

May-Jun 2022

## From the President

### Stacy Cantrell

Hello everyone!

Spring is in the air and summer is soon approaching. Before we adjourn for the summer, I want to remind everyone that our May Guild meeting on Saturday, May 14th will be our last meeting until September. We will not have our guild meeting in June because we are having our Guild Sale and Auction Event. I am very much looking forward to seeing Last Guild Meeting for 2021-22

May 14, 2022 Dindga McCannon Mixed Media Artist – 57 Years and Counting

10 am - Meeting & Program on Zoom and

Jun 11, 2022 -- In Person at St. Mark's Biennial Fiber Sale

everyone in person! Please consider attending and volunteering! Board elections are also coming soon so look forward to information on that.

It's been a wonderful season, even though it was still online, we had amazing presenters and fun workshops. I really enjoy the 30 minutes before the formal start of our meetings to see what everyone is working on and chat in general. I will miss that during the summer break so make sure you still share with everyone through the membership email! See you soon!

### June Biennial Sale

It has been a long time coming but the Guild's Biennial Fiber Sale is back! This fabulous event is a favorite of guild members and visitors alike for where else might you buy gorgeous yarn/fiber for \$1.50 a pound. This is a great opportunity to de-stash your fiber supplies and then restock with new to you. So, replenish your yarn stash, pick up fabric supplies, and maybe get some really cool tools. Remember, this is a fund raiser for the Guild.

When: June 11, 2022

**Where**: Saint Mark Presbyterian Church, <u>10701 Old Georgetown Road</u>, North Bethesda, Maryland 20852 **Time**: Sales start at 10:00 a.m. and end at 12:00 noon.

Remember due to Covid there will not be a Pot Luck Lunch this year

- Yarn and Fabric Sale -- \$1.50/lb bring your own bags
- Book Sale -- Most books are \$1.00; special value books are priced accordingly
- Silent Auction -- special fiber related goodies-art, equipment, handmade fiber articles etc.

### Vaccinations and masks are required to enter St. Mark's.

### Volunteer

To make this event happen we need many volunteers from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please consider signing up for at least one shift for jobs such as: set up, yarn sorter, book wrangler, checkout/cashier and cleanup...thank you in advance! There is a signup form online at this link. It is also available from the <u>June Program page</u>.

### Donate

Yarn and fabric donations will be accepted starting at 9:00 a.m. Silent auction items must be accompanied by an Auction Bid Form and are being accepted at 9:30. The form is attached to the end of this newsletter or you can download it from the website. Silent auction items can be items such as hand-dyed, hand-woven or knitted

scarves, hand-made purses, felted pins, small wall hangings, and beaded or knitted jewelry etc. High value items might be kimono fabric or vintage buttons or equipment. If you teach, you could offer a space in one of your classes. All unsold items will be returned to the donor.

### Shop

Cash, Checks and Credit/Debit cards are all accepted. The Silent Auction closes at 11:30. Final winning bidders should bring the item and the bidding sheet to checkout at closing. The sale ends at 12:00. And don't forget to bring plenty of bags to take home your new stuff!

