MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to the Fall Issue of the TFAM Newsletter.

September and October always bring a feeling of change and new beginnings - though this year, Manitoba seems determined to hold onto summer just a little longer! As the days shift and our creative energy turns more indoors, it's a wonderful time to reflect, learn and be inspired.

At the Annual Planning Meeting in June 2025, the TFAM executive discussed the future of the newsletter and a decision was made to publish only 3 issues per year - in January, May and September.

This decision was based on the need to reduce the workload for the executive. It was also felt that for all the pertinent information on present and upcoming TFAM events, our website would be the preferred place to go for our members.

The website at: **https://www.tfamartists.ca** is user friendly, well managed and kept current!

Another way to connect with the TFAM community is through our social media platforms on Instagram, **@tfamartists** or on Facebook **TFAM-Members Only** or **TFAM-Textile and Fibre Artists of Manitoba.** We always welcome and encourage the members to submit entries for upcoming newsletters. For more information,or just to chat, drop us a line at tfamartists@gmail.com.

We hope you enjoy the articles in this issue - celebrating our member's artistic journeys, sharing ideas and highlighting what's ahead for our vibrant textile and fibre arts community.

Wishing you all an exciting, creative and peaceful fall season,

Antoinette Blankvoort- Wieberdink
President - Textile and Fibre Artists of Manitoba

NEWS

OCTOBER 2025
Volume 9 Issue 3

Newsletter Coordinator:
Dawn Piasta

Communications Coordinator:
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Next Issue Deadline:
December 20, 2025

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

1 President's Message
2 - 4 Education Report
5 - 6 Introducing the Members
7 Tributes
8 -10 Two Days at Festival of Quilts
11 - 12 NUNO Felt Coat Making
13 - 18 TFAM Retreat 2025
19 TFAM Exhibit Schedule
20 Call for Entry
20 - 21 Sharing Items of Interest
22 Upcoming Exhibit Opportunities & Info
23 Reminders

Contact Us

TFAM EDUCATION REPORT

Submitted by: Theresa Shaw

Hello everyone …. and welcome to our new year of programming and events. We started the 2025/26 meet-up schedule with a presentation by Sandra Sawatzky on September 16th. After many years in the film industry, Sandra turned to embroidery to create the Black Gold Tapestry, a tapestry that tells the social history of fossil fuels. She spent nine years researching, designing and stitching the tapestry, which measures an amazing 67 meters in length. ***For more info see*** ***theblackgoldtapestry.com***

The In Stitches pod has started meeting again. This casual monthly gathering will continue with the Zoom format on the first Tuesday of each month at 2:00 pm. The Felters pod will now be meeting on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm. Email reminders with Zoom links will be sent out a week ahead.

Our second annual Fall retreat - Fibre Explorations - took place September 26-28th at Southport, MB. It was a wonderful three days of camaraderie and curiosity as our intrepid students embarked on journeys through new and unfamiliar creative terrain. Half of the group explored using unconventional embroidery materials in botanical design, and the other half of the group learned all about the world of silk painting. Outside of the classrooms, we enjoyed some glorious fall weather, a relaxing stay at the Barker Hotel and Suites, and lively conversations over meals and happy hours. One of the highlights was the Saturday evening "show and share" where we learned about each other's art and experiences.

Most of the planning for the next five months is in place. See the calendar below… and hope to see you at one of our upcoming events!

HERE'S WHAT WE CAN LOOK FORWARD TO …

OCTOBER

Tuesday, October 21st. 6:30-8:30 pm

Monthly Zoom Meet-Up and Annual General Meeting

Saturday, October 25th. 12:00-5:00 pm

Nuno-Felted Scarf Play Date

Both experienced and new felters are invited to an afternoon of felting creativity. Guided by fibre artist and TFAM member, Suzanne Cenerini, participants will explore dyeing and Nuno-felting techniques, creating a one-of-a kind piece of wearable art. The silk scarves (14"x72") to be used as a base will be provided. Participants will bring basic felting supplies, wool roving and embellishments. A detailed list of supplies and registration information is available on our ***website:*** ***tfamartists.ca***

Location: Crescent Fort Rouge United Church.
525 Wardlaw Ave. Winnipeg, MB
Workshop Fee: $35 - to cover room rental and scarves.
Max. Number of participants: 10

NOVEMBER

November 18 6:30 - 8:30 pm

Monthly Zoom Meet-Up

Our special guest at the November meet-up on November 18th is Amanda Onchulenko. Amanda is a local Winnipeg visual artist who works in several mediums, including fibre. She is originally from Australia and is professionally trained in fine arts. Amanda loves colour and all of her work is exuberant and joyful. She has work in several galleries and participates in shows and studio tours in Manitoba. Amanda is also a podcaster and recent author of a book "Wisdom at the Crossroads".

