



THE SIXTY TWO GROUP OF TEXTILE ARTISTS

NEWSLETTER

July 2015
Issue # 43

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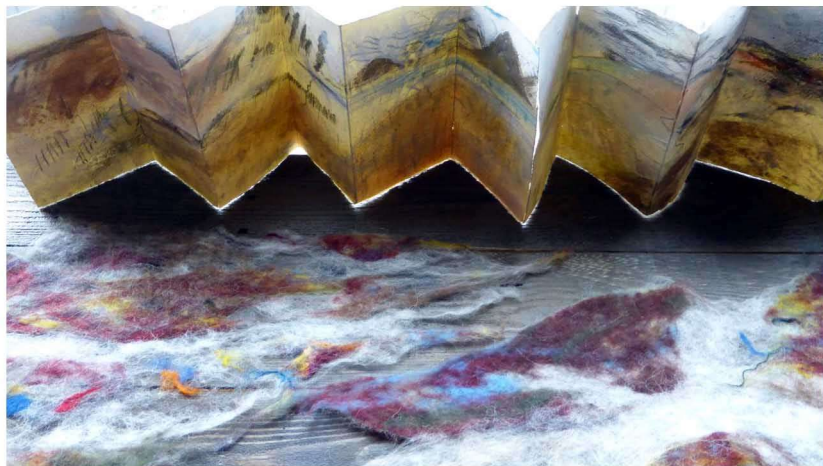
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Two of Jeanette Appleton's images from her Iceland adventure
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THE SIXTY TWO GROUP OF TEXTILE
ARTISTS

www.62group.org.uk

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Members,

I have just been scrutinising the visitor books from our exhibition at Upfront Gallery in Cumbria and it doesn't come as any surprise that people came from far and wide to see it. Some of the locations recorded are Cambridge, Coventry, various parts of Scotland, including the Outer Hebrides, and as far afield as Canada. As usual in this type of venue we had the odd comment complimenting the puppet show and a question as to why there were peanuts on top of the dessert, but we also had comments describing the exhibition as inspirational, impressive, enlightening, creative, fine, and the work as challenging, skilful, imaginative, moving, stunning, exciting - so all in all a well received show. Thank you to all members who submitted work and everyone who helped.

Our next exhibition *Making Space* is at the Silk Museum in Macclesfield and the guidelines for this are attached with this Summer Newsletter. This exhibition will be part of the Barnaby Festival which attracts a large number of visitors to the town so I hope as many members as possible will send work.

I am writing this fresh from our most recent meeting with Liz Cooper and looking to the future am pleased to let you know that our plans for a touring exhibition are starting to come together. There is still a long way to go but we are hoping to have a firm funding bid ready early in the New Year 2016. Liz has kindly written a short proposal for us which you will find later in the NL. The plan outlines the ambition of the project and how we see it evolving. As always the committee would welcome input from members, so if you have any thoughts about what is in the proposal please get in touch.

It will be an exciting project and in starting to develop it the committee reviewed the original objectives of the 62 Group to further inform and enthuse ourselves:

1. To promote TEXTILE ART in major national and international venues
2. To provide facilities for its members to exhibit and sell their work
3. To create opportunities for the growth and exchange of ideas
4. To encourage the exploration of new directions
5. To encourage links with international textile groups
6. To promote and encourage greater awareness of textile art through education

With these in mind, in particular points 3 and 4, we hope to bring you some thought-provoking ideas over the next few months to tempt you all to get involved. I have invited Liz to be our afternoon speaker at the AGM on 5 December 2015 so I urge you to put the date in your diary now and come along for what is always an enjoyable day.

All the best,
Sue

ATTACHMENTS WITH THIS NEWSLETTER

Macclesfield guidelines
Silk Museum Gallery Plan

CHANGES TO MEMBERSHIP LIST

Claire Johnson new address: Hillcroft, Chester Road, Sandiway
Cheshire, CW8 2DX

new telephone number: 01606 882005

Colette Dobson new address: 19 Fairfield Ave, May Bank
Newcastle under Lyme, Staffordshire, ST5 9JN

Sian Martin new email address: sian@distantstitch.net

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS 2015-16

Will all members please note that subscriptions are due on 31 August 2015. We have held the cost for many years now and continue to do so this year, as follows:

Payment before:	30 September	£45.00
Payment between:	1 October and 31 October	£55.00
Payment between:	1 November and 30 November	£65.00
Payment between:	1 December and 5 December	£75.00

Members not having paid their subs by the close of the AGM on 5 December 2015 will forfeit their membership.