# A Preview of Next Year's Programs

Month	ArtistMedium	Program and Workshop(s)
September	Robbin Firth Wet Felting	<ul> <li>Presentation: When Palms Meet Wool</li> <li>Mini Workshop: Getting Started with Resists in Felting: Creating a Small Vessel</li> <li>Extended Workshop: Creating a Spiral Felted Wrap</li> </ul>
October	Joanne Hall Weaver	<ul> <li>Presentation: Swedish Weavers, Their Weaves, Looms, and Traditions</li> <li>Mini Workshop: Swedish Band Weaving</li> <li>Extended Workshop: Swedish Pattern Weaves</li> </ul>
November	Carol Anne Grotrian Surface Design	<ul> <li>Presentation: Shibori &amp; Me: From Ancient Techniques to Contemporary Quilts</li> <li>Mini Workshop: Orizomegame Paper Dyeing</li> <li>1 Day Workshop: Fabric Stamping</li> <li>Extended Workshop: Introduction to Shibori Indigo</li> </ul>
December	Terri Sackett Basketry	Presentation: Nantucket Baskets
January	Judy GulaOwner, Artistic Elements	Presentation: Evolution – Why I Created My Business
February	Heather McCaw Kerley Embroidery	<ul> <li>Presentation: Fiber Art Journey - Abstract, Improvisational Embroidery to Quilting Adventures</li> <li>Mini Workshop: Embroidered Patch</li> </ul>
March	Marty OrnishWearable Art	<ul><li>Presentation: Tattered Splendors</li><li>Extended Workshop: Quilt "Coat-ture"</li></ul>
April	Jo Hamilton Crochet	<ul> <li>Presentation: Pictoral Crochet in Landscape and Portrait</li> <li>Extended Workshop: Pictoral Crochet: Crochet Cityscapes</li> </ul>
Мау	Deborah Silver Weaving	<ul> <li>Presentation: Split Shed Figurative Weaving</li> <li>Extended Workshop: Multiple Structures Using Straight Threading</li> </ul>
June	Cindy Grisdela Art Quilting	<ul> <li>Presentation: Anatomy of an Improv Quilt</li> <li>Mini Workshop: Improv Play with Lines and Shapes</li> <li>Extended Workshop: Artful Improv</li> </ul>

# Guild Member Fiber Events



Dianne Wolman is exhibiting this piece at Friendship Gallery, 4433 South Park Ave., Chevy Chase, MD 20815 from April 11 - May 14. Gallery hours: Monday -Thursday 9:00 - 9:00 pm, Friday 9:00- 5:00, Saturday 9:00 - 2:00 Occasionally the gallery space may be used for a special activity, so best to phone ahead

(301-656-2797) to be sure the full gallery will available for viewing before planning a trip.

At the Virginia Quilt Museum, "Something New is Looming" It showcases nine talented weavers who live and/or work in Virginia, including members of our Guild, from April 26 - June 18, 2022. With this



survey of two dozen contemporary weavings, curated by **Eileen Doughty**, the Virginia Quilt Museum is proud to present the craft of creating fabric. The exhibition includes pieces for the wall, the floor, and the body. The piece at left, "Plum Tree", is by **Heasoon Rhee**.

Many modern-day weavers continue traditions and techniques that have been used for centuries, perhaps adding a new twist with unusual materials or textures. Others create

work that could only be made with the assistance of a programmable loom. The piece below, "Woven Garden Diptych" is by **Joan Hutten**.



Some weave for personal enjoyment, while others choose to use their craft to speak truth to power. They may express the awe of Hubble space photography or gratitude for caregivers. In our environmentally-conscious times, some weavers grow their own

sustainable crops, harvest the fibers, spin and dye the yarns, weave the cloth, and end with a truly one-of-a-kind garment or artwork. All of these pieces have originality, quality, and the joy of creating in common. VQM/Harrisonburg, Virginia <u>https://www.vaquiltmuseum.org/</u>

### man is Vice President

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Artisans United (AU) Gail Robin Creative Crafts Council (CCC) Dominie Nash Handweavers Guild of America (HGA) Janet Stollnitz Mid-Atlantic Fiber Association (MAFA) Karen Miller Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA) Linda Guild



#### PFAG's Opportunity at Artisans United

Don't forget! In July and August 2022 PFAG will again have a small display and sales opportunity at Artisans United Annandale. Think small items for sale (small gallery). More info will follow so watch your guild emails!



**Tea Okropiridze** and **Heather Larsen** will be participating in **Heallreaf 4**, an international tapestry exhibition in the United Kingdom. The jurors were Helen Adams, Founder of The Textile Curator, and Ellen Ramsey, winner of the Heallreaf 3 Prize. The exhibition will take place in three venues:

Farfields Mill, Sedbergh, May 19 - July 6, 2022 Oxmarket, Chichester, Sept 13 - 24, 2022 RBSA Birmingham. Nov 1-12, 2022 **Tea Okropiridze**, "Monochrome" Wool weft on cotton warp (left) and **Heather Larsen**, "Her", wool, Tencel, cotton, metallic/synthetic fibers on cotton seine twine warp





**Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery.** Starting May 30<sup>th</sup>, the <u>Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery</u> in the Torpedo Factory Art Center in Old Town Alexandria will be open seven days a week from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The theme of the current show is *Merging the Incompatible*—incompatible materials, ideas, etc. *National Parks Revisted* will open on June 7<sup>th</sup>. In addition to items pertaining to show themes, the Gallery has a wide range of

wall pieces, fiber sculptures, fine wearables, jewelry and much more. The Torpedo Factory follows the Covid protocols of the city of Alexandria.