TFAM EDUCATION REPORT (Cont'd)

Amanda will speak about the development of her artistic career and her use of fibre in particular, in her work.
For more info see: ***mandart.ca***

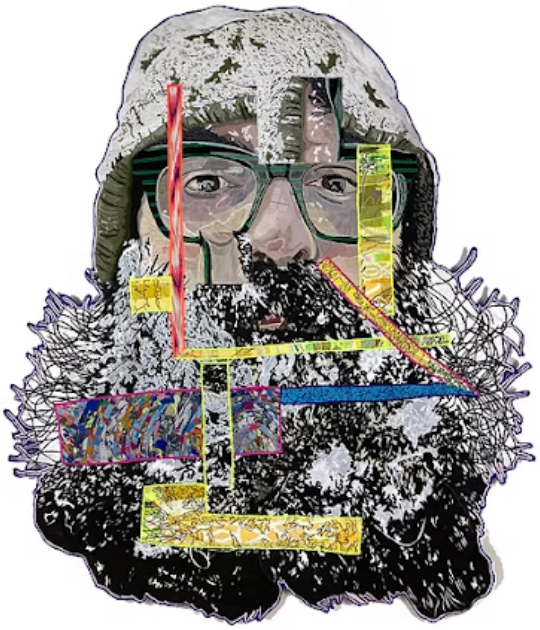
We are also planning a studio day in late November. Watch for an email update in the next few weeks.

DECEMBER

Tuesday, December 16
Monthly Zoom Meet-Up

At our December meet-up on the 16th, we welcome Fuzzy Mall. Fuzzy is an American-born textile portrait quilt artist who now lives and works in Hamilton, Ontario. He is largely self-taught. His artistic focus is on an updated interpretation of portraiture, capturing his subjects in dynamic poses using unconventional materials. Fuzzy will share with us the development of his practice and his technique.

For more info see: ***quiltedportrait.net***



JANUARY

Tuesday, January 20
Monthly Zoom Meet-Up

We will start the new year with a return to slow stitching. Our guest at our January meet-up on the 20th is Judith E Martin. Judy is a celebrated Canadian quilt artist who grew up near Fort Frances, Ontario and has lived and worked for many years on Manitoulin Island on Lake Huron.

She made her first quilt in her 20's and works exclusively by hand, creating beautiful, thoughtful pieces, many of which are double-sided. She has two BA degrees in Fine Arts and her work has been widely exhibited across Canada and internationally.
For more info see: ***judithemartin.com***

TFAM Members have a unique opportunity in 2026 to participate in a workshop and exhibit in 2026.

TFAM EDUCATION REPORT (Cont'd)

JANUARY

Flora Love: Fibre Explorations Of Our Land

Wednesday, January 28 and Thursday, January 29, 2026

Workshop and Exhibition
University of Manitoba Herbarium (WIN)
Winnipeg, MB

This is a unique opportunity for fibre artists to explore some of the 100,000 specimens housed at the WIN Herbarium. Scientific staff will be on hand to help us access the specimens and to provide explanations as needed. Students will spend their time examining, photographing and drawing a wide variety of flora.

The second part of this exciting opportunity will be an exhibit of fibre art created by the workshop students, at La Maison des artistes in September 2026. This workshop can accommodate up to 10 participants and, for the exhibit, each artist may exhibit up to four pieces, created in response to their time at the herbarium.

There is no size restriction on the art.
Workshop Fee: $100/person
Registration is now open at tfamartists.ca

FEBRUARY

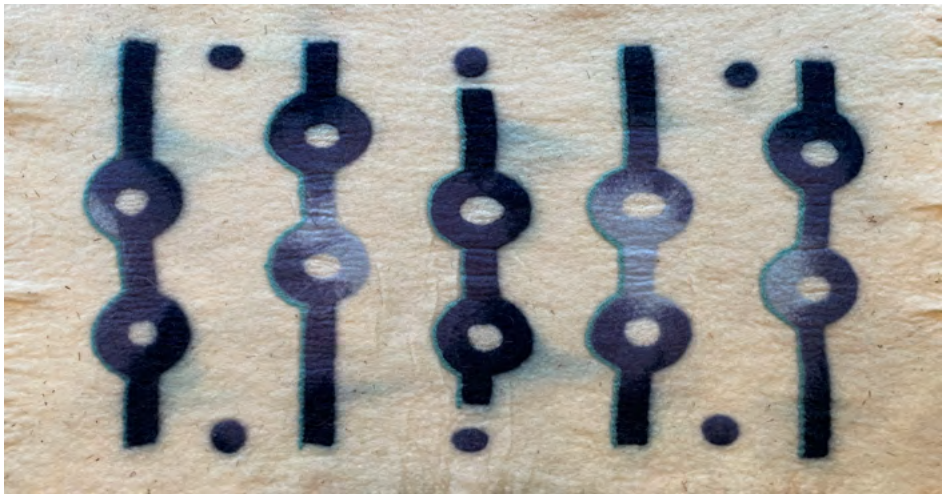
Tuesday, February 17th 6:30-8:30 pm
Monthly Zoom Meet-Up
Special presentation by Denise Labadie

