



Message from the President

December 2020

The end of 2020 is coming up quickly. Not quickly enough for some people. 2020 has been a crazy year due to COVID. Are you ready to see it end?

Despite the fact that 2020 was the year of the COVID 19 pandemic I have to admit that I have appreciated some of the changes it has brought. I have quite enjoyed getting to see people on Zoom instead of having to travel one or two hours to meet up with them. (I know it isn't the same as being there, but it is a great alternative when you live far away from central hubs.) Through Zoom I have enjoyed workshops, play dates, retreats and chats. Yes, I miss in-person connections, visiting friends and family, and traveling. For me, this year, 2020, brought a lot of time to realize how fortunate I am.

I hope you have been able to enjoy the transition of TFAM from in-person events to on-line Meet-Ups. I think I know more faces of TFAM members than ever before. I hope that 2021 brings more opportunities for TFAM to exhibit artwork and meet in person, but I also hope we continue the valuable on-line opportunities we have initiated.

Season's Greetings and a Happy New Year

Krista Zeghers - TFAM President

News

December 2020
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Newsletter Coordinator:
Yvonne Carlson

Next Issue Deadline:
Feb 15, 2021

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Guest Editorial

Zoom Workshop with Amanda McCavour

Submitted by **Cindy Smyth**

“Experimenting with Stitch & Water-Soluble Stabilizer”

November 11, 18 & 25, 2020

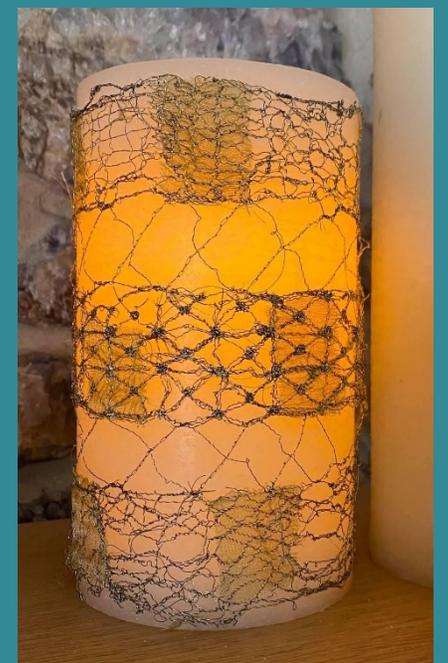
Members of TFAM had the great pleasure of spending three Wednesdays with textile artist, Amanda McCavour.

Amanda is a Toronto-based artist who works with machine stitched thread to create large-scale embroidery installations. Amanda's work explores her interest in thread's assumed vulnerability, its ability to unravel, and its strength when it is sewn together. Amanda is a delightful, positive, creative and encouraging individual, and she has a genuine sweetness to her. Her clear vision of beauty is inspiring and her compositions are stunning pieces of art. Twelve TFAM members got together with Amanda via Zoom, to play and experience the fun and creative techniques that Amanda has developed with thread and water-soluble stabilizer.

On Day 1 we were introduced to the water-soluble stabilizer, Sulky Solvy. We watched demos of stitching patterns and building layers with thread on the Solvy. Our first challenge was to make samples exploring colour, lines and patterns. We used whatever materials we had on hand in our studio, such as wool roving, yarn, loose threads, and fabric scraps, and sandwiched it all between layers of Solvy. We then machine stitched it all together so that all the threads connected. The magic happens when the Solvy is washed away and voila, a new technique is discovered.

We started Day 2 with a Show & Share of the samples made by members during the past week. What worked, what didn't. There was lots of discussion that kept us engaged and asking more questions. The demo was about deconstructing the surfaces we had created and then recreating something new, along with using alternative materials in the samples. Our challenge for the afternoon involved deconstruction of a sample and making a window (open space) sample. Again, magic. It was intriguing to see how those samples evolved into a new piece, and how each student took their work in a unique direction.

