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**62group**  
**Members Newsletter**

**June 2022**  
*Issue 71*

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# Letter from the Chair

Dear Members

I hope that you are all well. This email is written in the midst of so many global issues in which questions around what it means to live an ethical life in which freedom of speech and control of others through this seem to be so dominant. It reminds me of the textile actions that the AIDS Quilt and the banners that emerged so swiftly at Ground Zero after 9/11 where textile practices became the almost automatic expression of despair and hope intermingled.

I start my letter to you with this not to overwhelm ourselves with the grim nature of human expressions of power, but to remind ourselves of the power and potency of textile practices in calling attention to and protesting against these very expressions. At Greenham Common the women sat vigil against the accumulation and deployment of trident missiles. In their activities of knitting and sewing they were both non-aggressive and yet persistent reminders of the devastation these weapons could wreak. When the police came to remove them, they frustrated those efforts by creating a tangle of threads beneath which they lay. This web reminds me of the beautiful installations of Chihara Shiota, but both speak of power structures and how frustrating them can allow space for different thinking.





## Letter from the Chair cont'd

As we celebrate our 60th birthday at the Knitting & Stitching Show in the autumn (I hope you all made your submission), the various textile actions and practices of the group will come together under the title 'Essences'. This theme allows us to set out to our public what these practices can mean and do as a form of articulation of being an ethical being within the world. We have members whose work is overtly and explicitly political, members whose work deals with the waste and detritus that litters our world and others that speak of what it means to work in tandem, in co-production, with nature. These are inspiring and challenging ways of working and speak of the importance of groups such as ours.

Our members over the past 60 years have not shied away from speaking truths, speaking women's truths specifically. It seems that this need is even more urgent now and I am excited and encouraged when I look at the work of our group through this lens. These practices allow us both to speak up, but also to find beauty and energy within a world that at times can seem overwhelming and frightening.

There is much to celebrate and I thank you all for this inspiration.

Best wishes  
Catherine





# 2023 Exhibition - Sunny Bank Mills 'Tailored'

Richard McVetis/Ealish Wilson

As selection takes place for our 2022 'Essence' exhibition at K&S in the autumn, we already have the brief and details for the 2023 exhibition at Sunny Bank Mills.

Key dates and information:

- Exhibition title - Tailored
- Digital Submission opens - 1st Feb 2023
- Digital Submission deadline - 6th Feb 2023
- Artist Announced - End of February 2023
- Exhibitions dates - 6th May - 2nd July 2023
- Textile Festival - 11th - 13th May 2023 - Opportunity for members to be part of this, more details soon





# 2023 Exhibition - Sunny Bank Mills

## 'Tailored'

Richard McVetis/Ealish Wilson

### THE BRIEF FROM SUNNY BANK MILLS

We are delighted to invite the 62 Group of Textile Artists to develop new work exploring our theme 'Tailored'.

Tailored: from the Latin verb to cut and a word we associate particularly with suits and suiting. The cloth produced at the Mill was most commonly used for suits and although they weren't produced here, Leeds is well known as the birthplace of that great suit producer and supplier, Marks & Spencer.

62 Group members are invited to submit work that responds to the word "tailored" and its meaning to you and your practice. For example, is it the process of making, spinning yarn, designing, weaving, and dyeing cloth or the pattern cutting and sewing of a garment? Does it relate to the fabric of the Mill building or to those people that made it? Or perhaps the cloth's journey after leaving the Mill, to those who used it and wore it?

What relevance does the word "tailored" have now? Does it have connotations of gender? How has its use extended beyond textiles to explain how we adapt and respond to our circumstances? Is its meaning as simple as the word "made"?

The exhibition will take place in the Gallery, the former cloth warehouse of the Mill, a beautiful light and airy 3,000 sq ft space.

In addition, we may consider using other spaces around the Mill, particularly external spaces, and welcome proposals for site sensitive works. Please contact [jane @sunnybankmills.co.uk](mailto:jane@sunnybankmills.co.uk), in the first instance, if you are interested in exploring this possibility.

Considering the Gallery's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we would particularly welcome work that responds to its heritage, although this is not essential. Tailored will be part of a programme of exhibitions and engagement that celebrates textiles and their place in the local community and economy.