Denise is a successful American fibre artist known for her quilts depicting story-telling megalithic stones and monoliths – think Stonehenge – and more recent (but still centuries old) monastic ruins. Drawing on what is now a portfolio of nearly sixty "stone portraits", her presentation will highlight her development of both a personal style and uniquely recognizable "story", along with her use of select "repurposed" traditional construction techniques. For more info labadiefiberart.com

INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS

Reegan Breu

Reegan has lived on the prairies most of her life. She loves to learn by doing and is particularly fond of gardening, taking photos, painting, and working with fibre.



Shirley Studney

Shirley is fairly new to felting. She moved from BC. She has done some needle felting, but prefers 2D and wet felting.
At this point on her art hourney she has worked on a few landscapes and vesssls.

INTRODUCING THE MEMBERS

Mariko Hamade

Mariko is a multidisciplinary artist from Winnipeg. Born and raised in a Japanese-Canadian family, She was exposed to many cute mascot characters through yearly New Years packages from Japan. This inspired a love of all things cute and soft. This love later became a craft when she learned how to crochet, and sew from her mother. She translated these skills into making dolls, plushies and other textiles. By combining crochet, knitting, sewing, as well as needle felting and both hand and machine embroidery Mariko create many one of a kind pieces custom made with love. She has created many dolls for commission, often as comfort characters for patrons around the world. Her goal is to make the world a cuter and softer place and hopes to bring others joy when they see these creations.

Frances Hak

Frances comes from a commercial design background. She has made quilts for about 20 years and would now like to explore Fibre Art.

Arlene Westen

Arlene is an artist with expertise in a range of disciplines and has also been professionally trained as an adult arts educator. Her focus areas include surface design, mixed media painting, collage, printmaking, bookbinding and various fibre arts such as dyeing, felting, quilting, and tapestry weaving. She has accumulated over four decades of experience in her field and is known for placing a strong emphasis on composition and design in her workshops. Arlene incorporates these fundamental concepts into all her classes and has helped many students enhance their artistic skills.

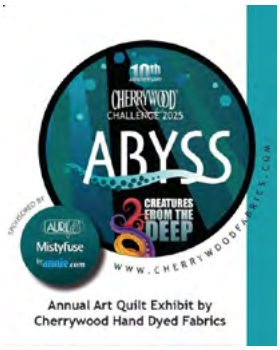
TRIBUTES: OCTOBER 2025

Check out **Susan Selby's** article in **Art Quilt Studio** publication, Autumn 2025 Edition! Filled with images of her quilts and lots of inspirationl tips.

Krista Zegher has a **solo exhibit** at the Tiger Hills Art Assoc. Satellite Gallery - MMJS Law Office, Treherne, Manitoba from September 3 to December 31, 2025.

Have you seen the article written by ***Julie Garcia****?* It was published in the **Quilting Arts Magazine**, Fall 2025 Edition: Photo to Thread Painting and located on pages 36 - 39! Congratulations Julie!

We are also excited to share that *Julie will be teaching two 1-day workshops at* ***Quilt Canada in 2026*** *in Winnipeg.*
The first workshop, Fabric Landscapes, will be a step-by-step instruction on how to construct a basic fabric landscape looking at design and fabric choices.
The second workshop, Painting with Thread: Wildflowers & Foliage, will dive into how she adds the details to the scene.



Dawn Piasta's Cherrywood Challenge Poppy Quilt "Blooms of Hope" appeared in the Summer 2025 edition of **Quilt Arts Magazine** (page 32). Dawn's Cherrywood Challenge Abyss Quilt "Beneath the Surface" was chosen as a finalist for the 2025 travelling exhibit of 225 quilts. Her quilt will be part of the Octopus collection.

TWO DAYS OF THE FESTIVAL OF QUILTS

Submitted by: Krista Zeghers

Birmingham, England
July 31 – August 3, 2025

As part of an effort to explore the United Kingdom's quilting heritage I embarked on a tour which included two days at the Birmingham Festival of Quilts. Having long heard about this quilt show I decided it was time to go. So off I flew to London's Heathrow airport, took the "tube" to downtown London to catch the train to travel north to get to Birmingham.

