



October
5-11
2008

Fibres West



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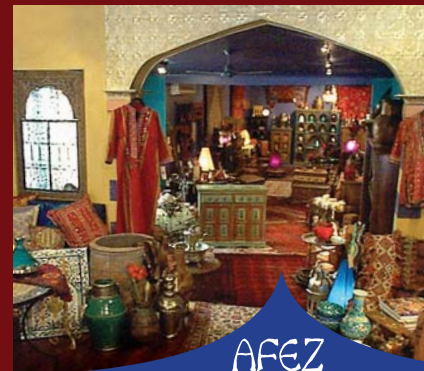
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THE INDIAN EXPERIENCE - ARTISANS OF KALA RAKSHA

COMPLEX CLOTH - JANE DUNNEWOLD (USA)

BASKETS AND VESSELS IN FELT - LIZ EVANS (ACT)

JOURNEYS: IN PAPER, IN PRINT - LIZ JENEID (NSW)

ALCHEMY: SORcery WITH PAINT,
POTIONS, PAPER AND CLOTH - JACINTA LEISHMAN (VIC)

TRANS(FORM): THE ART OF REINVENTING
RECYCLED CLOTHING - CHRISTINA NEWBERRY (WA)

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FIBRE AND RECYCLED MATERIALS - NALDA SEARLES (WA)

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MACHINE EMBROIDERING IN THE ROUND - KEN SMITH (TAS)

WOVEN TEXTURE - SHIRLEY TREASURE (WA)

FIBRES WEST 2008 is the sixth regional forum to be held in Western Australia under the auspices of The Australian Forum for Textile Arts Ltd (TAFTA). A fully residential program is offered over five days providing participants with opportunities for learning and the exchange of ideas with other textile craftspeople. Included is tuition in one of ten workshops, slide presentations, evening activities, a trade hall, bazaar and exhibitions.

WORKSHOPS run for five days, Monday to Friday, with a free half day on Wednesday afternoon October 8 when optional activities will be offered. Generally, workshops are limited to 12 participants. Most workshops have a materials fee, payable to the tutor on the first day. Students will be advised of workshop requirements on enrolment. Workshops are filled on a first-come first-served basis. If your preferred workshop is full or cancelled, you will be offered a place in your second preference workshop, another workshop or a full refund. The organisers reserve the right to withdraw a workshop if the minimum enrolment of eight is not reached by July 31 2008.

BUNBURY CATHEDRAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL is set in bushland at Gelorup on the southern outskirts of Bunbury in the south west of Western Australia. This modern co-educational boarding school is an ideal venue for Fibres West, with new spacious dining hall and upgraded accommodation, including disabled facilities.

TRAVEL TO BUNBURY from Perth is by car or daily coach or rail services. The travelling distance by car is about 190km, approximately two hours drive. Coach services depart from the East Perth Bus terminal and rail services depart from Perth City railway station.



Workshops and Tutors

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Fibres West 2008 - A regional forum of The Australian Forum for Textile Arts Ltd (TAFTA)

Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School, Bunbury, WA

October 5 - 11 2008

THE INDIAN EXPERIENCE - ARTISANS OF KALA RAKSHA (INDIA)

Kala Raksha, situated in Bhuj, Kutch, was registered as a Society and Trust on August 26 1993. The Trust's mission is to preserve and protect traditional arts, primarily through assisting artisan cooperatives. This is a grass roots organisation; management is drawn from the local community and 30% of the price of Kala Raksha products goes directly to the village women involved. Kala Raksha's artisans work with designers and Trustees to create contemporary pieces inspired by their own traditions. In recent times, a Design School has been established to encourage these directions, and visiting tutors work with all facets of art/craft and design. Kala Raksha currently practise six styles of embroidery: the Sindh-Kutch regional styles of suf, khaarek, and paako, and the ethnic styles of Rabari, Garasia Jat, and Mutava. The Kala Raksha complex, located 25 miles from Bhuj, has a museum, shop, workshop, office and guest house with structures designed to adapt traditional architecture to contemporary function.

www.kala-raksha.org

TAFTA came to know and host artisans from Kala Raksha in 2003 through the assistance of Carole Douglas, and a project known as *Resurgence*. This collaboration is documented in *TEXTILE Fibre Forum* magazine (p. 32-33 Issue 69, 2003), and in the superb colour catalogue produced by the Manly Art Gallery and Museum, NSW, where the *Resurgence* exhibition was launched.