Sorry if this seems draconian but the extra admin of late payments makes it necessary. Your subs can only remain such a bargain if you pay them promptly.

You can pay either by cheque made out to *The Sixty Two Group* and send to:

Heather Belcher, Basement Flat, 147A Woolstone Road, London, SE23 2TG

Or direct to Nat West bank: Sort code: 01 03 93
Account: 87623846
The Sixty Two Group

Many members now pay by standing order, which makes life simple.

TO ALL MEMBERS

Your help is needed with the following:

1. Public Newsletter: Please send your news and images to Emily Jo Gibbs:
emily.jogibbs@btinternet.com

Deadline for next Public Newsletter is 1 August 2015 . It will be sent to our mailing list on 1 September 2015

2. Website: Please help Michelle Stephens to keep the website up-to-date by updating your information and images annually. If you have any technical problems supplying the information please let Michelle know and she will do her best to assist you.

michelle_stephens@hotmail.co.uk

3. 62 Group Handling Collection: If you would like to contribute or have any ideas about using the Handling Collection please get in touch with Lucy Brown:
lucybrownmakes@btinternet.com

The collection is there for all 62 Group Members to borrow and use as they wish. To date, the Handling Collection consists of 19 samples kindly donated by 14 members. The idea of the Handling Collection is that it builds up over time. Members can donate a sample at any time.

4. Social Networking: We need to keep our Facebook page constantly refreshed by adding new content. This needs to be different and more immediate than our website information. Please send new images of work, ie images other than those on our website to:

suestone@womanwithafish.com

The 62 Group would like to promote all member's work.

Please send the following information with your image:

artist's name/title/dimensions/materials/photo credit

Send links to your exhibitions and events or your Artist Newsletter so we can post them to Facebook and Twitter and let everyone know what you are doing.

NB: You do not need to be a member of Facebook or Twitter to send us these images and links.

Can members who are on Facebook please invite their friends to LIKE our Facebook page to increase our "Likes".

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-62-Group-of-Textile-Artists/432891663457832?ref=hl>

Where to send your information	To whom:
To Contact all members	Ann Goddard: anng220@hotmail.com
Website: Members' News and Events, Updating of Member's pages and CVs	Michelle Stephens: michelle_stephens@hotmail.co.uk
Social Networking: Links/images for Facebook and Twitter etc	Sue Stone: suestone@womanwithafish.com
Members' Newsletter	Jan Miller: miller.jan44@gmail.com
Images for Members' NL	Paddy Killer: paddy@paddykillerart.co.uk
Public Newsletter : News and events	Emily Jo Gibbs: emily.jogibbs@btinternet.com

DATES OF FUTURE EXHIBITIONS

2016

Making Space at the Silk Museum, Macclesfield:
11 June 2016 to 3 September 2016
to run concurrently with the Barnaby Arts Festival

Report from Michelle Stephens

Meeting 13 April 2015

with Sue Hughes, Director at Macclesfield Silk Museum:

Exhibition Title: *Making Space*

The theme for the Barnaby Festival 2016 is *Space*

"*Space* is the theme for the 2016 Barnaby Festival; it will be used by the Parade/Carnival, the community centre piece of the festival, and it will be interpreted by a number of commissioned visual artists. We expect it will also be the theme for our first commissioned performance/participatory project ... very exciting. We don't wish to be too prescriptive in our definition ... it could be internal/external space; outer or dark space; enclosing space; mapping and travelling through space; personal space; digital or virtual space; 3d space etc. From discussions so far, and it is early days, I think there will be a number of projects inspired by the solar system and outer space."

The Silk Museum is 5 mins walk from the station. Parking is available on-site but it is limited to one hour. Another car park is situated at Weatherspoons around the corner from the museum entrance. On the Heritage site, it backs onto a Tesco store which has pay-and-display car park.

<http://www.silkmacclesfield.org.uk/about-us/admission-prices-opening-times>

Funding of £500.00 is not available from the Silk Museum itself - but the Barnaby Festival have offered us funding if we write a proposal as to what we intend to do during and after the exhibition at the Silk Museum. The proposal is to outline exhibition theme, content, artists and any funding requirements.