Public transportation in this heavily populated area was wonderful! Transportation directions were well marked and on time! I only got lost once, momentarily.

Part of the tour group that I met with in front of the Birmingham convention centre featuring Festival of Quilts.

The National Exhibition Center in Birmingham, a huge convention area housing many convention halls, hosted the Festival of Quilts in halls 7, 8, and 9. A very large area! Arriving early the first day we watched as vendors and other VIPs arrived.

We enjoyed a brief visit with Edyta Sitar from Laundry Basket Quilts, who was dressed in a hand embroidered shirt.

Upon entering and getting my bearings, I found display quilts, vendors, special exhibits, eating areas, and a demonstration area. The Creative Textiles Studio (demonstration area) is a drop-in space for visitors to watch surface design artists in action. It was fascinating!

Highlights for me here were Leah Higgins screen printing with thickened Procion dyes, Liz Howlett using flour paste resist, and Amanda Clayton piecing and inlaying with translucent fabrics. There were five different demonstrators twice a day for the four days.

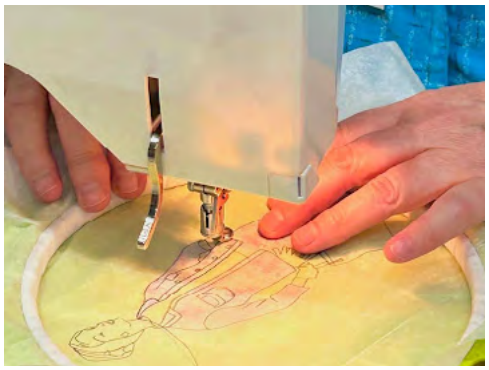
Needless to say, I was a lurker! -- Krista Zeghers

Follow Krista's journey with the next few pages of photos

TWO DAYS OF THE FESTIVAL OF QUILTS *(Cont'd)*

PICTURES FROM THE CREATIVE TEXTILES STUDIO

Rosie James drawing using free motion embroidery.



Close up detail of Rosie James drawing using thread and a domestic sewing machine.

Finished artwork sample of Rosie James

Nicola Whayman showing cordage and random weave.

Liz Howlett demonstrating flour-paste resist.

Leah Higgins book on screen printing.

CON-CURRENT EXHIBITS

On display during the Festival of Quilts were also many con-current exhibits. Some familiar names to me were: Pat Pauly, Jo Avery, and Galla Grotto. Also, some unknown names to me who ended up being of great interest were: Beverly Y Smith's - works of mixed media that draw from her Southern roots in the US and her ancestral connection were stunning; Gina Burgess - exhibit using the Welsh Quilt Association collection as a source of inspiration to create extremely vibrant work. Please check out all these fibre artists. You will be inspired by their work.

(Continue to next page) ♥

Beverly Y Smith's exhibition called Above the Fray.

Gina Burgess' exhibit entitled View Points

TWO DAYS OF THE FESTIVAL OF QUILTS *(Cont'd)*

VENDORS

Of course, walking among the vendors was a delight! So many fabrics to touch and new techniques to peruse.

Liberty fabrics, used as a byword for the very best of textiles and design, is famed for its original curation and celebration of excellent craftsmanship celebrated 150 years of existence from the original curator Arthur Lasenby Liberty.

Our two days of visiting the Festival of Quilts was overwhelming. I have only touched on a small sampling of interesting fibre fascination. I haven't even touched on the quilts and workshops offered.

You will have to go check those out for yourself online ♥

Liberty fabrics celebrating 150 years and one of the designers of their fabric.

Sew Different vendor showing patterns and fabric created by the designers.

Making your own fabric was of interest at the Indian Block Print booth that sold stamps and inks.

Anitha N Reddy posing in front of Siddi Quilts which carries created textiles of Siddi women from Karnataka, blending their generational craft with new perspectives.

NUNO FELT COAT-MAKING WORKSHOP WITH CHRIS LISZAK

Submitted by Leona Herzog

Eight intrepid felters and one novice gathered August 12-15 to turn raw materials into stunning outerwear under the superb tutelage of Chris Liszak. Chris made the magic happen!

When we walked into the room where it would all take place the first things we saw were Chris's spectacular nuno felted coats. They were there to inspire us and to try on for size so we could select our patterns and know how much yardage needed to be made.

The room itself was laid out with large individual workstations, raised to a comfortable level, for the strenuous work to come. It felt like we were moving in as we unloaded our nuno felt, saris, tops, bits of hand dyed wool, silk, yarn, irons and ironing boards, various plastic sheets and bubble wrap, pool noodles, soap, buckets, sprayers, towels, sewing machines, and various other bits and pieces. And the sanders. I was terrified.

