



THE SIXTY TWO GROUP OF TEXTILE ARTISTS

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Members Newsletter Summer 2017 Issue 51

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Knitting and Stitching Show, Edinburgh 2017

to take over as Chair from the AGM in 2018 so that means she will have a full year to shadow me and get to the know the job. Thank you Debbie.

In April I spent a lovely few days manning our stand *Making Space* at Edinburgh Knitting & Stitching Show. The exhibition was well received and looked great thanks to the fantastic hanging team Fiona Rutherford, Ann Goddard, Jae Maries and Isobel Currie. Photos of the show can be seen here: <http://www.62group.org.uk/exhibitions>. I would also like to thank Marilyn Rathbone and Paddy Killer for helping out on the stand, and Joanna Kinnersley-Taylor and Fiona Rutherford for giving a 'Talk and Tour' of the stand on Thursday 27 April. This was thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.

At the time of writing there are still 3 or 4 members who haven't collected their work from Bill Bowden's depot in Crawley. I have apologised to Bill on their behalf. If one of these members is you please contact Bill as soon as possible to arrange the return of your work. Contact details are in this newsletter.

Applications for new member's this year closed on 1 June and we received a bumper number of applicants. The 1st stage selection took place on 3 June and 10 applicants have progressed to the 2nd stage selection. I'd like to thank Rachael Howard for hosting the 1st stage selection panel and also the members who gave their time to serve on the panel and Helen Banzhaf who will host the 2nd stage selection on 30 September.

Our plans for *CTRL/Shift* at MAC, Birmingham are progressing well and we now have the sending-in dates. Please take care to read the information in the *CTRL/Shift* update and take note of the important dates for your diary which you will find later in this newsletter. The final information and the sending-in forms for *CTRL/Shift* will go out in the early Autumn. Liz Cooper would like to encourage as many of you as possible to do a site visit. This exhibition is a great opportunity to show our work to a very large audience and I would urge members to be bold in their thinking. The substantial scale of the gallery would lend itself to large pieces so there will be no restriction in size and members will be able to submit up to 3 pieces for selection in January. I am very much looking forward to seeing your submissions.

Other exciting news is that a 5-year proposal is being put together by Caron Penney, Lucy Brown and Heather Belcher for the Fashion & Textile Museum in Bermondsey and this will be ready to present to the museum very soon. The proposal has two stages. The 1st stage will be an annual 62 Group lecture at the FTM culminating in 2022 our 60th Anniversary year and the second stage is the production of a large visually-stunning installation in the entrance to the Museum in 2022. More information will follow over the next few months.

That's all for now,

Sue

UPDATED DETAILS: *CTRL/Shift*

***CTRL/Shift*: Exhibition dates**

w/b Monday 16 July 2018: Install show

21 July - 9 September 2018: *CTRL/Shift* exhibition at MAC, Birmingham

w/b Monday 10 September 2018: De-install and remove

From 12 September 2018: Onwards delivery to next venue, storage, or return to artists

***CTRL/Shift*: Exhibition Concept**

CTRL/Shift will take shifts and changes as its theme, in particular it is centred on artists

control (towards or away from it), the introduction of new materials and techniques, and/or the impact of innovative ideas and evolving technologies. The exhibition therefore offers an opportunity for participating artists to explore projects which manifest as transformations in their practice. This project's focus on shifts and changes in creativity allows for rich and diverse interpretation of both the theme and what it means to be an artist.

About the Launch Venue

The launch venue for *CTRL/Shift* is confirmed as MAC Birmingham, a large multi-disciplinary arts venue not too far from Birmingham City Centre (15 minutes drive/bus) with a strong family-oriented programme that also supports new and risk-taking contemporary artists, a range of great workshop facilities and a pleasant location on the edge of a city park, that really comes into its own in good weather. The venue runs a cafe, cinema, talks programme, live theatre, music & comedy, and many art and craft workshops for both adults and children. The exhibition would be on from 21 July to 9 September 2018, throughout the summer holidays.

See images of the venue and floor plan here:

http://newsletterpics.blogspot.co.uk/2017_01_01_archive.html

MAC have a cinema, auditorium, shop and textile workshop with sewing machines and print facilities, and are keen to work with the 62 Group to develop a strong participation programme that involves different sectors of their audience and uses the excellent facilities. This could include practical hands-on workshops, artist talks, a symposium, and/or a drop-in activity zone as part of the exhibition.

It would possible for 62 Group members to have work such as prints, small giftware, cards and books for sale in the MAC shop, and MAC would also support sales of work for the exhibition itself, at 25% commission to MAC.