Barnaby Contacts:

Elizabeth Cookson: elizabethannecookson@gmail.com

Aileen McEvoy: aileen@aileenmcavoy.com

Michelle Stephens will be the main contact for the exhibition, as she will be conducting research there.

The Barnaby Festival is in June, every other year and attracts a lot of visitors to the town.

The temporary exhibitions gallery is of a modest size with moveable neutral-coloured screens. There are plenty of glass and Perspex cabinets available of various sizes.

There is approximately 25.5 metres of wall space so we would need to restrict width of work.

No plinths in the Museum - members are to provide their own.

There is also no UV protected blinds on any of the windows.

There are two display cases as well as two table-top cases available. All are locked with glass tops and fronts.

No CD/DVD equipment available.

Light work can be suspended from framework attached to ceiling using fishing line.

Work is to be hung with mirror plates.

As a selling exhibition, the commission is 35% including VAT on sales. They would also be happy to sell books, postcards etc and would prefer the exhibition to not be part of a tour. They are happy to have items in the shop, which is also 35% commission including VAT.

The Museum has insurance and needs to be informed of value of works after selection has occurred.

Security is in place in the form of CCTV, which is monitored from the cafe/shop downstairs.

Any PR for the show needs to be with Sue Hughes by the end of November 2015 so it can go into the spring/summer leaflet produced by the Silk Museum. Barnaby will expect it around the same time too ... more likely January/February 2016 time. They will provide a PV (17 June 2016, 6-9pm) and have plenty of glasses. We will need to provide refreshments.

Exhibition can run until first week of September - decision on dates needs to be discussed. Three days preferred for collection of work as they have limited staff and volunteers.

We will be able to deliver work to and do selection at the museum and storage will be provided for packaging - concealed behind moving walls.

Sending in dates 8-10 June 2016.

Selection 11 June 2016.

Hanging 12-16 June 2016.

They are keen to have education events, talks and workshops. The Silk Museum make a record of all their exhibitions in the form of photos and documentation and are willing to share this with the group for our archives. They would not have funding for a printed catalogue but liked the idea of producing an online catalogue similar to the preview of the Radical Thread book, which visitors could access by Smartphone.

2017/2019

CTRL/Shift

62 Group Touring Exhibition Proposal for 2017-2019 Report from Liz Cooper

The 62 Group's long-standing commitment to quality and innovation of practice will be explored in a new exhibition, *CTRL/Shift* (pronounced Control/Shift), to be produced in partnership with independent curator, Liz Cooper. The exhibition will uphold the group's stated objectives, to encourage the exploration of new directions, and to create opportunities for the growth and exchange of ideas.

CTRL/Shift takes shift, changes and moving forwards as its theme, offering opportunities for artists whose practice is or has transformed in small or large ways. The ambition is to explore and exhibit projects, completed or in progress, that manifest shifts in practice, changing attitudes to control (towards or away from it), and the impact of new technology, materials and/or ideas on practice.

The exhibition will launch in autumn 2017, at an English venue to be determined and will then tour to several venues nationally. During the development process, one or more events will be staged to give 62 Group members a space to talk, explore and share their thoughts and experiences of the process of developing work. This will kick off with a presentation and informal discussion at this December's AGM. External funding for the tour and a programme of more structured events in 2016/17 events will be sought, in partnership with Liz.

We welcome your comments:

Is there anything else you would like to see included?
Do you have any thoughts about the theme or title?

Please send your comments and constructive criticism to:
rachael@rachaelhoward.com

MINUTES
of the 62 Group Committee Meeting
20 June 2015 at 1pm
at Craft Central, 33-35 St John's Square, London, EC1M 4DS

Present: Sue Stone (Chair), Heather Belcher, Lucy Brown, Hannah Lamb, Rachael Howard, Marilyn Rathbone, Caren Garfen, Michelle Stephens, Liz Cooper (invited guest)

- Apologies received from Penny Burnfield, Ann Goddard, Jan Miller
- Matters arising from the last meeting - no matters arising
- **Invited Guest - Liz Cooper (LC)**

Pre-meeting LC, the committee discussed exhibition themes, deadlines for any funding bid, storage of work, sending out the information to the members and what to do if our funding bid was unsuccessful. It was decided that even if the bid was unsuccessful the theme could still be used for our 2017 exhibition.