Chris quickly explained the method we would be using, and we got to work laying out our soon-to-be-felted materials, consisting primarily of pre-felt, silk saris, and various other materials to create a pleasing design. This was made wet and rolled between sheets of plastic until the fine fibres in the wool pre-felt migrated through the other design elements and the felting process started. This was followed by further gentle manipulation of the fabric until a shrinkage rate of about 30% was achieved. At the end of the first day, we had made enough fabric for the backs of our jackets. Days two and three resulted in more fabric for the fronts and sleeves of our garments.

By the morning of day four we had enough beautifully felted fabric to make our coats or jackets. Under Chris's guidance, the style and size were chosen and the entire space morphed into a mini sewing factory, complete with cutting tables and pressing stations. By end-of-day some jackets were complete, and others would require a stitch or two later.

Every jacket was completely different and reflected the style and aesthetic of its maker. Each felter came with colours, materials for embellishment, and ideas that were meaningful to them and the results reflected this with nine unique and beautiful garments.

As the novice in the group, I am very grateful for Chris's clear instructions, encouragement, sense of style, and good humour. Each felter was generous in assisting at a neighbouring table, whether with equipment, help rolling the large sections of fabric, or a few additional fibre elements for the design.

Special thanks as well to Michelle Gabor, Fenella Temmerman, and Theresa Shaw who volunteered their time to help; which included everything from mopping floors to flipping large sections of fabric, and making sure we had snacks.

If we are fortunate enough to have Chris Liszak back to do another workshop, I highly encourage TFAM members (and non-members) sign up, even if this process is new to you.

It really was magic ❤

PHOTOS FROM THE NUNO FELT COAT-MAKING WORKSHOP

2025 TFAM RETREAT - FIBRE EXPLORATIONS

Submitted by Antoinette Blankvoort- Wieberdink.

On September 26th 2025, 24 fibre artists and their two instructors got together in the newly built Peggy Mae Legacy Centre at Southport, MB. This fabulous building would be our creative home for three days.

The Retreat committee of Yvonne Carlson, Theresa Shaw and Krista Zegher, with some help from other TFAM members, had put together a full and very interesting itinerary of workshops and opportunities for socializing and sharing of ideas. At the retreat two workshops were offered, each being two full days.

The committee was successful in recruiting two very successful fibre artists and TFAM members to teach each class:

- ***Workshop 1:*** *Discover the Art of Silk Painting with Yvonne Rempel*
- ***Workshop 2:*** *Motifs for Fibre - Your Way with Leona Herzog*

*In **workshop 1,** the 12 participants were invited to "unleash" their creativity and immerse themselves in the vibrant world of silk painting!*

Guided and encouraged by the very patient Yvonne, they were introduced to mixing paints and dyes, colour blending, transparency and layering. They were shown and used different resists. The painting techniques component introduced us to the free hand brushwork and the amazing and unique textures one can create by adding salts and alcohol to the paint/ painting. Planning your silk piece and creating harmonious designs were discussed as well.

For many of the participants, this was their first exposure to this fluid and expressive art form. Although at times it was challenging, there was a lot to take in after all, all students bravely and enthusiastically went where they had never gone before.

While we experimented with all the new material, Yvonne's constant and quiet encouragement and the interaction with the other students gave us the courage to put brush to silk. As was to be expected, the end results were on vastly different levels of craftsmanship. But all students reported that they had had a very educational, albeit intense and inspirational, two days of learning. Many were inspired to further explore this art form in their art practices.

*In **workshop 2** the students were asked the question: "Do you want to create your own designs but don't know where to start?" Leona guided the participants through a series of creative exercises using plant materials as inspiration. Each student created an original motif that then was interpreted in contemporary embroidery or punch needle or both.*

(Continue s on next page)

2025 TFAM RETREAT - FIBRE EXPLORATIONS *(Cont'd)*

Florals were the botanical starting point for the workshop. Line and shape of the design were explored through various drawing exercises. These drawings were then used to create the original design for each individual art piece.

In the contemporary embroidery component, the participants were introduced to non- traditional materials such as ribbon, cording, wool, beads and other materials along with the embroidery thread. Those choosing the punch needle option also used a variety of fibres to explore colour and texture.