This initiative was in direct response to the aftermath of the devastating earthquakes in Rajasthan in 2001. For *Resurgence*, artisans were encouraged to express what had happened to them, their families, villages, and the larger community; they did this using traditional skills but with new imagery.

INDIA! The group of artisans from Kala Raksha will be accompanied by Judy Frater, world expert on Rabari and founder of Kala Raksha, who will offer a rare glimpse into the colourful world of these nomadic people. Judy is author of *Threads of Identity: Embroidery and Adornment of the Nomadic Rabaris* and will provide a series of audio-visual presentations on the life and skills of the Rabari and the history of Kala Raksha Vidhyalaya, the Design School which she founded. Each day will begin with a presentation for the whole group enrolled in **INDIA!** Up to 24 people will pursue the arts of Bandhani (tie & dye), Shisha (mirror) work, traditional stitching, appliqué and mud-mirror work. The sharing of cultural experiences is an important emphasis. On enrolment, participants will choose between the following two workshops as the main emphasis for the week, although sharing between workshops will take place whenever feasible. Only one materials fee is payable.

This segment of Fibres West 2008 is supported through the assistance of the Australia-India Council.



INDIA! MASTERING THE KNOT AND DOT BANDHANI (TIE-DYE) - FROM THE SOURCE

Ali Mohammad Isha Khatri is a National Award winning artist from Bhuj, the heart of Kutch - the home of traditional Bandhani. As a child Ali Mohammad learned his art from his father, mother and grandmother who were all experts in the technique. Today Ali Mohammad's skills are internationally acclaimed. As well as being a tutor for the Mittagong FORUM 2003 in Australia, he has demonstrated at many overseas conferences including the 1998 Shibori symposium in Tokyo. In India, Ali Mohammad has worked at the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad and at the National Craft Museum in Delhi - and over the years many students have found their way to Bhuj to study with him in his own studio. A great experimenter, Ali Mohammad takes the art of Bandhani into the 21st century.

Bandhani is believed to have originated in the Sindh area some 5000 years ago and is still widely practised today. In fact, Bandhani is the most important economic craft activity in Kutch. Ali Mohammad will teach students how to build up intricate patterns and brilliant colour fields using the simple techniques of tying and dyeing. You will experiment on cotton and silk with direct and reactive dyes. Once mastered, these techniques will allow you to create striking fabrics in endless variations.

Estimated materials fee of \$25 - \$30 per person for all dyes, chemicals, threads and special tools, plus some cloth.

INDIA! DECORATIVE ARTS OF THE RABARI: SHISHA, APPLIQUÉ, MUD-MIRROR WORK

Rajabhai Pachan Rabari and Lachhuben Raja Rabari come from the Rabari village of Gunda Vandh on the coast of Kutch in Gujarat. Rajabhai and Lachhuben are key leaders and teachers at the Kala Raksha crafts cooperative. Rajabhai gave up camel herding fifteen years ago to become one of Kutch's leading machine embroiderers. Like all Rabari he is an expert in mud mirror work. Lachhuben is one of Kala Raksha's most talented embroiderers. Raniben Ratilal Bhanani learned embroidery the traditional way from her family in Sindh, Pakistan and came as a refugee to India in 1972 where she helped to establish a school for her community in Jura Camp, Kutch. She has created narrative appliqué and embroidery works since 2002 and is considered to be an expert artisan.

Students are offered a unique opportunity to learn some of the traditional skills for which the Rabari are so famous. Rabari decorate all facets of life - home, herd and human - with their intricate and colourful techniques. Students have the option of trying all skills demonstrated, or focussing on one or two. Options include making a small mud mirror panel, working samplers of traditional embroidery and appliqué stitches, incorporating Shisha mirrors into textile pieces and/or creating appliqué designs based on a personal narrative. One possible outcome is the start of a Toran (doorway hanging).