LC arrived at 1.45pm and was introduced to everyone. She gave the committee a summary of her practice as a freelance curator and of her interest in the 62 Group. LC was first aware of the group when she helped Margaret Hall-Townley with the 62 Group 40th Anniversary exhibition. She has maintained an interest in the group ever since. Exhibition themes, and possible titles, to make the most of the breadth and diversity of the group were discussed. The logistics of organising and delivering an exhibition tour and the time scale for selection, promotion, for photographing work and the length of the exhibition were also discussed. A number of venues throughout the UK were suggested and LC will look into these further on our behalf. Work will need to be finished and selected during Spring 2017 to give a good lead time for promotion etc so a storage and insurance solution will be sort for the period up to the start of the exhibition. LC suggested this as Autumn 2017 and for the tour to be around 18-months long. LC is willing to write a funding bid but the bid needs to come from the 62 Group. SS will work on this with RH and LC in the autumn and hopes to complete the bid by end January 2016. LC suggested the bid would be for professional development. SS brought up the importance of deciding a theme asap to send out to the membership in the next NL. Ideas around member's days and education events were discussed including projects that grow through public participation. LC was asked if she could come and talk about the project at the AGM 2015 and agreed to do so.

Action: LC will write a short brief for the project for the Newsletter.

• **Membership report - Marilyn Rathbone**

There are now eleven members who will need to have work selected for our next exhibition to remain in the Group - the highest number there's been since I've been keeping records. I emailed a reminder to let them know just after our last newsletter went out containing information about Macclesfield.

Should we be a little concerned that we could lose 20% of the membership in one go? I know it's unlikely that all would go but the potential is there. Should we give some thought to whether the changes to sending in and selection criteria has put members off sending in work?

Matters arising from MR's report were discussed. MR felt strongly that we should emphasise the positive aims of the 62 Group and remind members what they are. HL suggested that they were highlighted in the next newsletter. Most of the committee felt there were many different reasons why individual members were not sending work to exhibitions. SS asked if we should we consider longer sabbaticals in certain cases looking at individual circumstances? (such as caring for young children, long-term illness or caring for someone with long-term illness etc) Membership fees would still need to be paid and it wouldn't affect the quality of exhibitions as they are individually selected. It was pointed out that we already take individual circumstances into account when granting sabbaticals.

Action: SS to write to individuals members concerned to let them know their membership is important to the group and to clarify the options open to them for continuing membership.

SS to highlight the main aims of the 62 Group in the Newsletter.

- **Archives - Caren Garfen**

What is the way forward?

CG has had problems with accessing anyone at Goldsmiths who can help her access the archive. Numerous emails and phone calls have failed to secure a meeting. Kat Peterson, who put the archive in order a couple of years ago is now back in London and has been to the archive but didn't want to meet with CG. SS asked HB if we can fund her travel and any work by Kat Peterson. It was agreed this may be possible. Goldsmiths have sent CG a number of documents as the CHR centre has new rules about looking after archives. There was a discussion around alternative venues who may house the archive and it was decided to look into this

Action: CG will make enquiries to other venues to see if they would be interested in housing the archive.

- **New Members - Rachael Howard**

62 Group New Members 1st stage selection report:

Selection took place on Saturday 6 June 2015 at Helen Banzhaf's house in London.

Selection panel members:

Rachael Howard - link, Helen Banzhaf, Emily Jo Gibbs, Jae Maries, Louise Baldwin

There were a total of 14 applicants.

One applicant was chosen for 2nd stage selection.

2nd stage selection will take place at Rachael Howard's home in Wirral on Saturday 7 November 2015.

The selection panel will be: Rachael Howard - link, Colette Dobson, Jean Draper, Jane McKeating

Plus one other - I will put out another request to the group soon

After selecting we talked about writing up a new members selection criteria to aid the selection process - I'll look into this and report back.

SS asked whether we should have a more active recruitment drive next year, use Facebook & Twitter to highlight the application process to attract more good quality applicants.

Action: RH to update New Members docs for website asap.

SS to post to Facebook & Twitter as soon as dates and forms available for next year's applications and to continue at intervals throughout the year.

RH and Helen Banzhaf to draw up a New Members selection criteria to assist with the selection process.

- **Additional Update on Macclesfield - Michelle Stephens** - Barnaby bid
The Whitaker at the Heritage Centre is available for a symposium and seats 55 people. We can apply for funding for Barnaby of either £300, £500 or £1,000 and the bid needs to be in by 17th July.