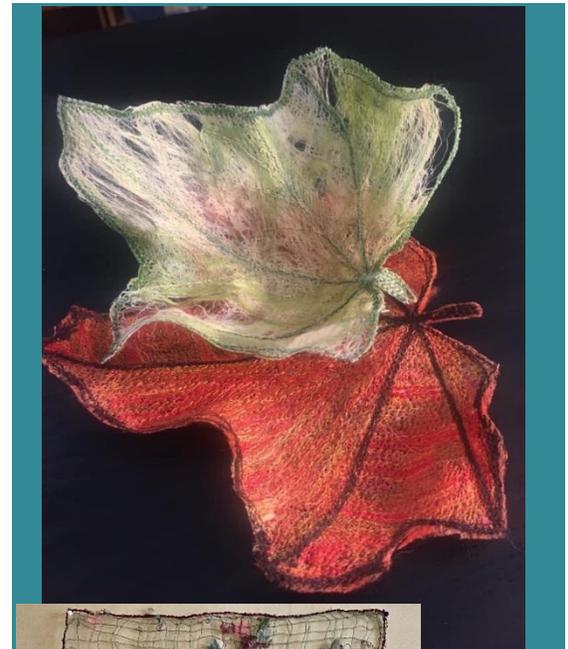
Samples from various participants:



Textile and Fibre Artists of Manitoba News

Day 3 started with Amanda's demo about positive and negative space, and how to develop a series of samples to explore variations in colour and density. We also learned some basic techniques to use to create three dimensional pieces. Hair straighteners, hair dryers, craft irons, and kitchen bowls all came into play. We spent the afternoon raiding our bathrooms for supplies and working on our challenges. Each afternoon we had the opportunity to work on our challenge for the day and at the end of each afternoon we regrouped to share what we had learned about the challenge, to ask questions, to problem solve, and share a few photos of our progress. Everyone was fearless in their willingness to explore, and the results were amazing. All of this was made possible by Amanda's knowledge, patience, openness, and generosity in sharing her thoughts and experience.

Take a look at TFAM's Facebook Member's Only page to see some beautiful pieces created as a result of this workshop. You can also see Amanda's work at amandamccavour.com.



Special Events

2020 TFAM Holiday



submitted by Yvonne Carlson

The TFAM Holiday Party was a blast! 39 Members and Guests joined in for a virtual party. We shared our art and our sewing, our activities and holiday plans and got to meet guests who participated in all our activities. We played Bingo, wrote limericks and we also got to hear about the great workshop that happened in November and got to see and hear about some of the lessons learned.



Limericks

submitted by Cathie Ugrin

In this crazy year of doing things differently and thinking outside of the box, the TFAM Executive decided what we needed at our 2020 Christmas Party was an activity that was in keeping with that philosophy. The obvious choice was ... creating Limericks! Described as 'the art form that shows consistency in a world gone mad', the limerick – a five-line poem with specific rhyming rules – was embraced wholeheartedly by the TFAM Party Goers!

Cathie gave an example to demonstrate the fun and not poetic prowess. We split into 'Zoom Rooms' groups, and were given a rhyming word that was familiar (flannel, bead, bobbin ...) and 10 minutes to let the inner poet emerge. Back together as a group, we presented our creations. The result was a hilarious recitation of everything from ridiculous to profound.

Cathie's example:

There once was a lady named Mabel
Who loved to make quilts on the table
She embellished the top
She just couldn't stop
'Til there wasn't even room for a label

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A sampling of the Limericks written at the party:

Snip
There once was a stitcher of free-form
Who lived outside of the norm
She went snip snip snip
Quicker than a fast clip
And stitched her way through the snow storm.

Handy
There once was a lady named Sandy
Who loved to make Christmas Candy
She went to her party
And found it quite empty
So she added, instead, lots of Brandy

TORN
There once was a quilter forlorn
Whose fabric, somehow was torn
The puppy, he was having some fun
But, when it was all said and done
We've left the quilter to mourn

Flannel
There once was an artist wrapped in flannel,
who attempted to cross the English Channel
But when diving in,
realizing could not swim
had to dry off by solar panel

Snip
There once was an artist of stitch,
Who thought all scissors should snip
The day came around
When her cutters were dull,
And she thought that her heart would rip!