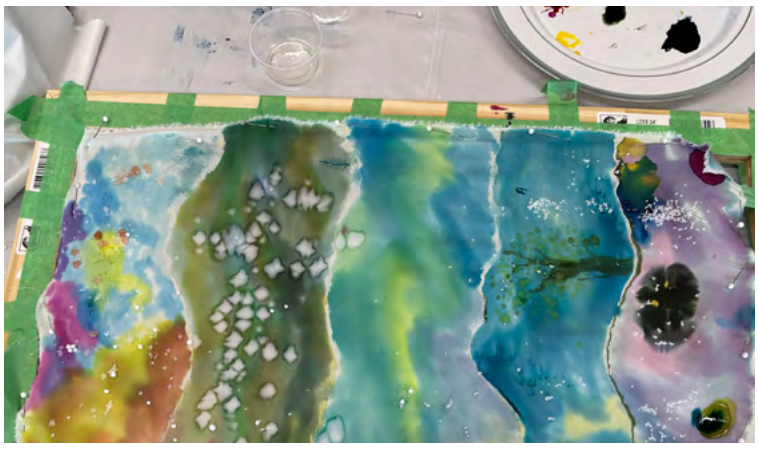
As with ***workshop 1****, many reported a challenging but very interesting, fun and educational experience. Leona provided the students with many materials to work with, and shared her knowledge. Her great ability to teach and encourage was appreciated by many.*

We want to thank all the organizers, participants, instructors and sponsors for making this second biennial Fall Retreat a resounding success!

Looking forward to seeing all the new skills and techniques being incorporated in your future fibre art pieces. ❤

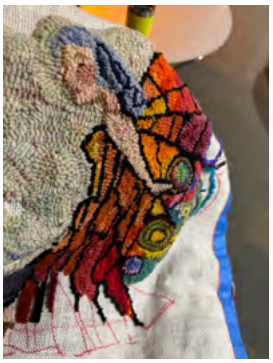
Friday Evening Activity - Inktense & Embroidery Postcards

Workshop 1: Discover the Art of Silk Painting with Yvonne Rempel

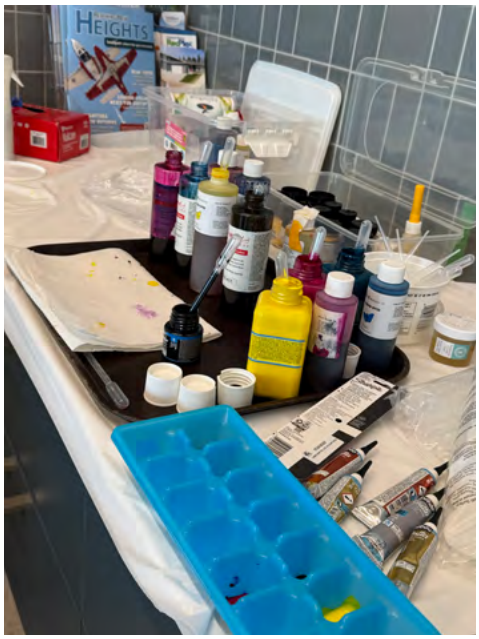


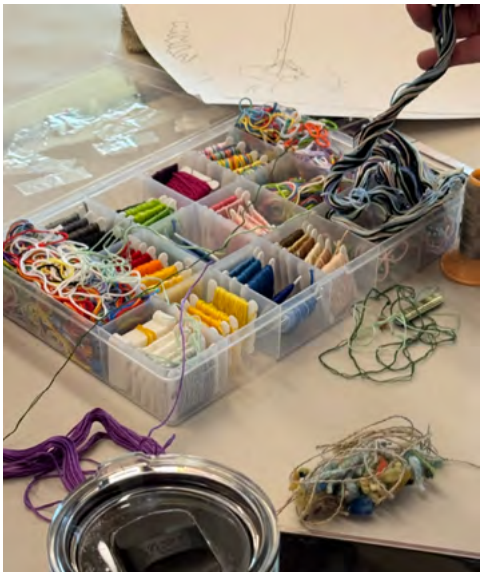
Workshop 2: Motifs for Fibre - Your Way with Leona Herzog

Beautiful Venue and Exquisit Show & Share on Saturday



Saturday Show & Share ~ Fond Memories





TFAM EXHIBIT SCHEDULE

Submitted by Cathie Ugrin

JOY

JOY has finished its very successful three year run with a wonderful showing at the Manitoba Fibre Festival. If you haven't received your piece yet, please email tfamartists@gmail.com to arrange pickup, or let us know if you want it shipped. Thanks to everyone who participated!

TEXTURAL DIMENSION

Textural Dimension had a last minute exhibit at Winkler Arts + Culture for the month of September. Congratulations to Yvonne Rempel and Adeline Sellwood who each sold a piece. It is at the MacGregor Library for October and November 2025.