Action: MS to write the Barnaby bid which needs to be submitted in by 17 July 2015.

- **Education Report - Lucy Brown**

For *62 Group.NOW* at Upfront Gallery we had four education proposals from three members. Upfront selected Paddy Killer to run her *Material Illumination* workshop on the 18 April 2015, which went ahead.

In response to the Silk Museum, Macclesfield call for education proposals we had four proposals by two members as well as a very exciting offer from our Honorary Member Lesley Millar. We are hoping to go forward with Lesley's offer, depending on costs, funding and practicalities. We are also currently waiting to hear back from Macclesfield about which proposals they would think would work at the Silk Museum.

Through the website we have had an enquiry about the Groups' Handling Collection from Annie Ramwell, Head of Art at Callington Community College in Cornwall. At the moment this has been an enquiry only but, it maybe a future Handling Collection "service" which the group could offer ... Finally Lucy had managed to finish collating details of the Ebb and Flow education events from last year. All this information supported by participants comments and photos will be handed over to Michelle Stephens who will very kindly update the Education pages on the 62 Group website.

We discussed the costings provided by LB for the education events at Macclesfield in advance of putting in our bid to Barnaby Festival to support one or more of these.

Action: MS to update website.

LB to work with MS re: education for Barnaby bid

AOB

Heather Belcher presented the expenses for Upfront and for New Members 1st Stage.

SS has looked into opening a 62 Group Paypal account but feels the group need a dedicated email address to do this for security reasons. The cost for setting up and maintaining (up to 12) email addresses through the 62 Group domain name will be £30 per year so it was decided to go ahead with this.

Date of next meeting: 19 September 2015

MEMBERS NEWS

Jeanette Appleton has sent the following report:

Iceland Inspiration June 2015

I am writing this during the evening of the Newsletter deadline and also the final evening of a workshop in the north of Iceland. The title was *Colour and Composition*, and the range of colour contrasts everywhere was overwhelming.

Lupins and dandelions spread thickly over the hillside, blends of blues while swimming in the open-air hot spring pool, multi-coloured mounds of lava, bubbling mud pots and sulphur deposits. All in contrast to the linear white snow marks on the dark continuous mountains. The participants and I worked in-site on folded papers using various found colours of soil, burnt wood, rusted objects and flowers. We even became a tourist feature, photographed in the popular geothermal area of Namafjall.

I translated the drawings with Icelandic wool and found they created new structures of colour marks and mixes which I will continue to use with merino wool in the future. The participants were Danish feltmakers whom I had previously taught and it was organised by the Icelandic textile artist Anna Gunnarsdóttir from Akureyri.

Helen Banzhaf

Helen Banzhaf exhibited three pieces of her work in the United Society of Artists Annual Members' Exhibition at the Bankside Gallery, London, from 7-12 July 2015

In June 2015, Helen was accepted as a Full Member of the Society of Designer Craftsmen.



Suzy Shackleton is exhibiting at:

The Great Dome Art Fair (Buxton)
18 and 19 July 2015 10.00 to 4.30
Preview Friday 17 July 2015
www.greatdomeartfair.co.uk for more details

Original, affordable, and exclusive - from jewellery to ceramics to fine art



Atsuko Yamamoto

Art space NIJI (meaning of NIJI is rainbow) in Kyoto has planned my exhibition. I am going to hold the one person show next Spring, from 5-10 April 2016 at NIJI.

<http://www.art-space-niji.com> and follow the link to “translate this page”

Lynn Settington writes:

A new touring exhibition that includes my work started in Saltaire, Yorkshire this May 2015 bank holiday weekend and then touring rural Cumbria in the autumn. I am working in Cockermouth, the weekend 4-5 October 2015 in conjunction with the touring exhibition *Rural Arts*

I am also presenting at a conference *Material Culture in Action* at Glasgow School of Art in September, 2015

For further details: www.lynnsettington.co.uk

For a pdf of the tour:

www.lynnsettington.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Rural-Craft-Re-imagined-flier-FINAL.pdf

NEWSLETTER TEAM

30 September 2015 is the deadline for the next newsletter

Please let us know what you are up to: news, views, items of interest, exhibitions, workshops, comments. Include any web links, so members may read further details. Please send your copy to Jan Miller
miller.jan44@gmail.com

Please remember to send your photos for the blogspot
www.newsletterpics.blogspot.com
sian@distantstitch.co.uk

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