# 2023 Exhibition - Sunny Bank Mills 'Tailored'

Richard McVetis/Ealish Wilson

## THE BRIEF cont/d

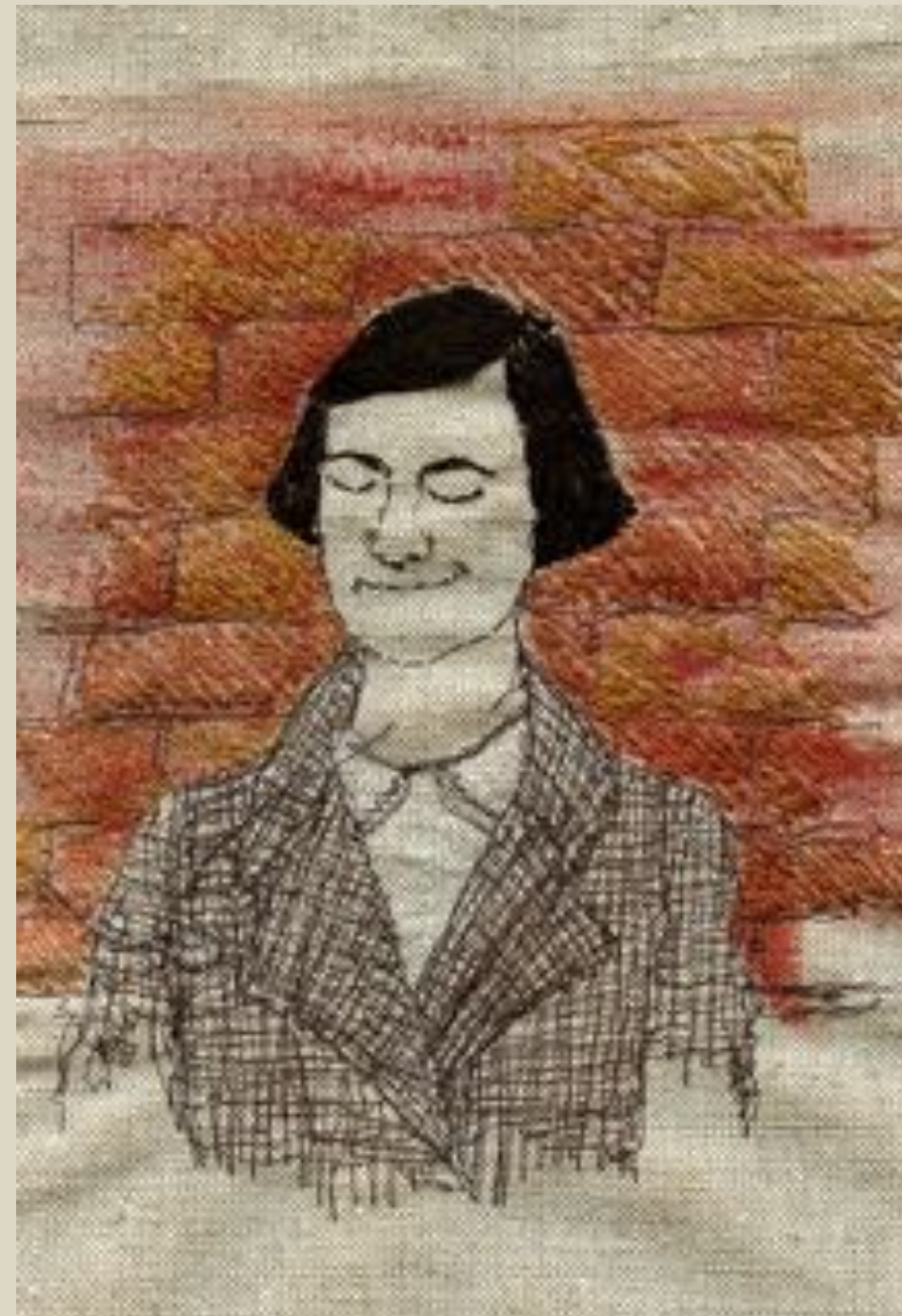
### Resources:

