

New York Threads

The Newsletter of
The New York Guild of Handweavers

Next meeting – Saturday, March 20, 2021. 12 Noon

Deborah Silver

Split-shed Tied Beiderwand

Deborah'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. When the primal emotion embodied in totemic art combines with modern portraiture, a narrative is created that questions one's individuality, place in society and relationship with the past.

Explaining her work, she says, "Now that information relating to any society can be readily accessed, our own ethnic identity alters due to increasing dialogue with other cultures. It is almost impossible to stay insulated within one's own community. Thus, my works portrays other cultures through a reverse prism, taking disparate images and merging them into a narrative whole.



Planning the Revolution

"My weaving pattern is based on a variation of traditional fabric. By combining ancient imagery and structure with a contemporary approach, I seek to bridge the gap between tradition and innovation, respecting one while celebrating the other."

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 attraction to 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. Continued on [page 2](#))

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



Ray Quartered

MEMBER NEWS

About Deborah Silver, continued

Using a split-shed technique, Deborah has transformed a traditional 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 is the author of *The Technique of Split-shed Weaving*, a book that illustrates pictorial weaving using a split shed on four shaft looms. She also lectures and teaches workshops on split-shed weaving. She is married to the painter, Patrick Haggerty. They live happily in a home with too little wall space and too many cats in Cleveland Heights, Ohio.

Deborah has recently made a [video](#) demonstrating her split-shed Beiderwand technique.

Guild Member In Print and Online

Check out Gigi Matthews' article in the Spring 2021 issue of Shuttle Spindle & Dyepot entitled "Spinning with Unusual Fiber Combinations".

Gigi takes spinning to a new level combining four types of fibers: flora (plants, cellulose), fauna (animal/protein), reclaimed and manufactured. Gigi is also teaching four classes at the MAFA Conference in June entitled Spin Around the World.



Join Us in Welcoming These New Guild Members

Olive Abbruzzese
Donna Anthony
Susan Barbieri
Joanna Bateman
Kathryn Chapin
Sandra Coddaire
Sherry Davis
Pamela Grobs
Cindy Gruskos
Janet Gunter
Francesca Heller
Joie Humphrey
Megan Knoll

Abe Korman
Jennifer Kosek
Jolie Lerner
Tacey Miller
Regina Moss
Beth Rentsch
Nan Salomon
Paula Scardamalia
Suzanne Sheffield
Cathryn Short
Melinda Stamp
Maleyne Syracuse



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 Zoom link.



Thank You Halcyon and YOU!

Thanks to those of you who designated the Guild in the [Halcyon Guild Rewards](#) program when purchasing supplies from [Halcyon](#) last year, the Guild has received a check for \$130.51!

How to Participate in the Online Show & Tell

1. **Select one item** to share
2. **Take 2-3 photos** (jpg, png) of the item
*One over-all photo plus close-up(s)
For phone photos, select and send 'medium' size.*
3. **Email to NYGH.info@gmail.com**

-Label photos with your first and last name, and
-Permission (or not) for sharing on social media

Deadline: Midnight, MARCH 18, 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?

MUSEUMS, EXHIBITIONS, & TOURS

Online Event to benefit the Folk Arts Center of New England

VÄVSTUGA TEXTILES - A NORDIC JOURNEY

with *Becky Ashenden*

Thursday, March 18: 7–8:30 p.m. EST

Indulge in a mini trip to Sweden and beyond, visiting a world of rich and varied textile traditions. Becky will discuss the multitude of structures and materials used, including linens, rugs, bands, draw loom weaving, sheepskin-backed coverlets, and more. She'll present many examples and show us the inside of the Vävstuga studios, housing Swedish looms and draw looms, as well as flax processing equipment.



Click [here](#) to register.

FROM BUTEH to PAISLEY, The Story of a Global Icon

"The exhibition is not just about the Iranian and Indian motif traditionally associated with Kashmir shawls (generally known as buteh), and reproduced in the Scottish town of Paisley from the early 19th century onwards, it's the story of something much bigger." Read the *Selvedge* magazine article [here](#).



The new exhibition is open to the public, but the exhibit also available to online audiences [here](#).

Through July 28, 2021

The Textile Research Centre (TRC)
Leiden, the Netherlands

SPOTLIGHT ON WOMEN DESIGNERS

Cooper Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum celebrates Women's History Month with online spotlights on women.

