

London Guild WSD - Tapestry Interest Group

Meeting 4 - Saturday 10 June 2017

For our fourth meeting everyone was asked to bring with them:

- News - any news of workshops, exhibitions, own weaving, etc.
- Tapestry Topic - the results of their further experiments with wrapping techniques.
- Ideas for a group response to the Guild exhibition
- What's Next - Ideas on what the group could do going forward.

News

- Workshops:
 - Catherine had attended 2 short courses given by Louise Martin at Higham Hall in Cumbria on the subjects of Eccentric Weave and Wedge Weave. She brought in her samples to show us and answered our deluge of questions. Her colourful wedge weave particularly drew our attention. The small piece on the right is a simple form of branching exercise.



- Jan spoke of her Group workshops with Jane Brunning and Pat Taylor in Angmering. Each session has a theme and Jan told us about her last two which were fascinating. At the first they listened to Revolutionary Russian music as a group and then were asked to weave something in response to it. Jan says she found herself thinking of the monolithic housing blocks synonymous with Stalinist Russia and how their collective layout dictated the path that has to be trodden. At the second meeting the group went out into Jane's garden and collected garden leaves and fallen materials. They were then asked to interpret them using techniques they wanted to experiment with. Jan's resulting weavings are fabulous.



Tapestry Topic

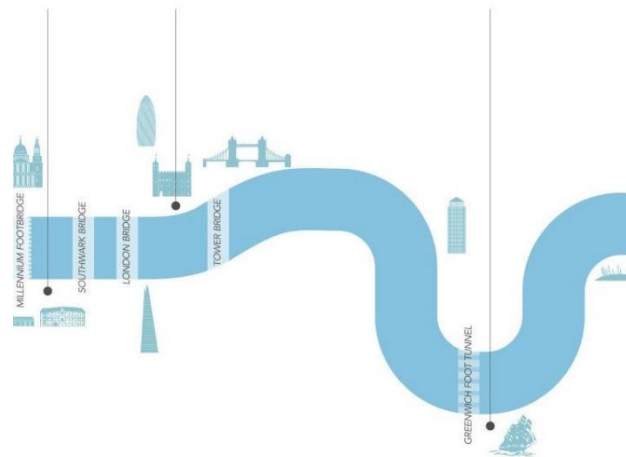
- Our challenge was to investigate the various ways of weaving a vertical line on a single warp from the compilation of techniques I gathered and distributed around the group. The aim was to see the differences in outcome between the techniques and what effect different yarns/setts/beating etc. may have.
- Sadly with so few of us able to attend we did not have much to look over. The star by far was Aruna who had set herself the challenge of weaving with raffia. As she anticipated, she found it difficult to wrap with such a stiff material. However the resulting sampler of techniques was a marvel and solicited many questions from the rest of us.



Workshop/Activities

- It was decided to postpone the workshop on woven pods until the September meeting when more could attend.
- With the Guild's Exhibition coming up in November we discussed the possibility of the Tapestry Interest Group collectively submitting a number of small tapestries to be hung together with the same parameters interpreted as each individual pleased. We all rather liked this idea as it was felt it could be done as well as our own work for the exhibition. After some discussion the proposal is: A piece roughly 15cm x 15cm based on the shape of the river in the image below, but interpreted however you wish. We also thought they would look good mounted on these mounting frames supplied by Weaversbazaar - <https://www.weaversbazaar.com/product-list/equipment/birchwood-mounting-frame>

As yet we have not decided how to finish the frames – should they all be the same or again should we stain/paint/wax as we see fit to go with our weavings.



If you are interested in joining in with us let me know and I will send you a pdf of the image. I can also place a single order with weaversbazaar and hopefully save some P&P if everyone wishes.

- I had asked the group for help with putting together weaving kits for sale at the exhibition. I had brought along frames made from artist stretcher bars and some CD's to try out simple weaving for a children's kit. We discussed what we thought would work best and what we needed to do to get kits and instructions together. We all went away with frames to ready as demonstration looms for the exhibition, which we also hoped would help us work out just how much yarns etc. each kit would need. We do need help with donations of 4ply/DK weight yarns; fancy yarns; warp yarn and of course CD's. We have had some fleece donated already so they will go well in the children's kits. We will then need help in creating 5 metre butterflies for the kits. Please let me know if you can.

What's Next

- September Workshop - Woven Pods
3D objects can be created by using the pulled thread technique on woven shapes. For more detail please see the notes from Meeting 2.
- OR we could be staining/painting/waxing our tapestry mounting frames.
Let me know what you would like to do.

That's it for this time. Any questions, drop me an email.

Karen