- Tailor: The Concise Dictionary of Oxford English 5<sup>th</sup> Edn 1964  
*n. 1. Maker of (esp. Men's) garments esp. to order*  
*Tailorbird, kind of small bird sewing leaves together to form nest; tailormade, (esp. of woman's dress) made by---- usu. W. little ornament & w. special attention to exact fit; .... Tailors twist, kind of strong silk thread*  
*2.vb be work as a [ME & AF taillour, = of OF tailleor f. LL taliatorum taliare*
- Concise Oxford English Dictionary 12<sup>th</sup> Edition 2011  
*Tailor n. a person whose occupation is making clothes such as suits for individual customers v.1. (of a tailor) a person who makes (clothes) to fit individual customers 2. Make or adapt for a purpose or person*  
*-DERIVATIVES tailoring (noun)*  
*- ORIGIN ME: from anglo saxon fr. Taillour, lit. 'cutter' based on late L taliare "to cut" Tailored – adj – (of clothes) smart, fitted, and well cut*
  - [www.sunnybankmills.co.uk](http://www.sunnybankmills.co.uk) – resources include 3D films of the Archive; the former weaving sheds (now Weavers' Green – an outdoor space) and the former finishing rooms. There are also several oral histories
  - [www.Leeds2023.co.uk](http://www.Leeds2023.co.uk)
  - Tours – you are very welcome to come and visit us – lots to inspire!  
Any further questions – please ask [arts@sunnybankmills.co.uk](mailto:arts@sunnybankmills.co.uk)





# Handling Collection by Lucy Brown



The 62 Group's Handling Collection has been a bit quiet in recent years but we are hoping, with your help, we can re-launch, display and use this fantastic resource at our next Exhibition 'In-Essence' at The Knitting and Stitching Show this Autumn.

The 62 Group's Handling Collection was launched in 2012 as part of the celebrations of the Group's 50th Anniversary year. The Launch included using the Handling Collection in a drawing workshop led by 62 Group Artist Rachael Howard. One of the 62 Group's aims is to 'promote and encourage greater awareness of textile art through education'. The Handling Collection sits firmly within this remit.

The Handling Collection so far consists of twenty-two 2d and 3d 'handleable' samples generously donated by 62 Group exhibiting members. These samples are catalogued along with supporting information supplied at the time of the donation. The idea of the Handling Collection is that it builds up and develops over time. It is a valuable resource and an interesting archive which engages and connects the Groups past, current, future members and audiences. The Collection is currently looked after by Lucy Brown.



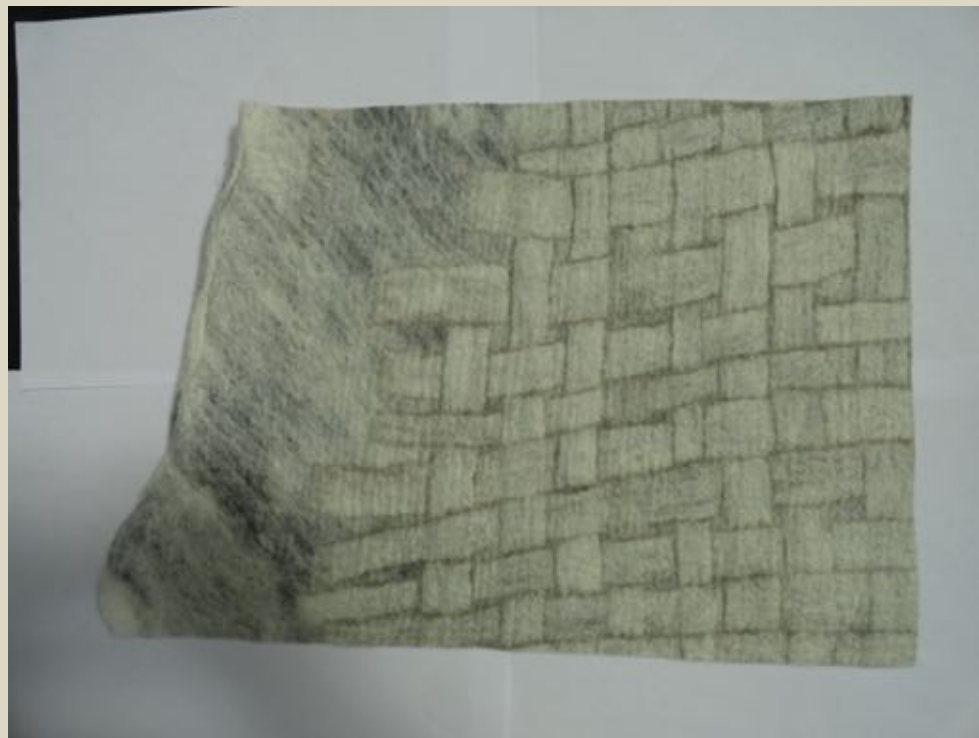
## Handling Collection cont'd



The sample donation is a voluntary one.

