



NSW craft matters

the newsletter of craft nsw

ISSUE 5 - OCTOBER 2010



1 Detail

focus on embroidery

Stitch + Stitch = Magic

the embroiderers' guild nsw inc

An explosion of vibrant, dazzling colour, sumptuous surfaces and virtuoso stitching greeted visitors to the recent exhibition by members of the Embroiderers' Guild NSW at Craft NSW in Sydney. Enthusiastic and passionate about their craft, they belie the fact that hand embroidery can be a laborious and painstaking process. Embroidery is an ancient craft,

dating back to early societies, in which designs and images are created by stitching strands of some material, usually thread or wool, on to a layer of another material, usually a woven fabric. Today, many non-traditional materials are used, from wire and leather for stitching on to such modern materials as plastic sheeting.

continued next page



1



2 Detail



2

1 Effie Mitrofanis 'Nature Strip' surface stitches, linen fabric, cotton threads & knitting yarns

2 Karma Victoria Bains hand embroidery on Rami using cotton, silk & rayon /viscose, embroidery threads

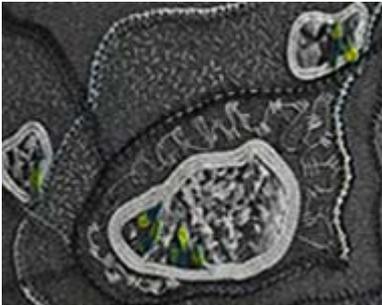
Craft Matters features informative snips, clips, tips and images about craft. If you or your organisation have a craft event of any kind in NSW, an image or a craft story, submit it for free inclusion in future issues of **Craft Matters**. And of course, your suggestions and feedback are always welcome. Please email your [interest](#).

The Society of Arts and Crafts of NSW is a not-for-profit organisation formed in 1906, to encourage and promote arts and crafts, encourage the use of Australian culture, materials and motif in work and design and provide opportunities for the exhibition and sale of work of members and others. [visit our website](#).

Stitch + Stitch = Magic continued

' There is a phenomenal return to materials and process in the sphere of contemporary art. Artists are rediscovering the artistic potential of traditional techniques, such as embroidery, alongside digital technologies. '

Holly Hotchner, Museum of Arts & Design



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4

Some form of embroidery can be found in many diverse cultures including Egyptian, Persian, Chinese, Indian, English, Mexican and African.

Traditionally used to decorate clothing and household furnishing, embroidery is also used as an art form, through tapestries, wall hangings and various other textile arts.

The Embroiderers' Guild NSW Inc, a not-for-profit organisation formed in 1957, aims to encourage the

craft of embroidery in all its forms from traditional to contemporary and creative.

The guild runs classes, discussion groups, correspondence courses and lectures. There are also workshops and classes for young embroiderers.

For more information on any of the activities, workshops, membership or for any embroidery related topic, access the guild's [website](#).

The Guild is running a summer Stitch-Fest of lectures & workshops. View program: [Summer School 2011](#)



5 Detail



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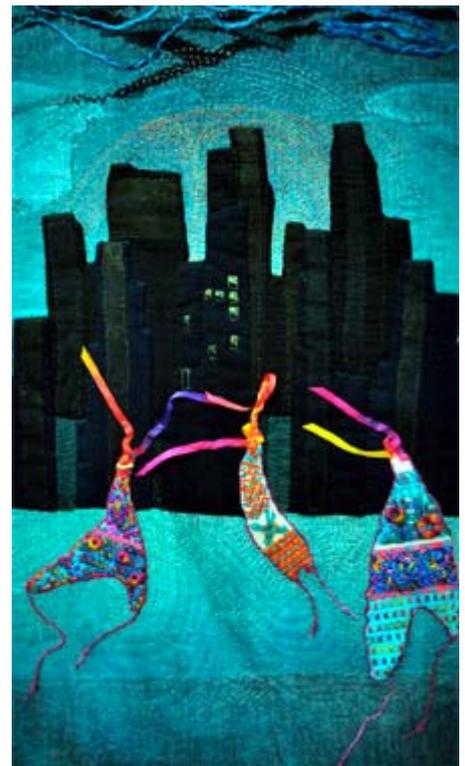
3. Maureen Hazelwood 'Earth Fights Back' Silk fabric and threads, metal thread and hand embroidery.