[Dorothy Wright Liebes: Unorthodox Textiles](#)

[Elaine Lustig Cohen](#)

[Cas Holman: Good Toys Make Good People](#)

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 VIOLET PROTEST EXHIBIT

Organized by artist Ann Morton and funded by public donations and the Phoenix Art Museum, the Violet Protest is a large-scale collaborative art installation that seeks to unite makers of varying political ideologies and encourage bipartisan collaboration. Morton has used more than 10,000 textile squares to create stacks shaped like the letters "U" and "S." In this configuration, the red and blue of the textile units blend to create the overall impression of the color violet, with additional squares displayed along gallery walls to ensure every maker who participated is represented.



When the exhibit closes, the artist will disassemble the exhibit and send squares, each of which identifies the maker and carries an optional personal message, to all U.S. Senators and Representatives. They will be accompanied by a photo of the full work and a letter calling for elected officials to come together, prioritize the representation of their diverse constituencies, and reject political divisiveness.

Listen to the artist's talk at the exhibit opening [here](#).

Through September 5

Phoenix Art Museum

FASHION CULTURE SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Ravishing: The Rose in Fashion Symposium

The Museum at FIT hosts its 24th academic fashion symposium on April 30, 10 a.m. EDT. This free virtual event explores how the beauty, mythology, and symbolism of the rose have long influenced fashionable dress.



All Fashion Culture programs premiere on YouTube at 6 p.m. on the designated day. Register for the free events [here](#).

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

NOTE: THIS RESOURCE LIST IS MOVING TO A PERMANENT HOME ON NYGH'S WEBSITE

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

Tuesdays at 4 p.m. (EDT)

HGA hosts conversation with some of the most respected fiber artists in the field focusing on their artwork and their creative journeys. Join the chat about fiber, creativity, inspiration, process, and more. (Registration 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](#)

15,000+ objects from over 200 regions of the world of the world. The Costume Institute's Online Exhibitions and Tours: [About Time: Fashion and Duration](#) and [Heavenly Bodies: Fashion and the Catholic Imagination](#)

[COOPER HEWITT](#)

Significant textile collection 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.

[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

BOOKS OF INTEREST



REGISTRATION OPENS

for MAFA-affiliated guild members and associate members
April 10, 2021
9 a.m. EDT

When registration opens, look for the **Register Now** button on the MAFA Conference website. To become familiar with the layout and for more information:

- Visit the [registration page](#).
- Download the [conference brochure and schedule](#).

Wondering what virtual classes will be like ?

Watch the recordings of Edie Eckman's sample classes on the Conference FAQs page. The first session shows what an interactive hands-on or lecture class will be like. The second session is an example of a webinar-style class. (These are in progress. Links to come when classes done.)

Fiber Art Exhibit: Escape

Deadline for submission: May 15.

The theme for 2021 is "Escape." Express your creativity and inspire others with an expression in fiber of where you go or what you do to escape these difficult times. For more information and to enter, visit [Fiber Art Exhibit](#).

The Fashion Show & Exhibit

Deadline for submissions: May 15.

The goal is to highlight originality in fashion, and the exhibit committee would love to show your work! For details and to enter, visit [Fashion Show & Exhibit](#).

For the most current information:

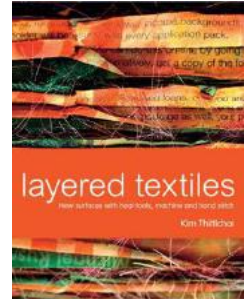
- Check [MAFA 2021 Conference](#) online and
- Follow MAFA on social media via links below.

Being a member of the NY Guild of Handweavers entitles you to early registration and member-only class rates. If you are not already a member, [join](#) NYGH now!

Layered Textiles: New Surfaces with Heat Tools, Machine and Hand Stitch

by Kim Thittichai

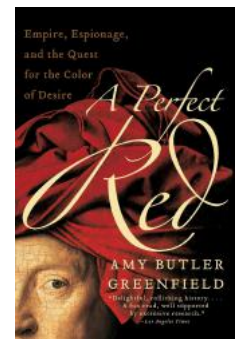
Author Kim Thittichai, a textile artist and tutor, is fascinated by layers of texture and ways of creating them in textile art. This beautifully illustrated book is aimed at textile artists who want to achieve textured and layered effects in their work.



A Perfect Red: Empire, Espionage, and the Quest for the Color of Desire

by Amy Butler Greenfield

In the 16th century, cochineal was one of the world's most precious commodities. The red dye treasured by the ancient Mexicans became a wealth builder for Europeans and launched a for cochineal that lasted for more than three centuries -- a tale of pirates, explorers, alchemists, scientists, and spies.