Estimated materials fee of \$25 - \$30 per person.

COMPLEX CLOTH - JANE DUNNEWOLD (USA)

Jane Dunnewold is the author of *Complex Cloth* (1996) and *Improvisational Screen Printing* (2003). She has exhibited widely and was awarded the Quilt Japan Prize, and the Gold Prize at the Taegue International Textile Exhibition. Dunnewold writes *HeARTCloth Quarterly*, a subscription based journal on textiles, and maintains ArtCloth Studios in San Antonio, Texas. Additional information and exhibition experience can be found at www.complexcloth.com.

The workshop introduces participants to the principles of Complex Cloth - white fabric - layered through the use of multiple surface patterning techniques. These include the use of dyes, discharging agents, paints and foils. The media are applied using tools generated in the workshop. Each participant makes a series of stamps, stencils and silk screens, which are then used to produce the layered and patterned surface. Emphasis is on mastery of technique and on the creation of tools. Discussions on studio set-up, safety and design development round out the week.

Beginner to Advanced. Estimated materials fee \$40 - \$50 per person.

BASKETS AND VESSELS IN FELT - LIZ EVANS (ACT)

Liz Evans has worked in the textile arts since the eighties, principally in hand and machine embroidery, custom design fashion and millinery. She has been a dedicated feltmaker since 1992 and draws on her experience in other areas of textiles to incorporate into her feltmaking and enjoys the challenge of three-dimensional forms. Liz is an experienced feltmaking tutor who has been teaching, selling and exhibiting felt for the past 12 years. Liz holds an Associate Diploma of Arts in Creative Clothing and Textile Design Certificate of Fashion Headwear.

This is a technique based class where students will create a series of three-dimensional, seamless, felted baskets and vessels. The class will cover the use of piecing, weaving, coiling and stitching for design and construction as well as more practical aspects such as the integration of strong handles and achieving a sturdy, high quality finish to the felt. Students will be encouraged to design and make individual and original vessels that may be for practical use or works of art - or both. At the end of the course students will have a knowledge of a range of design and construction options which they will be able to choose from to create practical and/or art felt baskets and vessels.

Some felting experience is essential. No materials fee.

JOURNEYS: IN PAPER, IN PRINT - LIZ JENEID (NSW)

After teaching visual arts for 20 years, Liz Jeneid is now an Honorary Fellow in the Faculty of Creative Arts, University of Wollongong. As well as teaching textiles and visual investigation, she introduced a Book Arts program in 1990. Being a regular traveller, Liz finds her work often reflects the experiences she has had on these journeys as she draws on her journals for information and images. Recent travel has included residencies in Greece and on Arctic and Antarctic expeditions. Her work is included in collections in Australia and overseas.

Participants will explore the subject of Journeys, either personal journeys or responses to travel and place, using simple printmaking techniques in combination with text to develop an Artist's book. The book is a personal art form and can encapsulate ideas and thoughts that often 'live' in a diary and have not yet taken on a visual form. The workshop will start with some writing exercises to establish the text then work on how to combine it with images made using monoprints and transfer prints.

Some visual art experience would be useful but not essential. Materials fee \$30 per person.

ALCHEMY: SORcery WITH PAINT, POTIONS, PAPER AND CLOTH - JACINTA LEISHMAN (VIC)

Jacinta Leishman began her love of creative textiles in the UK nine years ago as a student of Valerie Campbell-Harding. Returning to Australia, she completed her City and Guilds Certificate through The Embroiderers' Guild, Victoria. Since then she has given workshops around Australia and is inspired by both colour and chance. Jacinta now employs paper and the cloth arts in creating pieces that evolve through play and experimentation, believing that a 'lick of paint can fix almost anything'.