DUAL IMPRESSIONS

Dual Impressions had a fabulous showing at the Steinbach Arts Council for September and early October. The next booked showing is April 2026 at the Turtle Mountain Arts in Killarney

PEACE

PEACE is currently showing at the Charleswood Library until November 3. Since the wall space is limited, half the exhibit was shown in September and the second half is now up for October. The next booked showing is the MacGregor Library for May/ June/ July of 2026.

CALL FOR ENTRY

Submitted by: Theresa Shaw

There are many exhibit opportunities out there, from local art shows to international exhibitions. This year, take a chance…. you might be surprised at how far you can go! Here are some sources to check out….

Specifically Canadian sources:

mawa.ca
c2centreforcraft.ca
canadiancraftsfederation.ca
manitobaartsnetwork.ca
saskcraftcouncil.org
albertacraft.ab.ca
creativemanitoba.ca

International websites with calls for entry listings:

lyrickinard.com
saqa.com
fiberartnow.net
surfacedesign.org

SHARING ITEMS OF INTEREST

Submitted by TFAM Members

Are you running out of room in your studio? Do you have crafting supplies that you just don't need any more? Consider donating them to C2 Centre for Craft. The centre is hosting a Craft Destash Sale in November. For more information: Call for Donations: Changing Hands - A Craft Destash Sale | C2 Centre for Craft
https://c2centreforcraft.ca/2025/08/27/call-for-donations-changing-hands-a-craft-destash-sale

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"I saw a wonderful exhibition, Tending the Wild, curated by hannah_g, at the Buhler Gallery in the St. Boniface Hospital, and I thought TFAM members would like to see this show, including Mandy Malazdrewich's textile piece Golden Marguerite. Here's a link to the exhibition, and I have Mandy's permission to send you her artist statement and a couple of images. (Disclosure: Mandy was one of my mentees two years ago when I was a mentor for MAWA.)"
Upcoming Exhibition | Galerie Buhler Gallery
https://galeriebuhlergallery.ca/upcoming-exhibition
Submitted by Barb Hunt

"In August I went to Kenora's Muse to see the exhibit Strange things on the forest floor" by Nancy Bergman. She explored the lifeforms in the forest where the light is minimal. She used crochet thread, wool roving, yarn, chicken wire, painted Lutradur, and netting to recreate different fungi and leaves."
Submitted by Tania Deleva

SHARING ITEMS OF INTEREST

"I wanted to tell the group that on August 16 and 17, I participated in the Boreal Shores Art Tour with an attendance of 350 visitors. It was quite successful! I also had 21 people that signed up for my upcoming classes in Albert Beach and in Niverville. I have 10 people registered." Submitted by Suzanne Cenerini

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"I've been very fortunate to have recently travelled to Ireland and Scotland through Country Heritage Tours, an American-based company, in late August - September, 2025. It was called the Celtic Tour."

"The first day, 37 of us travellers were invited to a presentation by the Irish Patchwork Guild based in Dublin, Ireland. There were a half dozen members who shared a number of their quilts, ranging from traditional to collage and art quilts."

"Day 5 we attended a Quilting Fayre Patchwork Festival with displays and vendors in Belfast. Day 8 was a visit to the Scottish Kiltmaker Visitor Centre, where we saw their workshop and learned how kilts are made. Day 9 focused on the Great Tapestry of Scotland. There were many hand stitched depictions of Scotland's heritage in Edinburgh. A group tour was also arranged at New Lanark where yarn is produced."

"It was a fabulous trip that also included city tours, heritage sights, castles, Giants Causeway, a ferry ride, and the Titanic museum." Submitted by Laurel Ostapowich

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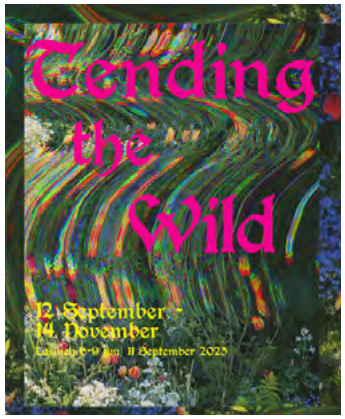
TFAM member Leona Herzog is part of Tending the Wild at the Buhler Gallery, St. Boniface Hospital. The exhibition runs until November 14.

This is how hannah_g, exhibition curator, describes Tending the Wild:

"Gardens are an intermediary between self-directing nature and domesticity and are entangled with politics, history, and culture. The title of this exhibition comes from a line in Paradise Lost, a seventeenth century poem by John Milton that features the Garden of Eden. "Tending" implies attending to and working with nature but also carries the sense of a tendency towards maximality and heedlessness of boundaries. Like gardeners, many artists tend the wild and the work contained in this exhibition touches on healing, subversion, pleasure, fecundity, and reciprocity, as well as history and politics. It does not adhere to a manicured definition of what a garden or exhibition is, but like them it encourages us to tend our own wild, to explore both useful and fruitless borders, and to see what can grow within us with a bit of work, dirt, light, and imagination."



