilt with a geometric design using fabric from one of his shirts. On the back is a picture of him in the shirt and a pocket from the shirt with a note from him to his daughter in it. A beautiful tribute.

Barbara Ramsey displayed a quilt she made using her eco-dyed silks. The different bands of fabric are broken up with a fractured design. It is free motion quilted - a new technique for her. Instead of binding, she faced the quilt. The top facing makes a sleeve for hanging. She is willing to share this technique. She also showed a length of raw silk eco-dyed exquisitely with large fig leaves, flower petals and horse tails.

Jane Edmondson shared free form felting on silk mawadda using natural wool shearings and locks mixed with a variety of yarns.

Erica Iseminger brought the letter C - a curvaceous caterpillar. She also had a length of shibori dyed linen using pomegranate and ferrous sulfate.

Mary Tyler announced the Cabin Fever Quilters annual show is this Friday and Saturday at the Jefferson County Fairgrounds in Port Townsend 10-5:00. There will be 100 quilts - traditional and contemporary. She had three yards of silk fabric she dyed to drape around the FiberHabit window. She shared a large

quilt in progress using her dyed cottons, layering three cloths and cutting out designs leaving raw edges showing. She is making it for the Art Cloth Network upcoming show The Spaces Inbetween.

Linda Carlson traced three of her old Betsy McCall doll dresses onto muslin layered with batting. She now is embroidering them and all their detail for a charming little wall hanging.

Tracey Appleton is working with PTSA to develop a fiber arts program and hopefully a fiber building on the Ft Worden 'campus'. Dreams are for classes for all level, all the tools needed for many of the fiberarts and possibly a mentorship program. In November, she is planning a round table discussion about what that space will look like and what fiber artists hope to have and do in that space. She passed around a sheet for anyone interested to be contacted when time and date are scheduled. She shared a large soft wool shibori shawl dyed with natural extracts. She also showed two art pieces. One was a woven with a handspun warp and commercial weft, discharged, stabilized with machine stitches and embroidered. The other was embroidered stitches on dyed cotton muslin.

Nora Shapiro made a purse today from her eco-dyed fabric. She brought multiple skeins of her handspun - spun with wool from her sheep all winter long. They were mordanted with alum and dyed with noxious weeds from her property. The weeds gave scrumptious shades of greens, golds, browns, apricot - a large muted rainbow. She stated "you can get color out of everything".

Rachel Gaspers had a summer of experimenting. She took a class from Michel Garcia and has much to digest and practice.

Diane Williams made us smile with her large marionette puppet The Rabbi - made from a flattened Joos beer can she found. She announced the next call for artists at the Port Angeles Library is the end of October. It will be a quilt show - Fall Into Winter Warmth. Her book shown at the PA Fine Art Center Book Art show was made of found flattened cans and much embellishment. It was purchased for the BIMA permanent book collection. Pamela Hastings also had a book purchased.

Donna Lee Downey brought D is for dinosaur.

Pat Herkal brought R is for Red Rabbit. She also shared a handkerchief eco-dyed by Cathie that she embroidered and beaded and will mount on black linen and frame.

Cathie Wier has eight shafts on her loom and tries to get away from straight vertical and horizontal lines. She has been dyeing this summer and shared two scarves. She ikat dyed a warp using a turquoise dye first then a gold overlay. She wove a scarf with it using multiple patterns - gorgeous. The second was a woven shibori tied then dyed scarf. The shibori created rippling white lines on the turquoise scarf.

Janice Speck had an epiphany - she sold her felting press and wool and is making felt balls. She beads them, mixes them with large beads and pods to make colorful necklaces. BIMA took all of her felted wall hangings and many necklaces to sell in their shop.

Sue Scott is making worms for her whirly twirly W. She modeled a stylish blouse she made of a variety of fabrics - greens, golds, fuschia in different patterns and textures. She modified a Kathleen and Marcie Tilton pattern to better fit her body and taste.

Leslie Dickenson showed S is for Snake in progress. She eco-dyed eucalyptus leaves on organza yardage. She brought two scarves, one made with logwood and rust to make black and the second was tumeric with titanium oxalate to make a lovely yellow. She showed pieces of fabric, sateen and flat, ice dyed in the same pot. The sateen had more depth of color than the flat.