Let your destructive nature come to the fore, and transform the ordinary into pure magic! Burn, stain, slash, stitch, paint, plaster, cast (*take a breath here*), stamp, wire and wrap your way to unique and curious assemblages, collages, kooky dolls, artists' books, vessels, icons, jewellery or whatever evolves. The class is ideal for people with adventurous inclinations and for the odd 'mad scientist'. An unhealthy obsession with all things 'recyclable' is desirable.

Both beginners and 'old hands' welcome. Materials fee \$15 per person.

TRANS(FORM): THE ART OF REINVENTING RECYCLED CLOTHING - CHRISTINA NEWBERRY (WA)

Christina Newberry has a BA in Visual Arts from Edith Cowan University, majoring in Textiles. She currently lives in Perth and has established a reputation for deconstructing/reconstructing existing garments, exploring themes of texture, colour, form and history. Newberry's one-off original garments have sold locally in Perth in stores such as Varga Girl, Department and Atlas. Her practice has a strong environmental focus demonstrated by her interest in the creation of sustainable, ecological clothing that still retains a strong aesthetic quality. She also continues to develop her international reputation in the area of wearable art.

The clothing we choose to wear represents our individual expression in the world. In a culture of mass-manufactured goods the potential to still create clothing that is uniquely original and individual is more important than ever. This workshop will endeavour to use creativity, imagination, play, and deconstruction/reconstruction to transform clothing. It will highlight the exciting potential that is latently inherent within the structure, texture and form of recycled clothes.

Students will require basic sewing skills with both a sewing machine and hand stitching. No materials fee.

EXPRESSING PERSONAL IMAGERY USING FIBRE AND RECYCLED MATERIALS - NALDA SEARLES (WA)

Nalda Searles has been working with fibre textiles and recycled materials for some years, and her work has been exhibited widely. More recently she has been sensitively facilitating creative development workshops for makers who feel they want to be connected with something beyond the obvious. She has been working collaboratively with indigenous and non-indigenous craftspeople, and for the past 20 years Nalda has taught textile students from Edith Cowan University at annual art camps in the Western Australian landscape.

Participants in this workshop will learn how to combine fabrics and found objects with an assortment of fibres. Multiple skills associated with soft three-dimensional construction will be taught as required and may include basketry techniques, plant dyeing, drawing, embroidery and stitchery. Creative development exercises will help to put students in touch with a personal imagery which can then be translated into sculptural forms. The outcome will be largely dependent on the choice of materials and willingness to explore the conceptual experience.

No previous fibre skills are necessary but general hand sewing skills would be helpful, plus a desire to express your own individual imagery and language. Materials fee \$5 per person.

OUT OF THE BOX - GLEN SKIEN (QLD)

Glen Skien is a print maker and mixed media artist who has exhibited consistently since 1990 and recently staged a highly acclaimed national survey exhibition *Palimpsest: The Art of Glen Skien*. Since returning from Japan in 2000, his mixed media box works have captured viewers through their intimate scale, creating empathy, and a sense of personal identity. In the same year he established Silent Parrot Press, where he continues to operate his studio with a focus on limited edition prints and Artists' Books. Glen is currently completing a Master of Visual Arts program at Griffith University's Queensland College of the Arts.

Participants will have the opportunity to develop the skills for creating multi-section artists' boxes incorporating found objects and images that relate to personal experience. Students are encouraged to explore ways of expressing certain experiences of place or person through the use of objects and materials confined to the simplest of structures: the box.

No experience is necessary, apart from the experience of life. No materials fee.

MACHINE EMBROIDERING IN THE ROUND - KEN SMITH (TAS)

Ken Smith has spent 35 years (17 full-time) exploring the possibilities of freehand machine embroidery together with silk painting. Ken confesses to being hopelessly addicted to both, and remains excited by their possibilities. He loves teaching, and otherwise spends as much time as possible honing his existing skills and extending their range. So far, the only man to be selected to exhibit in Art to Wear (under the auspices of The Quilters' Guild of NSW Inc.), Ken is in international demand as a tutor. His work is in private collections throughout the world.