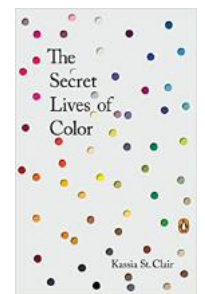


The Secret Lives of Colour

Kassia St Clair

Although not new, this book has garnered raves from reviewers. One of NPR's Best Books of 2017, Nina Martyris says, "Beautifully written and thoughtfully produced . . . Full of anecdotes and fascinating research, this elegant compendium has all the answers."

Starting with some background information on how we see colour and its relationship with light, St Clair then looks at the influence of pigments and dyes on art history, the politics of colour and the influence of language on colour.



NEW & NOTEWORTHY

O Wlân i Siwgr / From Sheep to Sugar

Welsh Wool and Slavery

In March 2019 the Welsh National Lottery Heritage Fund gave the Learning Links International team the go ahead to start a community research project. Called 'From Sheep to Sugar – Welsh Wool and Slavery,' the goal was to explore the story of the production of woollen cloth called 'Welsh Plains' between 1650 - 1850. This cloth was produced specifically for the international slave trade and was exported through Shrewsbury, London, Bristol and Liverpool in the U.K.



The project aimed to bring together volunteers from Mid and North Wales with an interest in the history of spinning and weaving, with families from farming communities interested in local history and heritage, and local historians, to explore the story of 'Welsh Plains' between 1650 and 1850 and its markets, using archival records and exploring Welsh place names.

Read more about the project [here](#).



by Deborah Silver



THE VIOLET PROTEST: UPDATE

As of March 9, the project has 14,324 pledged squares representing 1,887 makers, from all 50 states, Washington D.C., and Canada.

Artist Ann Morton will continue to accept squares up to August 1, 2021, and these final submissions will be added to letter stacks and gallery walls over the run of the exhibition, providing viewers with the opportunity to see the work grow.

Deadline for submissions: Aug. 1, 2021.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Lunatic Fringe Acquires and Rebrands Yarn Line

Giovanna Imperia offered weavers and other fiber artists unusual yarns unavailable anywhere else. She had special relationships with Italian mills that produced yarns to her specifications. So last year, it was sad to hear that she was closing her business.



Now the good news.

The unique collection of yarns from Giovanna Imperia has been added to the Lunatic Fringe collection. There are metallics, active yarns, silks, polyurethanes, metals, fancies, and more.

[Lunatic Fringe](#) has dubbed them GevolveYarns, and is in the process of getting them onto their website. Quite a few are already online.

Have a special favorite? Here is a link to a recent search for [Gevolve Yarns on their website](#).

Two 20-somethings Create Cotton Mill



The U.S. ranks third in terms of cotton production, producing about 4,336 metric tons each year. India (6,423 metric tons) and China (5,933 metric tons) rank first and second in the world. One bale of cotton, on average, will move around the world twice before it's used to make clothing, says New Jersey native Paulie "Litt" Litowsky.

He and his college-age friend, Robert Rinearson, determined to change that. Now they've set up their own high-end yarn producing company, Harvest Produce Retail (HPR), in Jonesboro, an hour from Memphis, Tenn. Read more about the company and their products [here](#)

BUY & SELL

NEW Schacht Flip rigid heddle loom

The Flip is 15" wide (weaving width) and has 2 reeds, an 8-dent (for thicker yarns) and a 12 dent (for thin yarns). Folded in half, the loom dimensions are 21" x 18" x 6"; unfolded it is 21" x 29". There is a space to do two-heddle weaving. The loom fits easily into a large shopping bag so it's quite compact.

Original price for the loom and extra reed , \$333. Selling for \$275.

Free delivery within 50 miles of NYC.

Email NYGH.info@gmail.com if interested.



NEW Leclerc Voyageur 24" 4-shaft table loom with double back beam and swinging beater.

Set up, but never used. 12-dent reed, 600 metal heddles. Approx 30" square. Note that it cannot be folded up due to the double back beam.

Originally \$1500, selling for \$1200.

Free delivery within 50 miles of NYC.

Email NYGH.info@gmail.com if interested.



Leclerc Colonial 60" Jack/Counterbalance 8-shaft loom

Includes 5-dent reed, warping spacer, flying shuttle beater with shuttle and bobbins, plus loom bench with Fireside Fiberarts Commuter seat (with back support, moves back and forth on bench), and extra warping beam. In beautiful condition.

\$4,000, negotiable.

Pick up only. Located near Albany, NY.

Contact Paula at paula@diviningthemuse.com



RESOURCES

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

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

June 24-27, 2021

MAFA Virtual Fiber Conference

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: Katy Clements

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 BOROUGHES

[Loop of the Loom](#)

Online sales only

[Woolyn](#)

Online sales only