

# EFTAG Rag Exhibitions, Workshops, Book Reviews, Newsy bits and more

(Eurobodalla Fibre and Textile Arts Group Newsletter, February 2006)

## Upcoming Events

- **April Bazaar - 15 - 23 April**
- **River of Arts Exhibition 18-29 May**
- **Studio Meetings: demos and some hands on:**

Thursday 2 March: Print Gocco with Mary

Thursday 6 April Freeform machine sewing with Rommie (nothing to bring)

Thursday 4 May Wool, Spinning & other woolly things with Mischi

**Wagga quilts workshop: for dates & info: Contact Rommie 44743986, or RommieGerber@bigpond.com**

## Transformations Exhibition National Gallery Review by Susan Newhouse

I was able to visit a unique exhibition in January- Transformations-The Language of Craft- where on a hot summer day I could be cool and challenged simultaneously. The scope and skill was breathtaking. Part of the National Gallery's strategy to show Australian achievement in an international context the exhibition included the work of 85 of the world's most accomplished artists in the fields of ceramics, glass, textiles, furniture, jewellery and metalwork.

Work 03 stands out as a highlight- a curtain 180.0[h] x 310.0[w]x 20.0[d] cm-of hemp cloth, polyester thread, silver, sheer Pellum backing, reactive dyes and machine embroidery by Japanese artist Tetsuo Fujimoto. He says 'we can see a different world simply by changing our environment. We can see the universal image of a thing by looking at it from a distance or we can realise the presence of another invisible world in a thing by bringing our viewpoint close to it'. Trained as a weaver Tetsuo Fujimoto sought a means of expression beyond the restriction of traditional weaving to find a process more akin to the freedom of drawing.

And so Work 03, with its stitching, the wrinkle of the cloth and the way it hangs to create movement and shadows has great depth and resonance.

With our group's identification with the freedom of expression this exhibition would have struck a chord.

Sue

## Warblings from the Bush by Jenny Rose -

Snug Cove Eden was the beautiful setting for a craft market to meet and greet the overseas and Australian tourists from visiting cruise ships. Eden has

beautiful clear light from the water on three sides of the town, a mecca for artists.

The 4.30 am start was worth it to see the sunrise behind the huge cruiseship "Artimis" out on shimmering Twofold bay.

After a long but profitable day we decided to stay along with most of the townspeople and watch her sail out of the harbour.

From our vantagepoint on a headland we watched the huge white form of the ship slide in and out from behind a forest of pink paperbarks. Contrasting brightly against a backdrop of sparkling blue ocean and brilliant blue sky. - Pure South Coast!

The passengers, bound for the other half of their world tour, lined up along her 8 storeys of decks and waved back at the onlookers, and, I imagined the two expensive feathered evening belts I'd sold, laid out on beds in a cabin waiting for their new owners to join them for the Cocktail Hour!

Canberra for the day, A quick visit to OBDM markets where I spotted a whole stall full of beautiful and unusual handwoven cotton garments from Paraguay. They were unbleached and had a woven sort of diamond pattern with handmade unbleached lace work or tatting. Strangely my four children became instantly bored.

A few minutes later my Husband jettisoned me from the car right outside The National Gallery for a few hours of much needed - SANITY.

Just beyond the bookshop stands the oversized realistic giant nude sculpture of an 8 1/2 months pregnant woman. A plaque informs the viewer that she is very lifelike but has a death like face. Dodging the queue of people lined up to have their photo taken with her I fled up to the Australian Paintings Level and had a wonderful afternoon in good company.

More warblings next time -if you can stand it, Jenny Rose

## And also from Jenny:-

**TIPS for STRETCHING Woollens**  
by fine art restorer Shannon Lush

Into a bucket of blood heat water {test temp. on wrist}  
Place either 4 tablespoons of "fullers earth" or " epsom salts".

Gently agitate the woollens for 15 mins.

Rinse the woollens thoroughly in blood heat water (same temp. as the wash water)

Dry flat on a towel in the shade, stretching it evenly every 20 mins.as it dries.

**Please send any news items for inclusion in the next edition to Mary at mandlgil@acr.net.au**

## Mary's Net search:

### Exhibitions and Workshops of interest

**WARPED and TWISTED** the Canberra Spinners & Weavers' Annual Exhibition 28-30 April, Discovery Centre, CSIRO, Canberra, Clunies Ross St, Black Mountain, 10am-4pm.

**ORIENTAL FANTASY**, bolsters & cushions Kevin J Schamburg (fabric) & John K Heane (wood fired ceramics) 18-28 May, Watson Arts Centre Gallery, 1 Aspinall St.