Our Handling Collection is an education resource and there for our members to use for 62 Group education events including, but not limited to workshops, talks, discussions, etc

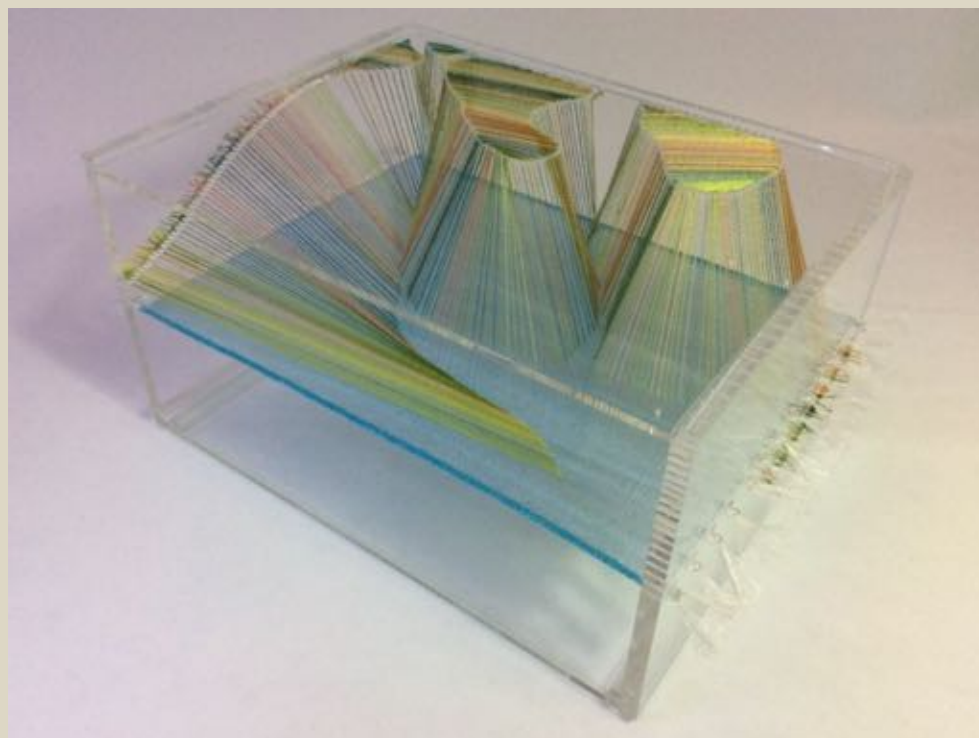
This is a callout for samples to be added into the collection, ready to go display and handled at the Knitting & Stitching show and beyond. The sample does not have to relate to your work you are making for our In-Essence Exhibition. The idea of the sample is that it gives a hands-on insight to individual processes, materials, ideas etc. The sample can be 2d or 3d.



There is no pressure to donate a sample, but if you would like to donate a sample to the 62 Group Handling Collection then please complete the attached donation form about the sample you would like to donate and print this out and post together with your sample to;

Lucy Brown, Flat 3, 8 Cambridge Road, Hove, East Sussex, BN3 1DF, England. UK

Before posting please can you inform Lucy that you are sending a sample, and also email your completed donation form and a photo of your sample. Will be very helpful.



Please send by 1<sup>st</sup> August 2022

Any questions or queries please contact Lucy on - 07951 657764

email - [lucybrownmakes@btinternet.com](mailto:lucybrownmakes@btinternet.com)

All samples will be acknowledged and gratefully received.

Thank you very much.



# Emma Talbot: The Age/L'Età

Review by Gavin Fry

Whitechapel Gallery, 77-82 Whitechapel High Street, E1 7QX

30<sup>th</sup> June – 4<sup>th</sup> September 2022

<https://www.whitechapelgallery.org>

When you step into *L'Età*, the Max Mara Art Prize for Women, by Emma Talbot (b. 1969, UK) these brave works at The Whitechapel Gallery ask us to contest outmoded power stories and step into a world of marvels and infernos populated by a lone female figure. Rapidly, I was immersed in this installation: I felt calmed, roused, soothed, and scared. Overwhelmingly my urge was to explore, these artworks are expeditions, and I was in them. In one huge room you become a player in two epic silk painted hangings, join in conversation with an arresting life-size sculptural figure, and savour twelve brilliant animations and four cases of intimately beautiful colour drawings.

The drawings on khadi paper are delicate and enveloping whilst the vast acrylic paintings on silk are arresting and at times accusatory - almost nose-y and hectoring with each at eleven metres long and nearly four meters deep. Rich dun colours spar with copper and mauve on the taught lurex limbs of a striding figure. With her long grey hair communicating danger and deviance this older woman can (as it has throughout history) be read as a powerful symbol of defiance and transgression in the face of social and gender inequality. She is here to reclaim her agency and all that the straight gaze seeks to homogenise, extract, and sanitise. To be a witch, after all, is to be queer, and here we see the toolkit a present-day fighter arms herself with.