On Saturday, May 21, from 1 to 3 p.m. Gallery member **Nan Lopata** will demonstrate spinning in the Workshops on the Waterfront taking place at the Waterfront entrance to the Torpedo Factory Arts Center,

A selection of Gallery members' works is shown on the Gallery's website and, also in the email message that is sent out to subscribers about each new show. If you are not a subscriber to the Gallery's e-list, subscribe <u>here</u>.

As always, guild members are welcome and encouraged to apply to join the Gallery. The Gallery is a cooperative with members required to work seventeen days per year and take on tasks as needed. For more information about Gallery membership, please contact Marisela Rumberg, membership chair, at <u>membership@potomacfiberartsgallery.com</u>

Shirley Waxman had the opportunity to make new Torah covers for the Synagogue in Pilsen, Czech Republic. The synagogue was badly damaged during the Second World War and has finally been fully restored.

Below are pictures of the two covers she designed and made. Realizing that in Europe they are not as contemporary as in America she used darker colors for a more traditional look. Both covers are made of dyed



raw silk. The one on the left is embellished with a tree in dyed hemp containing the words "It is a tree of life".

The second Torah cover, on the right, is embellished with the breast plate worn by the high priest in the Temple in Jerusalem. It contains the names of the 12 tribes of Israel and the stones associated with each of them.

The bottoms of both Torah covers have Yemenite circles, signifying "From Generation to Generation".

Both covers are further embellished with gold braid purchased in India and Spain.



Tea Okropiridze also has a triple play this spring with three more pieces in the exhibitions below.

#### Fantastic Fibers 2022 Yeiser Art Center

April 19 - Jun 18, 2022 This juried exhibition is Yeiser's most innovative & colorful international exhibit. Now in its 35th year, this year's exhibit features work from 5 different countries, 17 states, and 49 different artists. https://theyeiser.org/2022-

#### fantastic-fibers/

"Full Moon" Silk Fusion - Silk fiber, silk cocoons



ArtFields 2022 April 22 – 30, 2022 ArtFields started in 2013 with a simple goal: honor the artists of the Southeast with 9 days' worth of celebration. The competition and exhibition offers over \$100,000 in cash prizes.

Lake City SC, USA https://www.artfieldssc.org/galleries/ art/2022/harmony/228812

"Harmony" Silk Fusion - Silk fiber, silk cocoons



#### Symphony of the Mountains Convergence® 2022 Mixed Media Exhibit

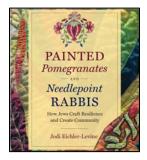
July 15 – 18, 2022 Produced by the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc. (HGA), Mixed Media is a juried exhibit featuring contemporary works created in any material using any fiber technique.

Knoxville, TN, USA. https://weavespindye.org/exhibits-andawards/

"Landscape" Silk Fusion -Silk fiber, silk cocoons



The little green sweater lives on. Lea Stern's Holocaust sweater project (The Green Sweater Project) that was featured in the Jan-Feb 2018 PFAG Newsletter has been included in a new book by Jodi Eichler-Levine



called *Painted Pomegranates and Needlepoint Rabbis.* Lea relates that it is a lovely book that talks about many types of needle/handcrafts that have had an impact on the Jewish community and community of makers in general. Lea has also just finished the prototype adult version of the green sweater. It's meant to incorporate design and style elements of the original sweater from



1939 in a more contemporary design that will work for many ages and body types.

Now she needs a tech editor to help her create the sizing! She hopes to have it available by fall.

Lea is shown here with Krystyna Chiger, who is holding the replica of her original sweater. The original is now part of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum exhibit in DC.