Many people embroider in the flat and then shape the resulting embroidery to make a three-dimensional form. Ken will instruct you on how to mould the shape and embroider the result - in the round. The possibilities for machine-embroidered decorative developments (and the range of available techniques) are limitless and exciting, and the shape, whether bowl or hat, can present interesting challenges in design and technique.

Some experience helpful, but all comers accepted. Materials fee \$10 - \$20 per person.



WOVEN TEXTURE - SHIRLEY TREASURE (WA)

Shirley Treasure, has been creating garments and fabric from an early age. Her passion led her to study art and design, majoring in woven textiles, before completing an apprenticeship with leading Irish tapestry artist, Lisbeth Mulcahy. She spent six years tapestry weaving and production weaving before moving to Australia. Shirley continues to create pieces of textile art for both display and function, for exhibition and retail outlets. She is a member of the Complex Weavers group, various contemporary craft and design groups and the current Vice President of the Handweavers', Spinners' and Dyers' Guild of Western Australia, Inc.

See a flat two-dimensional weave come to life in three dimensions, and tired traditional patterns transformed into creative contemporary constructions! Learn how to add texture to your weaving by using various textured yarns in the warp, complementary warp, weft or adding them to finished pieces. Weavers will explore combinations using a variety of textural yarns, to find those which will work in harmony with each other to create unique scarves, wraps, fabric lengths or articles of your choosing.

A desire to play with texture, and some weaving experience, would be beneficial for this workshop. Materials fee \$10 - \$20 per person.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Commencing for Fibres West 2008 Regional Textile Forum, a scholarship fund has been established to assist participants who, without the benefit of the scholarship, would have difficulty attending the Forum. Applicants should be actively participating in the fibre arts community, either as a practitioner or a promising student. The selected recipient would be one whose participation at the Forum benefitted not only themselves but the craft itself.

Participants must be nominated by an individual or group. If the nominee is a student they must be nominated by their tutor or teacher.

Application forms can be downloaded from the Fibres West web site:

www.fibreswest.com.au or contact the organisers.

Contact details are listed on the back of this brochure.

Closing date for applications is April 1 2008.



Other Information

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Fibres West 2008 - A regional forum of The Australian Forum for Textile Arts Ltd (TAFTA)

Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School, Bunbury, WA

October 5 - 11 2008

ACCOMMODATION

Accommodation is twin share in a wing comprising four or five rooms, a kitchenette and bathroom facilities. Linen is provided, but participants will need to bring their own pillows and blankets. Laundry facilities are available. There is ample parking space on site. All meals from the evening of Sunday October 5 to the morning of Saturday October 11 2008 are included. Special diets are catered for on request. Please note that smoking is not permitted anywhere on the premises, either indoors or outdoors.

TRADE HALL

Suppliers at trade tables provide an opportunity to purchase or order textile supplies. Traders will be open on arrival day, Sunday October 5 (the day before classes commence) from 1:00pm - 6:00pm, each morning before classes from 8:00am - 9:00am and during lunch breaks 12:00pm to 1:00pm.

BIZARRE BAZAAR

Tutors and students will have the opportunity to sell their own work to Fibres West participants. The cost of a Bazaar table is \$20.00 for a full table and \$10.00 for a half table. The table (about trestle size) can be requested on the enrolment form at the back of this brochure. *This is a great opportunity to market your work to those who appreciate handcrafted fibre/textile pieces, and would like to add to their collections.*

CELEBRATION DINNER

A celebration dinner and final evening will be held on Friday October 10 for Fibres West tutors and participants.

NEWSLETTER

All enrolled participants will be sent a comprehensive pre-forum newsletter in the latter part of July 2008. If you wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail, be sure to include your e-mail address on the enrolment form.