UPDATE FROM LIZ COOPER

As you know Jessica Litherland only joined the MAC team in September 2016, from Rugby Art Gallery where she has programmed shows with me, Lesley Millar, Marlene Little and Amy Twigger Holroyd, amongst others. Jess is a massive champion of contemporary textile practice and wants to get her colleagues thinking the same way for future programming, so this is a fabulous opportunity for the 62 Group.

The main gallery at MAC is substantial - around 250 sq metres in area and the ceiling is over 7 metres high. Members are encouraged to be bold and play with this substantial scale as MAC want to see a really fantastic show. Works may be suspended from the ceiling, relate to the row of pillars that run down one side, or otherwise use the space. This show is about changes in artistic practice and we encourage people to be bold in their thinking.

I also want to encourage everyone to visit MAC if they are not already familiar with the space. There are two really interesting shows in the main gallery between now and late autumn, both part of MAC's 'Women in Protest' season. I suggest that visits are not made between 11 and 22 September as the gallery will be closed for changeover (although of course the rest of the centre will be open). Exhibitions will be:

TATE Artists Rooms: Jenny Holzer, a really major show, on now till 10 September 2017

<https://macbirmingham.co.uk/exhibition/artist-rooms-1>

Sally Payen: the contested landscape, 23 Sep - 26 Nov, a painter who is looking at the Greenham Common protests in the 1980s

Jess Litherland at MAC has confirmed the following. MAC are committing £4,000 in cash to 62 Group, plus another £2330 cash contribution for marketing, signage & installation costs extensive plus extensive in-kind contributions.

The 62 Group has confirmed that the exhibition will definitely go ahead regardless of the outcome of funding bid.

The Project Space will explore selected artists' journeys towards the exhibition, in the form of case studies, artist statements & quotations, sketchbook extracts and materials, handling samples and other resource materials. This area will be developed in close consultation with both venues and exhibitors.

From Liz Cooper:

We are looking at having a partitioned-off zone in the gallery as a kind of project space mocked up to look like an artists' studio - this is a place for sketches, experiment, source material and inspiration, outcomes of discussions, etc.

Once the main selection for the actual exhibition is made, a call out will then be made to the selected artists to decide what matter will be shown in the project space. We can work together (62 Group, MAC team and me (LC)). I imagine we will need to write some interesting text to bring it to life, so I will need to interview the participants by phone and email - detail can come later, but we need to reflect this requirement in the call out, along with the info about the space itself above.

Photos of project spaces Liz Cooper has worked on:

Here are some links from Liz to show ways that galleries use project spaces. They can be for experimentation, learning, exploring and trying things out. Some use them for showcasing work by students, recent graduates and other emerging artists. Others see them more as a participation zone for visitors.

<http://www.nncontemporaryart.org/spaces/project-space/>

<http://www.nationalcraftanddesign.org.uk/whatson/#printers-inc-ovals-and-circles>