Other artists include Aganetha Dyck, Arefeh Zamani, Bev Pike, Bret Parenteau, Connie Chappel, Cullen Bingeman, Derek Dunlop, Erin Frances Brown, Jack Lauder, Justin Bear L'Arrivee, Leah Decter, Mandy Malazdrewich, Meganelizabeth Diamond, Roewan Crowe, Theo Pelmus, Toludare Toluwalope, Kiana Fontaine, Lisa Stinner-Kun. Manitoba Crafts Museum and Library, Living Prairie Museum, Manitoba Museum, St. Boniface Museum, The Leaf, Bonsai Society of Winnipeg, and Gallery 1C03 have also contributed to the exhibition.

Upcoming Exhibit Opportunities and Information

Submitted by: Theresa Shaw

Grand National Fibre Art Exhibition 2026 - Textures of Canada:

'If a picture is worth a thousand words, the collected voices of Canadian artists speak volumes about our nation: they tell stories of our peoples, traditions, history, values, regional cultures, heroes, landscapes, sense of place, and so much more. Textures of Canada is a curated exhibition that explores national identity through the medium of fine art textiles'.

This is an exciting opportunity to see Canada through the eyes of a textile artist, and to engage with contemporary thought, creative styles, and exploratory forms that reflect our nation. Explore the interweaving of traditional textile methods with modern materials and contemporary themes. Join the dialogue on what it is to be Canadian.

Be inspired as you are welcomed to the Grand National Exhibition 2026!

Important Dates to Remember:

Entry - November 1 to December 15, 2025
Acceptance Notification - March 30, 2026
Exhibition Opening - June 20, 2026
Exhibition Closing - June 30, 2027

More information available at grandnationalfibreartexhibition.com

CQA/ACC Quilt Canada 2026 - A Confluence of Fabric and Thread:

The Canadian Quilters Association's Quilt Canada is coming to the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg from June 17 - 20, 2026! It is a huge event including the National Juried Show, Lectures and Workshops, Challenges, Concurrent Shows, a huge Merchant Mall and so much more. All information is available on their website at canadianquilter.com/quilt-canada-2026

Here are a few tidbits …

- *2026 Teachers and Lecturers include Ana Buzzalino, Julie Garcia and Melissa Marginet just to mention a few.*
- *The 2026 National Juried Show (NJS) deadline is from January 5 to February 16, 2026. There are many categories including Wearables; Art Landscapes, Art Depiction of Human or Animal Form and Art Abstract/ Improvisational; Miniatures; Modern, etc. Awards given in each category as well as Best in Show, Viewer's Choice, Dorothy McMurdie award, and Judge's Choice.*
- *2026 Trend Tex Challenge Theme is Confluence - kits are currently available for both CQA/ACC members and non-members.*
- *2026 Youth Challenge Theme is Road Trip - check website for Youth Challenge Guidelines.*
- *2026 Concurrent Show - TFAM is applying to have our newest exhibit as one of the Concurrent Shows at Quilt Canada. Kim Sysa and Cathie Ugrin will reveal the theme and details of the exhibit at the TFAM AGM on October 21, 2025.*
- *2026 Merchant Mall Vendor Applications currently being accepted - all information and forms are on the website.*
- *How to become a member of CQA - just click on the JOIN US link on the Home Page at canadianquilter.com. Individual advantages include Canadian Quilter Magazine, discounted NJS Entry fee, Monthly newsletter and many other member-related discounts.*

This is going to be a very exciting time in Winnipeg for all fibre art makers and appreciators alike.

*Why not check out the **CQA/ACC website** and see if there is something that appeals to you.*

Tributes also go out to all those who put themselves (and their artwork) out there by entering exhibits, whether local, national or international.

Getting accepted is, of course, wonderful and gratifying, but many of us frequently have our entries rejected. It is hard to not be discouraged by this.

So here is to all those 'rejected' entries, I'm sure they are as wonderful as the artist creating them.

SAQA RESOURCES

Through the Affiliate membership that TFAM holds with SAQA (Studio Art Quilt Associates), all members are given access to the amazing resources that SAQA has to offer.

HOW TO ACCESS.
Login on **SAQA website**
Login information has been sent to all TFAM members.

REMINDER:
Using the TFAM Affiliate SAQA account does NOT allow you to register for conferences, seminars,workshops or entering exhibits. You must have a personal account to do that.

CONTACT US

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