CONTACT DETAILS

For all Fibres West enquiries:

Cherry Johnston
Fibres West 2008
PO Box 648
NORTH PERTH WA 6906

forum@fibreswest.com.au
www.fibreswest.com.au

For all TAFTA enquiries:

Janet De Boer
TAFTA
PO Box 38
THE GAP QLD 4061

tafta@inet.net.au
www.ggcreations.com.au/tafta





Participant Record

Fibres West 2008 - A regional forum of The Australian Forum for Textile Arts Ltd (TAFTA)

Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School, Bunbury, WA

October 5 - 11 2008

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FULL FEES (INCLUDING WORKSHOP, ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS)

TAFTA members: \$765.00

Non-members: \$815.00

COMPLETE THIS SECTION FOR YOUR RECORDS

My workshop preference is:

1st choice _____

2nd choice _____

Full Fee: \$ _____

Bazaar Table (\$20.00/ \$10.00): \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____

(Note: Fibres West is not registered for GST, no GST applies.)

Deposit (minimum \$100.00): \$ _____

Balance due by June 30 2008: \$ _____

Workshops are filled on a first-come, first-served basis. Waiting lists are applied to all workshops in order of receipt of enrolment form. If a place becomes available in your first choice, you will be moved into it.

Please make payment to:

Fibres West Regional Forum

Address:

Fibres West 2008

PO Box 648

NORTH PERTH WA 6906

CANCELLATION AND REFUNDS POLICY

Major commitments must be met, and in fairness to all, the policy concerning refunds is:

Cancellations to June 30 2008 - refund 80% fees paid.

Cancellations July 1 2008 to September 1 2008 - refund 50% fees paid.

Cancellations after September 1 2008 - no refund.

All subscribers to *TEXTILE Fibre Forum* magazine are automatically members of TAFTA. Consider becoming a member now if you are not already! See page 14 for details.





Enrolment Form - Front

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Fibres West 2008 - A regional forum of The Australian Forum for Textile Arts Ltd (TAFTA)

Bunbury Cathedral Grammar School, Bunbury, WA

October 5 - 11 2008

ENROLMENT FORM

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ Post Code: _____

Phone: _____

e-mail: _____

I am / am not a member of TAFTA (see page 14 for details).

WORKSHOP PREFERENCE

1st choice _____2nd choice _____

Workshop and Accommodation Fee: \$ _____

Bazaar Table (\$20.00/\$10.00): \$ _____

TOTAL AMOUNT DUE: \$ _____

Note: Fibres West is not registered for GST, no GST applies.

A minimum deposit of \$100.00 is required to secure a place.

Enclosed is: \$ _____

Balance due by June 30 2008: \$ _____

Please make payment out to:

Fibres West Regional Forum

Post to:

Fibres West 2008
PO Box 648
NORTH PERTH WA 6906

Please include a long, stamped, self addressed envelope for your receipt and student requirement list.

ACCOMMODATION PREFERENCE

In order that we may place you with like-minded souls, please provide the following information:

If you have a preference, please indicate with whom you might like to share a room:

I wish to be with other "Night Owls" - up late! Yes No

I am early to bed, early to rise - like quiet! Yes No

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS**DISABILITY REQUIREMENTS**

To **ENROL**: complete this enrolment form (pages 13 and 14), cut out and send with payment and a long, stamped, self addressed envelope. Address details are on the reverse side of this page. Make sure you have filled in the participant record on page 12 for your records.

TAFTA

The Australian Forum for Textile Arts Ltd (TAFTA) is a non-profit organisation formed in 1974 to promote textile arts.

Four issues of the magazine *TEXTILE Fibre Forum* are published annually. Subscription to the magazine gives automatic membership to TAFTA.

Membership subscription is \$38.50 per year or \$75.00 for two years. To join, send a **SEPARATE** payment made out to TAFTA, with your name and address to:

TAFTA
PO Box 38
THE GAP QLD 4061

Remember to enclose a stamped self-addressed envelope for a receipt.

For more information and online subscription, TAFTA is on the internet at:

www.ggcreations.com.au/tafta

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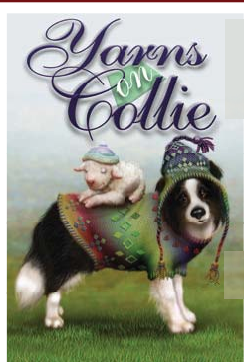
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