<http://www.tate.org.uk/whats-on/tate-modern/exhibitionseries/project-space>

<http://www.johnjones.co.uk/project-space/about/>

<http://pumphousegallery.org.uk/projects/about-our-projects>

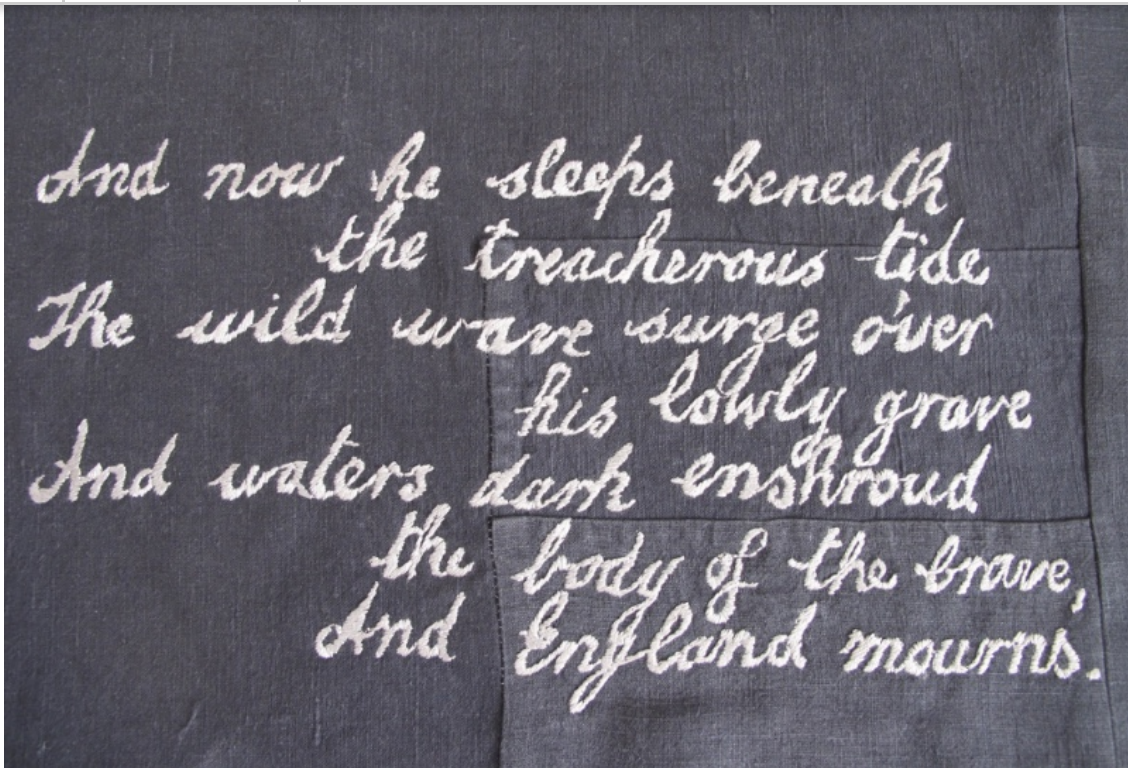
<http://www.acme.org.uk/projectspace>

<https://drawingroom.org.uk/projects/annotations-outset-study-commissions>

Members' Development Weekend and Learning & Participation Events

We will be sending out a separate email for this shortly so please keep an eye out for it.

NEW MEMBER: **Vanessa Rolf**



His lowly grave, 2012, 55cm x 40cm

Dyed, patched, machine- and hand-stitched linen and cotton

I am fascinated in documenting, archiving and labeling as a method of claiming, rationalising and filtering experiences. My work explores maps, journeys, psychogeography, memory, memorial, inheritance and collections. I reference found imagery and text to create layered narratives; this research is sometimes referenced directly but also through intuitive selection of colour, fabric and mark making with stitch.

I studied Mixed-Media Textiles at the Royal College of Art; going on to found and direct ReachOutRCA, the Royal College of Art's outreach programme. This summer I was thrilled to be awarded an Honorary Fellowship for my role in furthering the college's aims. I have been a visiting lecturer at both University of the Arts, Chelsea and University of the Creative Arts, Farnham. I am passionate about teaching in a range of settings with wide-ranging participants, sometimes as one-off events, other times as part of residency and community engagement briefs. I am currently working with 'Making Space' on their project 'Learning through Craft' and co-ordinating the Saturday Club for young people aged 13-16 at Winchester School of Art.

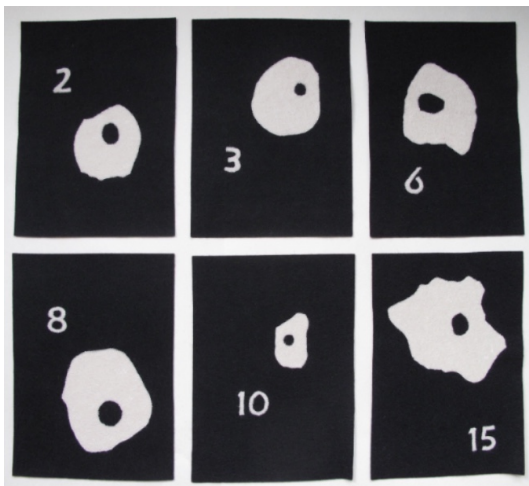
I was delighted to exhibit *Absence of matter*, an on-going series that connects identity and landscape, as part of the 62 Group's *Making Space* at this year's Knit and Stitch Show. Shadows, traces and imprints reflect the disorientating experience of being in a landscape where all familiar frames of reference are removed.

I will be collaborating with several fellow 62 Group members and Winchester Embroiderers Guild in *Stitching Stories: Making Common Ground* at Winchester's City Space from 14 October - 26 November 2017. The exhibition of works which use stitch to express ideas on the themes of the passage and movement of people and objects and the making of community.

There will be an opportunity to contribute to a large stitched work by Alice Kettle, in support of

<https://www.hampshireculturaltrust.org.uk/city-space>

You can also see my work *His lowly grave* from the Poems to the Sea series as part of Quay Arts Open 2017, Newport, Isle of Wight 30 July – 22 September 2017.