Photo credit Sue Colver



Photo credit Sue Colver



Photo credit Whitechapel Gallery



# Emma Talbot: The Age/L'Età cont'd

## Review by Gavin Fry



Photo credit Sue Colver

The heroine of this narrative was partly inspired by Gustav Klimt's painting *The Three Ages of Woman* (1905), which features an apparently defeated elderly woman next to a younger woman and infant. In upending the image of the protagonist as inert, incapable, and ashamed, Talbot, through much visual and contextual research, re-presents her for us as a contemporary protagonist of system control (living her way through priapic lumps in a 'shitty Anthropocene' of ruins and volcanos). In praise of the pragmatic our storyteller asks: 'What if Growth came from Care?' as she has encounters in an interim realm.

Talbot's matriarch moves the human spirit; her wisdom, power and agency take her through the 12 Labours of Hercules without using any previously man-tried destructions, dominations, and oppressions to tackle climate emergency. This Hercules is recharacterized and gifted with compassion and understanding as the older woman, and the trials are metaphors for societal problems to be solved through ethical and sustainable activism.

With captivating directness this significant body of work throws a fecund shroud over a world gone bad, and with breath-taking scale and luminosity, weeds at the roots of power, governance, and man. It is an ambitious project that invites us to unravel attitudes to nature and representations of gender through an acutely humane lens. There is a complete lack of timidity and apology from this heroine (Emma Talbot) and that's very good.



# 2022 Selection Process

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

Vanessa Rolf

For our first ever Associate Members application process, we had a massive 85 applicants. Amazing quality too.

In fact some of the quality was so high, we moved 14 of these applicants to the New Members process, as it was obvious they were not 'emerging' artists, having national and international shows and had been awarded prizes or bursaries.

From the remaining applicants, 11 were chosen from a range of practices to move through to Stage 2 in September.

Thanks to Catherine, Teresa, Ealish, Jane, Sally and external member Yemi Awosile for being on the panel.

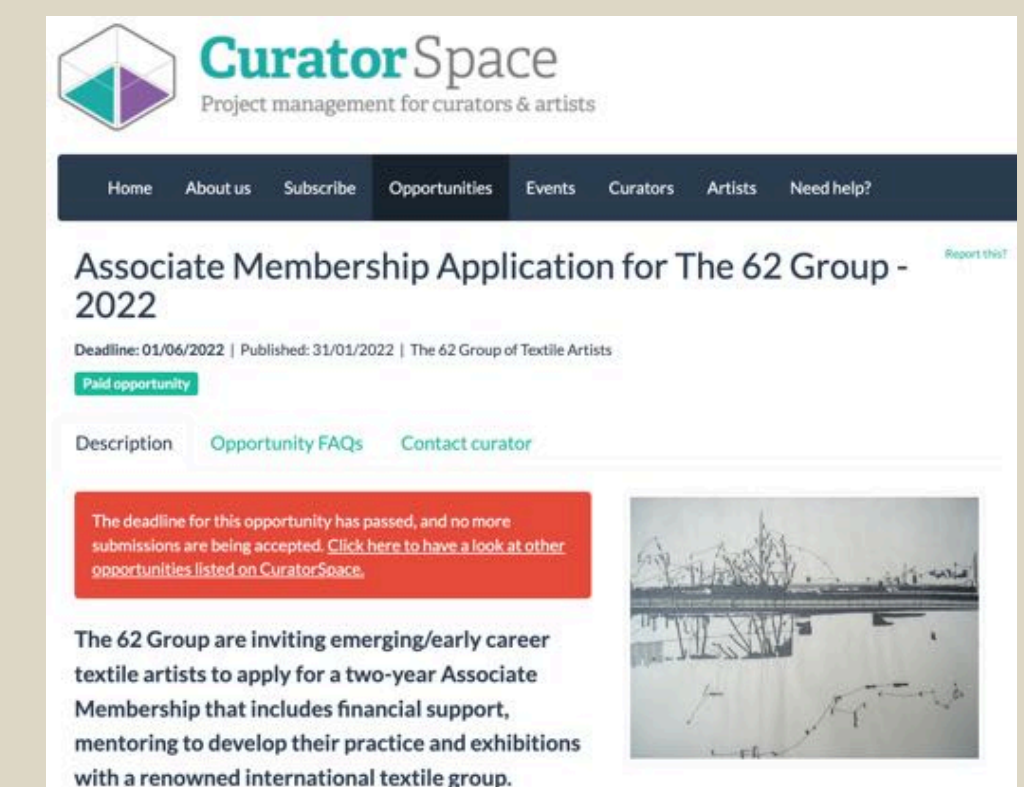
Lot's of learning about the process and how we might provide more clarity on what we mean by 'emerging' artists. All to be digested and ready for next year!