# Fiber Conferences



**Handweavers Guild of America.** It's not too late to register to attend the biennial conference of the Handweavers Guild of America (HGA) will be in-person in Knoxville, Tennessee, July 14 to 21, 2022. Although some sessions and workshops may be full, there are still some spaces available. Registration information is

available on the HGA website, <u>weavespindye.org</u>, and in the Fall 2021 issue of *Shuttle Spindle and Dyepot*. The conference is not just for weavers, spinners, and dyers as there are workshops and sessions for a wide range of fiber arts as well as tours, exhibits, fashion show, a fantastic marketplace, and more.

If you prefer to visit the exhibits and Marketplace for a day the entrance fee is only \$10-definitely a bargain!



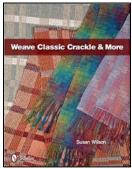
**Complex Weavers Seminars**. Complex Weavers will hold their biennial conference in Knoxville, Tennessee, July 10 to 13, 2022—the week prior to HGA's Convergence. Since the conference is held in different parts of the country every two years, take advantage of it being held in the east in 2022.

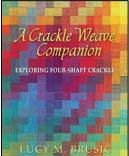
CW Seminars is a small conference with attendance limited to 200 participants, providing many opportunities for interaction among attendees. In addition to sessions on a wide range of topics, there is an informal fashion show, a keynote speaker, special exhibits, and a small marketplace. The conference is open to all who are interested in expanding the boundaries of handweaving whether it's on- or off-loom

# From the Librarian

For this month's column, we delve into the archives for a book review from 2012. This one, on Crackle Weave, looks and sounds like a fun spring challenge.

In *Weave Classic Crackle and More*, (2011) Susan Wilson shares her knowledge based on forty years of experience of weaving, investigating, and teaching workshops in the "crackle" technique. After describing the classic crackle, she shows the possibilities of alternative treadlings and use of multiple colors. Although the concepts are sophisticated, everything in the first half of the book can be woven on four shafts. Wilson's well-written text is supported by numerous draw-downs and color illustrations. Wilson explores color combinations and texture options in addition to weave structures, making this volume worthy of study by any weaver.





And because if one book is good, two must be better...a quick look in the Library Catalog reveals that not only does the Guild have Susan Wilson's book, it has this one as well: **A Crackle Weave Companion** by Lucy M. Brusic. The latter, published in 2019 is a new [er], comprehensive guide to the Crackle Weave and its literature. Lucy Brusic brings together in one volume more than 100 four-shaft Crackle patterns previously published in the older books of Marguerite Davison, Mary Snyder, and Mary Atwater. Using an easy-to-follow letter transcription system, A Crackle Weave Companion updates the older patterns and shows how they can be adapted to wider or narrower warps.

Crackle weave is a system of small twill blocks. Traditional Crackle creates a sturdy fabric with short floats. However, many untraditional design ideas and color mixing experiments are also possible with this weave structure.

Anyone who can read a four-shaft draft and thread a loom can use this book. This book is designed to help the person who does not know much about Crackle become more proficient in the weave, but it is also designed to be an inspiration to all weavers, Crackle and otherwise, who want to understand how the structure works. (This description is from the publisher at Amazon.com)

### Fiber Talks and More

# TEXTILE TALKS

Textile Talks continues to have informative and engaging presentations on a variety of fiber topics but quilts have been of particular interest lately.

The International Quilt

*Museum* hosted a talk about their acquisition of the Red and White Quilt Collection belonging to Joanna Rose.

Over the course of her collecting career, Joanne acquired over 650 different quilts done exclusively in red and white patterns. All the quilts had been displayed in 2011 at the New York Armory on the occasion of Mrs. Rose's birthday. The story of that amazing exhibit is part of the Textile Talks presentation. Upon receiving the collection the IQM decided to mount an honorary exhibit of 81 of the quilts in a mini tribute to the collection. It is on view now thru Sept 11, 2022 at the museum in Lincoln, Nebraska. Take a virtual tour <u>here</u>.

You can view this Textile Talks presentation at this



<u>youtube</u> link. You can also view the original and amazing 2011 NY Armory show called "Infinite Variety" where you can see most of the quilts. That's on <u>youtube</u> as well.