Absence of matter Vanessa Rolf

MINUTES 62 GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING

Saturday 24 June 2017 at 11am at National Theatre, South Bank, London

1. Apologies for Absence – Louise Baldwin, Helen Banzhaf, Lucy Brown, Emily Jo Gibbs, Rachael Howard, Sian Martin, Richard McVetis, Jan Miller, Michelle Stephens

Present – Sue Stone (Chair), Heather Belcher, Ann Goddard, Hannah Lamb, Debbie Lyddon, Caron Penney, Marilyn Rathbone

2. Minutes of the last meeting - Saturday 25 March. Agreed as there were no matters arising.

3. Committee Jobs & Changes - Next Chair

We discussed whether the job as chair could be split between 2 members but as SS is also doing the exhibition job as well as being Chair it was decided that if we have a separate exhibitions member we only need 1 person.

- SS is very grateful that Debbie Lyddon has agreed to take over as Chair at the AGM in 2018 with the proviso that she has an exhibition member in place on the committee. SS has agreed to step into this position when she steps down as Chair. DL will shadow SS next year.
- Ann Goddard would like to step down as secretary. We need someone in place before the AGM to take over.
- Jan Miller would like to step down from main committee and become co-opted. She is willing to carry on with the members NL. We will elect another member to the committee at the AGM.

4. Exhibitions and Education Update - Sue Stone

- ***Making Space*** Knitting and Stitching Show Edinburgh 2017
The gallery looked good and was well received. SS thanked Ann G, Fiona R, Joanna K-T, Jae M, Isobel C, Marilyn R, and Paddy K for all their help at Edinburgh K&S.
- SS pointed out that 3 or 4 members have still not picked up their work from Bill Bowden's depot near Gatwick. SS has apologised to Bill on behalf of those members and will email and ask them to collect work asap.

As a result of the selection for *Making Space*, Corlette Dobson has left the group and Elizabeth Cousins-Scott has resigned for personal reasons. Three other members have two strikes and will need to have work selected for *Control/Shift*. MR will inform these members.

CTRL/Shift Update

- The full *CTRL/Shift* project was discussed including the progression of the ACE bid, the time frame for the selection process, the CPD weekend for members, the education offer, and all other details of the exhibition and project space. A full report will be in the next Newsletter.
- MAC are committing £4,000 in cash to 62 Group, plus another £2330 cash contribution for marketing, signage & installation costs extensive plus extensive in-kind contributions. SS shared the full info with the committee.
- SS has confirmed that the exhibition will definitely go ahead regardless of outcome of the funding bid. If we don't get funding and this is a one-off exhibition members will pay for own delivery and return of work.
- We discussed the Information & sending-in docs which need to be ready in early Autumn. SS to send information + the condition forms for MAC to DL asap. MR suggested we should increase the length of statements to 100 words maximum. HL suggested 80 words might be better. It was decided to increase statements to 80 words maximum so they are not too wordy. If we get funding there will be ample space to increase the length of the statement in the catalogue.
- Important dates:

Sending in – Courier delivery to MAC Tues 23 to Fri 26 January 2018

Delivery of work in person – Fri 26 January only

Selection - Sat 27 January 2018

- The selected works will be installed temporarily for three days on Mon 29 January 2018, to be photographed for a catalogue. The work will then be taken down, repacked and stored until the exhibition in July. Liz Cooper will use the catalogue to try & secure other venues.
- Help from members will be required during the photography and especially with the repacking for storage.
- Members will be asked to use reusable packaging eg. Really Useful Boxes, particularly if the exhibition tours.
- Artworks planning - LC has sent SS some further information to go into Newsletter to encourage members to visit MAC over the summer.
- Exhibition dates: 21 July – 9 September 2018

Education Report - Lucy Brown

Making Space

- Joanna Kinnersly-Taylor and Fiona Rutherford led a very successful *Making Space* exhibition talk and tour at the Knitting and Stitching show in Edinburgh. Both would be interested in doing it again if there was a future opportunity to.
- Feedback from Joanna:

“The talk at the K&S went very well. I would say we had a dozen people there who were all very attentive and interested. The show was beautifully hung, and as Fiona was involved in setting up, she carefully planned the running order to ensure a smooth flow between exhibits. The audience particularly enjoyed hearing the artists' 'back stories', which gave them a greater appreciation of the work I think, as well as the history of the Group and how it runs things including membership criteria and rules. This gave important insight as to how we maintain such a high calibre of work - all serving to educate, inform and inspire! We enjoyed the experience, and from my own point of view, it was enlightening to look at members' work afresh and in greater detail, as well as finding interesting parallels between such a varied group of artists”.

CTRL/Shift – A possible members' development weekend at MAC and Public Engagement and Education Programme.