Introducing the Members

Kim Sysa

Kim works with various mediums in both fibre and paint. She is a quilter of both traditional and art quilts and does embroidery on fabric that has been painted with acrylic paint and a fabric medium. Once the background is painted, she sketches the image to embroider and use various threads to create the picture. Kim knits, crochets, sketches in India ink and paints in watercolour, acrylic and mixed media. She is inspired by the flora and fauna in nature all around and takes many photos that may someday become future art projects. She is interested in trying her hand at wet felting to create pictures. Kim is a constant learner and loves to create art that reflects the beauty of nature.



Leona Schroeder

Leona's insatiable appetite for all things textile and fibre began at an early age. They include sewing, knitting, crochet, embroidery, crewel, needle point etc. She has dabbled in felting, tatting and appliqué.

Leona's current addiction is Freeform and Irish crochet. She is looking forward to learning more modalities and techniques.



Cheryl Crane

Cheryl has been accepted into the juried art show for Interlake and rural Manitoba. There were 98 entrants and 49 were chosen. For the competition she created a method she calls thread wash where she uses cotton threads from quilting material and creates a watercolor painting which was used as a background for a floral three dimensional fibre art called 'Oh! My Bleeding Heart'.

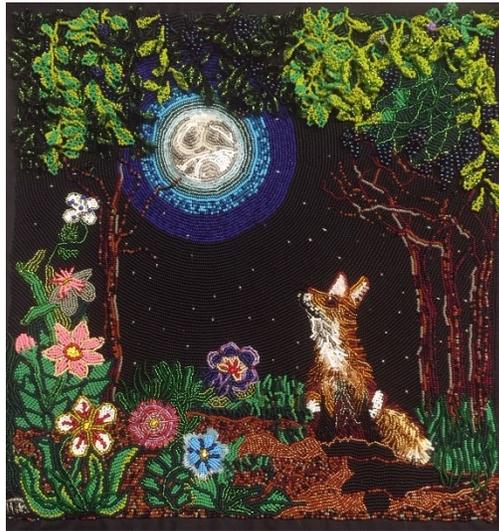
Cheryl enjoys using found objects to upcycle which add to the organic feel of her creations such as the onion bag used as the vase.



Tatiana Gregoryanz

Tatiana has many years of experience sketching and painting in watercolour and acrylic and is a member of the Winnipeg Sketch Club, Manitoba Society of Artists, Manitoba Craft Council, and Cre8ery Gallery. She has been part of many Juried art shows and competitions, and has won several prizes for her work. She enjoys creating art with various media, - paper, fabric, clay, wood... and loves working with glass.

Tatiana's favourite subjects are anthropomorphic animals and inanimate objects. She likes to place them in the environment, which contains or reflects multifaceted essence of nature. In her work she hopes to convey a message of appreciation for symbolism and complexity of relationships, be it human or animal; she wants to bring this energy to the viewer's attention, to evoke emotional response and thought.



Shaila Wise

Shaila started wet felting in 2018 and has been teaching felting workshops locally since the fall of 2019. She has always had a love of fibre in different forms. Previously she made quilts and sewed miniature teddy bears.



TFAM HiLites

Masks, Masks and more Masks....

TFAM members have made and donated hundreds of masks throughout the province. The need continues. We have recently received some donated fabric by Mount Carmel Clinic and they are hoping TFAM members will again step up and sew them into masks. If you want to help, email tfamartists@gmail.com to let us know.

TFAM Exhibits

Most venues are currently closed and waiting to see what happens in the new year as far as accepting submissions for exhibit.

2021 Exhibit 'Shifting Perspective'

Shifting Perspective, TFAM's fourth traveling exhibit is currently accepting Intent to Enters until April 2021. There are a handful of entries already and we are hoping for many more. The galleries I contacted are already thinking about possible COVID related exhibits in the coming years and a TFAM Fibre Art expression of our experience would be both unique and fitting.