## NEW MEMBERS

Ealish Wilson

We had a great response to the New Member applications. There was a wide range of work from 44 applicants as well as a number of applications that we moved from the Associate Membership process as they were not considered 'emerging' artists. From the total, we chose 8 to move forward to Stage 2 selection which will happen in person in September.

Thank you to Catherine for chairing the selection day. Sally, Vanessa, Gavin and Ann for taking time to volunteer and sharing your insights. All support was very much appreciated.





# Associate Members Scheme

**PLEASE HELP OUT!!!**

**WE KNOW SO MANY OF YOU WERE PASSIONATE ABOUT INTRODUCING THIS SCHEME BUT TO MAKE IT A SUCCESS, WE NEED SOME MORE VOLUNTEERS TO GUIDE THE ASSOCIATES.**

**HERE'S THE INFORMATION FROM LAST TIME, PLEASE HELP IF YOU CAN**

Dear Members,

We are still looking for members who can offer practical support, guidance and mentoring over 6 sessions per year or who can share a specific skill in a one off session.

If you would be willing to be a supporting friend to our associate member or if you can share one of the following skills (or something not listed) please do get in touch.

- Development of a CV
- Development of a business plan
- Marketing and networking
- How to respond to an exhibition brief
- Advice on putting together exhibition applications
- Photographing work
- Writing statements
- Advice on putting together a 62 Group full membership application

Please do not be modest about your skills and expertise! Remember these new members will be at the beginning of their journey so your insight will be invaluable.

On the next two pages you'll find a full brief for mentors with more detail.

Please let us know if you can help in any way by getting in touch with Vanessa Rolf. [vanessa.rolf@network.rca.ac.uk](mailto:vanessa.rolf@network.rca.ac.uk)