**The INTERTWINING** Group of textile artists exhibition *Risk/Risque from the meticulous to the wild, taking textiles to the edge*, 6-7 & 12-13 May, Balmain Watch House, 179 Darling St 10am-4pm.

**ATASDA** workshop *Fractured Finery* with Kirry Toose, 25-26/06. Contact Bronwyn Hunter 9427.8387 or info@agoodyarn.com.au

**Palm House exhibition (ATASDA, ON THE GRID black, white and... ONE other element.., September**, Palm House Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney. Entry forms by 3/6/06. Kirry Toose 9456.5529 kirrytoosedesigns@yahoo.com.au Jenny Florey, 9489.5733. : floreyj@bigpond.net.au

**ART TO WEAR:** Sydney Quilt Festival 14-18/06, New Innovations in Art to Wear. Darling Harbour Sydney.

**A New Decorative Arts and Design Gallery** (permanent) (*Inspired! Design across time*) "one of the most unique collections of decorative arts, crafts & design in the country, collected over the Museum's 125-year history, furniture, fashion, textiles, graphics, glass, jewellery & metalwork."

**CALLEMONDAH.** Explore your creativity in workshops in textiles/mixed media with Tori de Mestre on the Illawarra escarpment. Accommodation and meals included in weekend workshops. Callemondah, Calderwood, Albion Park 2527. Enquiries: Tori de Mestre 02 4256 6118.

**Textile Network ACT:** regularly holds talks on the **2nd Thursday of each month**, 7:30pm, Canberra School of Art Theatre (upstairs) - charge of \$5 at the door. Details from Marlene Greenwood, whimsy@webone.com.au.

**Woven Tapestry Workshops: 4-5 March** - Design & Weave a Tapestry for beginners & continuing weavers. Beginners will learn to warp a loom, basic techniques and design & make a sampler. Continuing weavers will explore further weaving techniques & develop & weave suitable designs. All will receive individual attention. **Bookings close 24/2/06. Tutors: Marie Clews & Yvonne Eade** who hold Diplomas of Art (Tapestry Weaving.) Further workshops will be held during the year at **Epping Creative Centre**. Bookings Yvonne (02)9816 or 0407104385 or eade.ymg@bigpond.com

**TAWFA** - The Australian WOOL FASHION Awards will be presented in Armidale, NSW on March 18th, 2006. www.tawfa.com.au or liz@tawfa.com.au

**Miriam Miller** is teaching *Techniques for Rug Making, Proggy & Hooky* at **GRAFTON ARTSFEST** 19-22 April, 6643.1528, www.artsfestgrifton.com or artsfestgrifton@bigpond.com

For more info on the above exhibitions and workshops visit:  
<http://www.ggcreations.com.au/tafta/news.html>

## Web Pages of Interest:

**About Katazome** - a Step by step process for Japanese Stencil dyeing. This is an interesting site still under construction. Visit  
<http://www.nautilus-fiberarts.com/index.html>

**Dyeing**, many urls to visit - lots of info here:  
<http://www.textilelinks.com/dye/dyeinfo.html>

## Textile Book Reviews



### Karren K. Brito: Shibori: Creating Color and Texture on Silk

... (2003) This may be the best introduction to the Japanese tie-dye art of shibori, though it is also suitable for experienced dyers. An excellent resource for information about dyes for silk, wool, and other animal fibers, in particular for Lanaset dyes (which include both fiber reactive dyes suitable for protein fibers and premetallized acid dyes that work well with them), and the group of acid dyes known as Washfast Acid Dyes, which Britto refers to by the brand name of Nyloamine.



### Carolyn Dahl: Transforming Fabric - 30 Creative Ways to Paint, Dye and Pattern Cloth

... (2004) The subtitle for the 1997 edition of this book was *Color on Fabric and Life*. The best explanations I've seen anywhere of all sorts of things: discussing the differences between the types of rayon, say, giving complete instructions for heat-transfer dyes of various sorts - including using them in stamp pads! - complete instructions for using Inko dyes to make marvelous sun prints (more distinct than with Setacolor fabric paint), destruction patterns, rain patterns with airbrush ink (without an airbrush), excellent instructions for printing with real leaves and with real fish. Procion MX and Procion H, disperse dyes, textile paints. Good index. Dahl takes a more personal approach than many authors in this field, with very readable and enjoyable results.

These Book Reviews and more at the following url:  
<http://www.pburch.net/dyeing/dyeingbooks.shtml>