2020 Exhibit 'River'

The RIVER exhibit was actually created in the midst of the pandemic. Part of it was featured in a pop-up exhibit at Crescent Rouge United Church's Art Show in October 2020 and there are quite a few hopeful bookings for 2021. Depending on the COVID situation, these will be re-assessed as they come up. Our first one in January 2021 at the Manitou Opera House is on hold but we are all crossing our fingers that things improve to allow for that showing to take place even if it has to happen a little later than expected.

2020 Exhibit 'COVID'

C.O.V.I.D. Journal Challenge Exhibit was created as a way to express ourselves during this uncertain time and cope with the pandemic. It has had one showing in 2020 and will be available

Homemade Best Press

- 3 ounces of vodka
- 3 cups of water
- 1/2 teaspoon essential oil of choice

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either alongside our other exhibits or independently once the venues open and people start gathering together again.

2019 Exhibit 'ICE'

ICE is in its second year of exhibiting but was sidelined by the pandemic. It had a handful of showings in 2019 and did manage to keep its exhibit date at the Altona Gallery in the Park for August/ September 2020 while there was a bit of a summertime lull. Most venues are waiting to see what happens in the new year as far as accepting submissions for exhibit. The next booking for ICE is Pembina Hills Gallery in Morden for October 2021.

2018 Exhibit 'Manitoba Moments'

Manitoba Moments (*the little exhibit that could!*) has had quite a run over the last three years starting at Proutopia in June 2018 and ending up at the Golden Prairie Art Gallery in Carmen this past September/ October 2020 with many small galleries, art associations, coffee-shops, pop-up exhibits and concurrent shows in between. It finishes up as part of the Manitoba Arts Network's Traveling Exhibition in 2021 and so far, has been scheduled to appear in Killarney, McCreary and the International Peace Garden.

Lizzy B's

The Artwork remains hanging in the store, which is currently closed to the public.

Meet-Ups and Workshops

November was a busy month. We hosted one virtual Meet-Up and one three-part workshop:

November 11, 18, 25 - Stitch Challenge-Amanda McCavour (via Zoom)

Tuesday, November 17th - Virtual Meetup and presentation by Lea McComas - Pictorial Quilt Primer. We had a record turnout of 30(?) members attend this virtual meetup.

Tuesday, December 15th - Virtual Holiday Party
39 Members and guests joined us for a fun evening of games and sharing.

"A mind that is stretched by a new experience can never go back to its old dimensions."

~Oliver Wendell Holmes, jr.

Coming Up in 2021:

Tuesday, January 19, 2021-

Painting on Silk with TFAM member Yvonne Rempel
Silk Painting

In this presentation Yvonne will demonstrate different techniques and ways to approach painting on silk.
See the different materials and tools you need, with an introduction to the different forms of resist-dyeing for silk painting.

Thursday, Feb. 4th and Saturday, Feb 6th

Monoprinting without a Press with Ana Buzzalino

Saturday, February 20 - tentative

Studio Day for Shifting Perspectives group exhibit
Either in person or via Zoom

March 2021 - All About Beadwork.

March will have several events focused on beading in fibre art. The events would include a lecture/presentation by American fibre artist Lisa Binkley, and a two-part beading workshop with Australian fibre artist Lisa Walton.

Tuesday, March 16, 2021 -Virtual Meetup with lecture by Lisa Binkley, "Bead Embellishment Design on Quilts"

Tuesdays, March 23 and 30, 2021

Two-part virtual Beading Embellishment Workshop with Lisa Walton.

We are also talking to several Manitoba Bead artist for possible presentations or lectures.

Tributes

Congratulations to Jayne Himsl who earned her Juried Artist designation from SAQA (Studio Art Quilts Associates).

A Juried Artist is an artist who has successfully presented a portfolio to the Juried Artist Review Panel. This portfolio includes a body of work and needed documentation showing a professional approach to art.