Look forward to hearing from you

Best wishes  
Vanessa



# Film Workshop

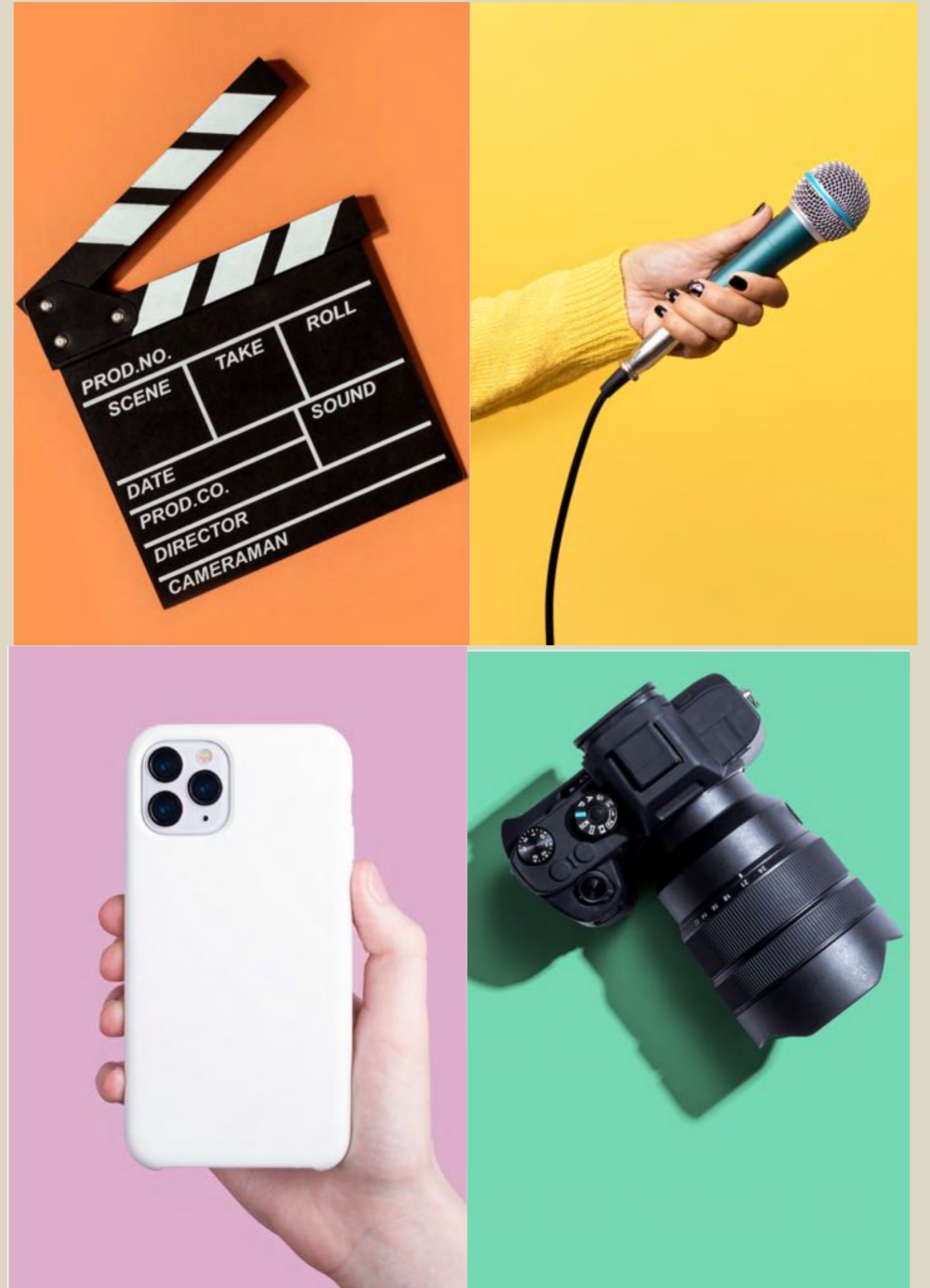
Vanessa Rolf

We finally have our Film Workshop ready to view. [Here's the link](#) that will take you to the content which you can view at your own pace, in your own time. This is aimed at beginners - you only need your smart phone or tablet to film. Hopefully it'll give us all loads of tips and hints on how to best film our practice for videos to accompany exhibitions and for education events. This is for 62Group use only - not for public consumption - so please **do not share** this link with anybody outside our group.

You'll have a few weeks to watch the workshop and play with some of your own filming, then there will be a Q&A session with Lucy Forrester (who put the workshop together and edited our BTB video) so you can ask further questions. We'll collect questions in advance and we'll also record the session so that everyone can pick up further tips. The date for this session will follow soon.

As a reminder, below is the brief for the video that Lucy will edit for the K&S show. We are really hoping to include films from as many members as possible so please do have a go at filming once you have watched the video - Lucy's editing works magic to pull things together so please don't worry about things that will need to be cut out or spliced together!

*To create enough footage that can be edited down to approx 1 minute per member. The content is to be an insight into your practice generally - studio shots, close up making, materials, tools, equipment that kind of thing. You will also need to record a separate audio track that will introduce yourself and the kinds of things you like to make work about or with.*





## Online Networking meetings

The next online networking meeting is scheduled for:  
Thurs 14th July 7.30-8.30pm

In this session, Lucy Brown will be talking about the Handling Collection (see above) and her intentions to boost the number of samples for a display alongside our 60th Anniversary Exhibition at the K&S.

**Anybody else got anything interesting they want to share?**

Sally will send around a zoom link a few days in advance of each session and set up the meeting,

Anybody who is up for hosting a *future* networking session, please email Sally on [secretary@62group.co.uk](mailto:secretary@62group.co.uk)





05 06 22

## Committee Meeting Decisions & actions

### Present:

Catherine Dormor  
Richard McVetis  
Isobel Currie  
Vanessa Rolf  
Emily Jo Gibbs  
Ealish Wilson  
Sally Spinks  
Hannah Lamb  
Anna Gravelle

### Committee:



We're still exploring how we can split the Exhibitions role to replace Richard.

We also really need an extra pair of hands to **partner with Vanessa to take the Diversity and Inclusion** work forward.

**Please come forward if you're interested**



### Finance:

We still have a healthy balance £18,429.



#### Please note:

**Only bank transfers or Paypal will be accepted for subs, selection or hanging fees. NO CHEQUES**

### Membership:

Two sabbaticals were agreed for Joanna Kinnersly-Taylor and Gladys Paulus.

Confirmed that Jo Hall will become an Honorary Non-Exhibiting Member.

**PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU CHANGE YOUR EMAIL**



### Publicity:

No major updates

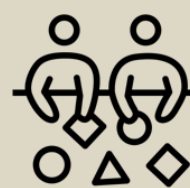
### New Members:

44 applications for New Members plus 14 passed from Associate Members as they were not considered 'emerging' artists. 8 selected for Stage 2.

85 applications were received for Associate Members. After the 14 were passed to New Members, 11 were selected for Stage 2. Great to have an external member of the panel - Yemi Awosile.

The standard was high in both submissions. Lots of learning gained about the Associate process that will inform next year's round.

### Education:



For K&S we are proposing:

- A talk at Alexandra Palace (& Harrogate TBC) by Catherine exploring the history and legacy of 62 Group.
- Stand tours led by 62 Group members
- Handling collection

### Social media:

Please keep tagging 62group in your posts ;)



### Audrey Walker Legacy:

Agreed that a conference/symposium would be the best way to honour Audrey's legacy.

Possibly held in 2024 to celebrate 62group @ 62 years. To include talks, workshops and other events as well as open up conversations with a wider and more diverse group.

### Diversity & Inclusion:



Vanessa is still looking for a partner to help her with the rest of the Diversity and Inclusion plan. Including setting up some talks in dialogue with artists from different backgrounds. **Any ideas on guests, let Vanessa know.**

### Previous Minutes:

Approved and will be on the members site soon

Date of next meeting:  
3 September 2022

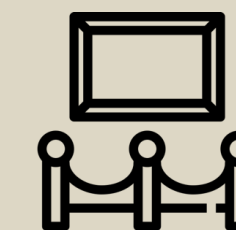


### Newsletter:

June edition has been circulated by Emily.



### Exhibitions:



K&S show Autumn 2022:  
"Essence"

Digital submission will close end of June, selection panel will be 11th July.

Sunny Bank Mills will be providing a brief for 2023 show. Details to follow.

Richard & Ealish are exploring options for 2024 and beyond.



### Artist Films:

The film workshop is almost ready for circulation. Once members have had time to view the workshop (in their own time and at their own pace), and start to create content, there will be a Q&A session with Lucy.

Aim is for members who want to take part to produce content for a video to accompany the K&S exhibition.



# Important info

## Your Committee 2022

### Officers

Catherine Dormor - Chair [chair@62group.co.uk](mailto:chair@62group.co.uk)

Sally Spinks - Secretary [secretary@62group.co.uk](mailto:secretary@62group.co.uk)

Christina Hesford - Treasurer [treasurer@62group.co.uk](mailto:treasurer@62group.co.uk)

### Committee Members

Vanessa Rolf - Education [vanessa.rolf@network.rca.ac.uk](mailto:vanessa.rolf@network.rca.ac.uk)

Richard McVetis - Exhibitions [richard.mcvetis@network.rca.ac.uk](mailto:richard.mcvetis@network.rca.ac.uk)

Hannah Lamb - Publicity [hannahjlamb@hotmail.com](mailto:hannahjlamb@hotmail.com)

Emily Jo Gibbs - Public Newsletter Editor [emily.jogibbs@btinternet.com](mailto:emily.jogibbs@btinternet.com)

Ealish Wilson - New Members Selection

Isobel Currie - Membership [i.currie@myphone.coop](mailto:i.currie@myphone.coop)

Anna Gravelle - Social Media [studio@annagravelle.com](mailto:studio@annagravelle.com)

### Contacts

Sally Spinks [secretary@62group.co.uk](mailto:secretary@62group.co.uk) to send information to all members

Isobel Currie [i.currie@myphone.coop](mailto:i.currie@myphone.coop) to update contact details

David Pitcher [davidpitcher@me.com](mailto:davidpitcher@me.com) to update your personal page info or to login into the members area of our website

## Newsletters

We have 2 newsletters.

A Members newsletter which contains a letter from the chair, important news about 62 group events, membership news and committee reports. This is sent out quarterly in Spring, Summer, Autumn and Winter

The Public Newsletter is mailed out to subscribers on 1st of March, June, September and December. It includes 62 Group news and events and individual members' news. To share your news with the public, please send details to Emily Jo Gibbs or add [emily.jogibbs@btinternet.com](mailto:emily.jogibbs@btinternet.com) to your own newsletter mailing list so she can share your news.

## Social Media

Contact Anna Gravelle [studio@annagravelle.com](mailto:studio@annagravelle.com)

Facebook @62groupoftextileartists

Twitter @62group

Instagram @the62group

## 62group website - Members area

Here you can find information and documents for exhibitions, newsletters and the full minutes of committee meetings.



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