**Renwick Gallery** in DC has an upcoming exhibit (opening May 13) called **This Present Moment: Crafting a Better World** that will showcase American craft like never before. The exhibition highlights the role that artists play in our world to spark essential conversations, stories of resilience, and methods of activism—showing us a more relational and empathetic world. It centers more expansive definitions and acknowledgments of often-overlooked histories and contributions of women, people of color, and other marginalized communities.

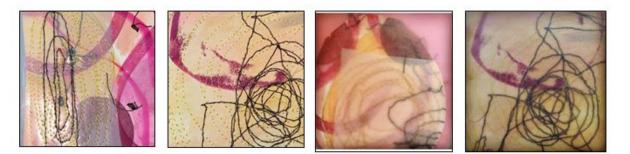
This magnificent Bisa Butler piece called "Don't Tread On Me, God Damn, Let's Go!—The Harlem Hellfighters" is featured in this exhibit.



### Free Motioning

#### Barbara Bitoni

Here are some pictures of my new work inspired in part by Dionne Swift's workshops. The two on the left are test runs, the second two are finished pieces 7" by 7". All machine stitched on paper and plastic.



# Fiber Frolics Are Keeping Us Busy

### A Different Kind of Quilt Tour

#### Sandra McKinnon

I participated in a tour of the Calvert County Barn Quilt Trail sponsored by Maryland Public Television and the Arts Council of Calvert County Maryland. The Calvert Barn Quilt Trail depicts local history and artistic talent through hand-painted quilt squares exhibited on barns and buildings throughout Calvert County.

The Trail is approximately 35 miles South of Washington DC in Southern Maryland and it consists of 21 painted quilt squares. The painted Quilt Blocks were absolutely beautiful. Kudos and accolades to all the designers and painters. I truly enjoyed learning some of the history of the county and the creativity of this tour. This one is called Barn and Sunflowers.



#### An Ingenious Save

Laura Davidson



So, what do you do when on a trip you buy yards of a lovely purple denim and when you're home you discover it has a faint fade line along the whole piece on the fold in the middle?!

Discharge it and sew it up in pieces. Fresh leaves for printing also collected on the same trip and Shibori discharge done on a garbage can made it all work!



### Hate to Swatch? Yes, I'm Looking at You!

#### Norma Taber

What to do? There's an interesting crocheted cable stitch pattern on a sweater I'm thinking of making for Wool-Aid (<u>http://www.wool-aid.org</u>). Will it meet the guidelines for no holes? I'd rather not crochet an entire sweater only to discover it isn't suitable after all! And, like many of you, I dislike swatching.

But look! The sweater front starts with the same number of stitches I usually use for a hat! Perhaps there's a way to test the stitch pattern and still warm someone's head? Since I also plan to adapt the pattern to work in the round, a hat would let me test out that aspect as well. And so...wait for it... the Swatch Cap was born!

While the resulting hat looks a bit wonky in the photos, it fits great on a head. I was able to confirm that,





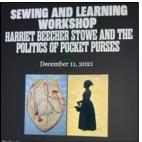
indeed, there are holes behind the cable crosses that are bigger than would normally be acceptable.

However, when the stitches are stretched laterally, such as happens when wearing a hat or sweater, the holes close up completely. Just to be sure, I sent off the hat to Wool-Aid and asked for verification that the stitch pattern would be acceptable. The enthusiastic response endorsing its use was more than enough encouragement to get me started on that sweater!

#### Virtual Sewing Circle

#### Sandra McKinnon

In December I attended a virtual sewing circle sponsored by the Harriet Beecher Stowe Center called *Harriet Beecher Stowe and the Politics of Pocket Purses*. The Stowe Center provided 3 guest experts: Dr Shirley Wajda, scholar of protest fashion and Director of the Enfield Shaker Museum, Edjohnetta Miller, internationally recognized quilt artist, and Rebecca Bayreuther Donahue, historic clothing consultant and designer of the pocket purse pattern.



This pattern and other materials were mailed to participants prior to the event, so we were able to sew and decorate a replica of a reticule (similar to a pocket purse). And there was lots of conversation, which was a common practice in 19th century sewing circles. I did make my purse, although I did machine embroidery instead of hand embroidery. Then I attended a Bridgerton Ball where I carried my pocket purse.