Congratulations for Cathie Ugrin for being selected by MAN (Manitoba Arts Network) to be a participating artist in their 'Digital Creation Swap: Music & Visual Art'.

“While they all follow the crowds and the trends, I will be sitting quietly, searching within...Listening to the stillness and the small voice that so clearly speaks to me when I tune in. I will be learning to follow my instincts, my spirit, my heart.”

~Melody Lee

Let's share a little recognition. Send us a tribute if you know of anyone (yourself included) who has won an award, got accepted to a special show or competition, or for any reason you think they deserve a Tribute. Send the info to tfamartists@gmail.com

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This is a project created for artist during the pandemic lock down. '5 Musicians, 5 Visual Artists, 5 collaborative projects livestreamed'. A musician meets a visual artist – by swapping their artwork they create a new project to be shared online.

Monday January 27, 2021 7:30 p.m.
Amy Bishop | Cathie Ugrin

Call for Entry

January 7, 2021

Covid "Honor" Mini Quilt Challenge – Curated Magazine
<https://bit.ly/38QVcZ4>
Future publications

Jan 8, 2021

"Art Quilts: going forward" – (Cary, NC)
<https://bit.ly/3iPKVyf>
March 26 – May 7, 2021

Jan 18, 2021

Put a Pin in It! – Reader's Challenge
<https://bit.ly/2KbVG1n>
Publication date unknown

Jan 31, 2021 (SAQA)

"Connections" – Quilt Festival
Houston 2021
<https://bit.ly/2YfHXe2>
Nov 2021 (then traveling)

Jan 31, 2021 (SAQA Virtual Gallery)

Impressions of Oceania from Around the World
<https://bit.ly/35Q8naY>
Mar 1 – Apr 30, 2021

Feb 26, 2021

NJS – Quilt Canada will be virtual
<https://bit.ly/2GwmPum>
Jun 16 – 19, 2021

Feb 28, 2021

Microscape – Quilt Festival Houston 2021
<https://bit.ly/3iVC9hE>
Nov 2021 *** organization in transition outcome uncertain

Do you know of competitions, shows or art exhibits open to public submission? Let the members know about it. Send the information to tfamartist@gmail.com so we can share it on Facebook and in the Newsletter.

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Apr 2021

Material Witness – Everett Quilt Show (WA)
everettquiltshow.com/
Apr 30 - May 1, 2021

Apr 2, 2021

“Caldogram” - Katonah Museum of Art (New York)
https://bit.ly/3kut8Nu
July 11 – Sep 19, 2021

Apr 5, 2021

TrendTex Challenge – “Friendship”
https://bit.ly/3jASQzl
Quilt Canada Jun 16 – 19, 2021 Virtual

Apr 15, 2021 (CQA members)

Ties that Bind – Challenge (Quilt Canada)
https://bit.ly/3iAeVgs
Jun 16 – 19, 2021 Virtual

April 30, 2021 Intent to Enter

May 31, 2021 Entry Deadline
TFAM - Shifting Perspective

May 31, 2021 (SAQA)

Fur, Fangs, Feathers & Fins -
Arizona Sonoran Desert Museum
https://bit.ly/3aE5FWg
Apr 2 – Jun 17, 2022

May 2021

Fine Art Textiles – Festival of Quilts (Birmingham, UK)
thefestivalofquilts.co.uk/
Jul 29 - Aug 1, 2021

Jan 10, 2022

Sacred Threads 2021 (Herndon, Va.)
http://sacredthreadsquilts.com
July 15 - 25, 2022

“I AM AN ARTIST. This means I live in a perverse fantasy world with unrealistic expectations. Thank You for Understanding.”

~source unknown

Do you have a favourite site or source that you use regularly? Let us know.....

Newsletter Deadline Reminder: Please submit all items for the next newsletter by January 31, 2021. Submit by email to: tfamartists@gmail.com Please use 'Newsletter' in the subject line.