- Nine members responded to the May call out for ideas and suggestions for these events.
- There was general consensus that there were not enough opportunities for members to gather and share/discuss their practices with each other. So a members' development weekend seemed to be something that members would be interested in attending.
- HL offered to look over and further develop the draft outline for both programmes for the Arts Council funding application.
- LB would like to thank members who took the time to respond.

Fashion and Textiles Museum Project

- Caron Penney and LB had a meeting on the 5 April to talk through CP's ideas for a partnership promotional project with Fashion & Textiles Museum, London.
- CP will be working on the project and has created an in-depth proposal which includes a lecture series leading up to the Group's 60th Anniversary and an opportunity for a site-specific collaborative work by 62 Group members

5. Fashion & Textile Museum update (FTM)

- Caron Penney has initiated and developed a five-year promotional plan for the 62 Group to partner with the Fashion & Textiles Museum (FTM) in the lead up to our 60th anniversary.
- Stage one of the plan is to launch a series of annual lectures which will look at the various crafts of textiles from decorative - innovative.
- Stage two is to produce a site-specific artwork for the entrance hall of the FTM.
- Caron has produced a comprehensive, in-depth proposal to be put to the FTM. Copies were circulated to committee members before the meeting.
- There was a discussion on how the collaborative artwork could be developed. Group members will be asked to suggest ideas.

6. New Members Update – Rachael Howard

- 1st Stage selection was at RH's house was on 3.6.17. Panel members: Rachael Howard, Sue Stone (link person) Jane McKeating, Ann Goddard and Claire Johnson. There were a total of 34 applicants and 10 were selected to go through to the 2nd stage.
- 2nd stage selection will be at Helen Banzhaf's in London on 30.9.17. One more panel member is needed, Debbie Lyddon has volunteered.
- Huge thank you to SS for organising electronic applications this year. It was a smooth process for the selection panel meeting, but a lot of hard work in the background for SS setting it up.
- SS said we had 36 payments of £22, 2 did not send info & said they will apply next year instead. 10 have progressed to 2nd Stage. There is £781.52 to download from Paypal (Fees were £35.20).
- We will use Curator Space next year - £20 a month for 3 months. SS has emailed for more info. Too much work to do it ourselves as we did this year. Lots of emails etc!

7. Website Update – Sue Stone

- Our mailing list has more than doubled since the new website launched.
- A members' area is being developed. It will take 2 days work to complete. DP will invoice for the work. It was decided to go ahead with this. It will be ready by Autumn to store NLs & Sending -in documents.
- DL pointed out that committee members are duplicated. SS to ask DP to remove one list.

first time. Any feedback or suggestions from the committee would be welcome, plus any copy and images. Deadline is 30 June for inclusion in Summer's issue. Many thanks to Emily and Sue for their guidance and support.

9. AOB

- a. HL would like to ask new member applicants through to the 2nd stage selection where they saw our advert so we know where to focus our publicity.
 - b. Member's expenses – mileage rates were discussed. It was agreed to pay 40p per mile.
- 10. Date of the next meeting** - Sunday 1 October

NEWSLETTER MATTERS

Members' Newsletters

Four issues per year sent to members by Mailchimp.

Winter (January)

Spring (April)

Summer (July)

Autumn (October)

Please send copy and any queries to miller.jan44@gmail.com

Next deadline for July issue is **30 September 2017**

Please note that forms and information previously sent as attachments will be posted and archived for future reference on the 62 Group website in a '*Members only*' area. You will be notified of any such documents in the Newsletter. **None** this time!

Public Newsletter

Please send news of your exhibitions, workshops, awards, residencies etc. to Emily Jo Gibbs for inclusion in the Public Newsletter which is mailed out first day of March, June, September, December.

emily.jogibbs@btinternet.com

Blogspot

Please continue to send your photos for the 62 Group blogspot to Sian

Martin: www.newsletterpics.blogspot.com

Website, Facebook, Twitter

All news and information to Sue Stone for posting on 62 Group website and social media: Facebook, Twitter

Sue Stone chair@62group.co.uk

How to save your Mailchimp newsletters

On a Mac: To save your newsletter to your desktop open the newsletter in your browser then click File > Export as PDF > save to your desktop When the PDF is opened you will see the option to view in your browser if you prefer. There is also the option to view past issues. When you click on that it takes you to Mailchimp and you will see a list of past newsletters. Select the one you wish to view by clicking on its name.

Instructions for PC

<https://support.office.com/en-gb/article/View-open-or-save-attachments-92f87f3f-1085-425a-87f6-08d43c19b43d>

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