### Quilt for Ukraine

Val Hildebrand



The International Quilt Museum is holding a mini quilt challenge as a fundraiser for the people of Ukraine. Quilters are asked to create a 16" by 16" mini quilt based on one of four sunflower quilts in the IQM collection. My quilt, show at left, is machine appliqued, inspired by the large sunflower quilt hand appliqued on brown background fabric by an unknown quilter from Ohio.



For more information, visit

https://www.internationalquiltmuseum.org/sunflower-mini-quilt-challenge-fundraiserukraine

Quilts must be completed and mailed to IQM by May 30. The auction will happen online June 8-10, 2022.

# Membership

If you know someone who would like to join our guild, please invite them to a meeting or refer them to our website, <u>http://www.potomacfiberartsguild.org/guild</u>. For answers to membership questions contact <u>membership@potomacfiberartsguild.org</u>

### Outreach

Our Guild promotes excellence in design and fine craftsmanship in the fiber arts. Part of that mission is to provide educational opportunities to the general public to promote a better appreciation of the fiber arts. Contact <u>outreach@potomacfiberartsguild.org</u> with your ideas and suggestions. We like to feature these Community Outreach opportunities in the newsletter, so please also send information and especially photos of your participation to <u>newsletter@potomacfiberartsguild.org</u>. Financial support, in the form of a mini-grant, is available to members to help fund outreach projects. For more info contact Julie Haifley, the Outreach Committee Chair.

# Hospitality

The Hospitality Committee eagerly looks forward to the day when we can offer some good old fashioned PFAG hospitality again. Until then we will see you on Zoom.

### Newsletter

The Newsletter is posted to the PFAG website and is accessible via the link in the email sent to Mailman subscribed members.

To access the current issue of the newsletter, click the emailed link. You can also view it by logging in to the Members area at our website. Click the big green oval that says click here for the latest issue.

Newsletters are published just prior to the meeting month of the first month of the current issue. Send your fiber experiences, workshop impressions and more. Email the editor at <a href="mailto:newsletter@potomacfiberartsguild.org">newsletter@potomacfiberartsguild.org</a>.

# Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery Membership

You can be a member of The Potomac Fiber Arts Gallery at the Torpedo Factory in Alexandria, VA. We invite new members from the guild to display their art. Please contact Marisela Rumberg for more information and an appointment to be juried. <u>Marisela@mariselarumberg.com</u>

# Inclement Weather Policy for In-person Meetings

We hope we will be able to gather in-person again soon and looking ahead this is our bad weather policy.

In the event of a severe weather emergency affecting an in-person PFAG monthly meeting, program or workshop (mini and extended), the Guild will follow the closing guidelines issued by Montgomery County Government for events involving Community Use of Public Facilities (CUPF). (Please note this is not the Montgomery County Public Schools notice). If severe weather threatens, please visit the <u>CUPF Emergency</u> <u>Closing Information</u> website.

If CUPF facilities are closed and/or events are cancelled or delayed, PFAG events will be cancelled. As with any endeavor, members should be guided by their own best judgement in deciding whether to venture out in difficult weather.

# Inspiration Corner

Val Hildebrand



This picture, by a french photographer who goes by the name Jonk, is one of a series of photographs of forgotten spaces being renewed by foilage and moss and other living things. This image is from an abandoned asylum in Italy.

I think I see a crackle weave in this picture. I don't know much more about crackle than what the two book reviews mentioned but doesn't this dilapidated set of file boxes look a lot like the picture on the cover of Brusic's book? More of Jonk's work is available at This is Colossal.



# Biennial Fiber Event Location

SAINT MARK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10701 Old Georgetown Road North Bethesda, MD 20852

Auction form is the next page!





# Potomac Fiber Arts Guild – Auction donation form for handmade and high value items

Donated by	Phone
Estimated full retail val	ue \$
•	sed, we will return it to you at the end of the auction. If you are not present, it will go . Do you live in DC MD VA? (please circle)
Description:	
Buy it now price: \$	
Starting Bid: \$	Name
Bid: \$	Name
Bid: \$	Name
Bid: \$	Name
Bid: \$	Name
Bid: \$	Name
Bid: \$	Name
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Bid: \$	Name
Continue on back of sheet i	if needed.
Winning Bidder: \$	Name