4. Barbara Allum 'Spirit of Sydney' Surface stitchery on silk fabric using cotton, silk and metallic threads, beads and sequins.

5. Jenny Loss 'Mandala to the Moon' Lino block printing, free dyed patching, quilting, discharged and dyed cotton fabrics, commercial cotton fabrics, couched threads and hand beading.

6 Cathy Jack Coupland 'Sea Sprite' Painted felt, beading, machine and hand embroidery on paper.

7 Louise Humphries 'Ngoma' Surface stitchery, applique, canvaswork, acrylic and silk paints and quilting.



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Images, Paula Trigg



profile on

Martha Catano

treadle machine embroidery

Martha learned the basics of embroidery from her mother and developed her own techniques as she gained proficiency, creating freehand machine embroidery landscapes which for her was a natural progression, given her love for the environment.

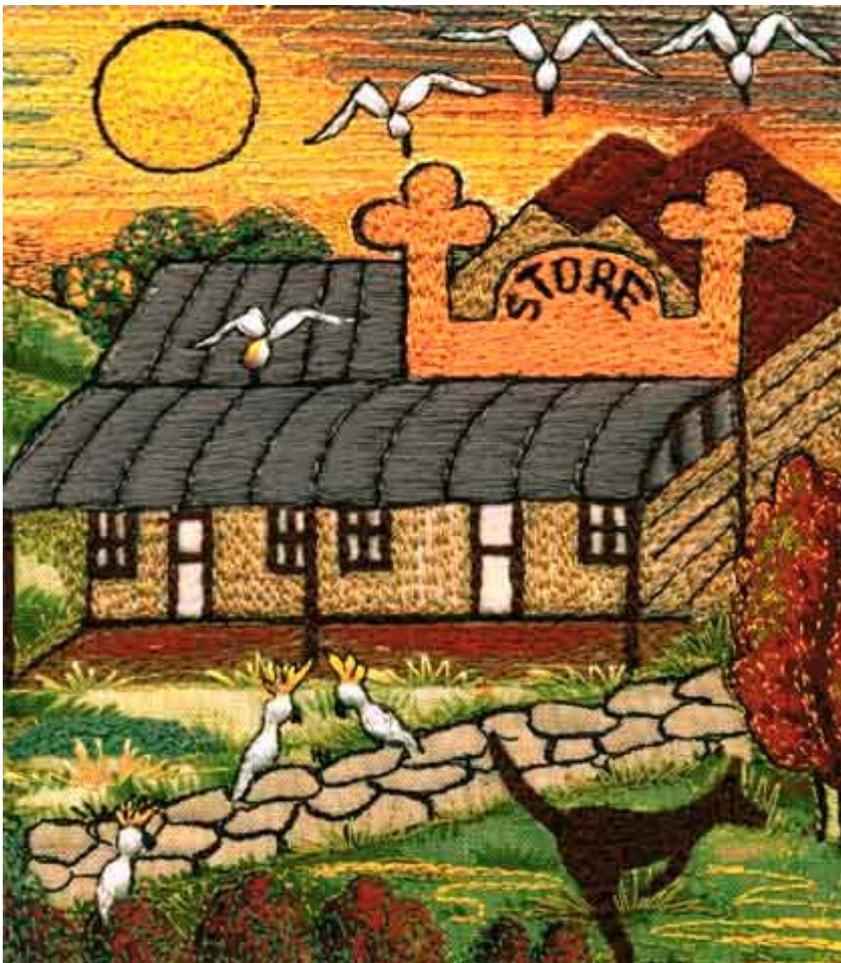
After more than thirty years creating embroidery textile

collage with a treadle machine, she says that her enthusiasm for the art form is as strong as the day she began.

'Doing freehand embroidery feels like painting. After stitching the structure of a picture, I build up the density and detail of the embroidery and fill in the work with generally vibrant colours using a naive interpretation of the subject. I love vibrant colour and use it freely, employing only straight stitch and a fabric hoop.'

'My early works were quite primitive with inaccurate proportions and perspective. While these were appealing, I now attempt a little more realism with perspective and shadow. Some of my later work is moving into more subtle greys.'

'Graduating as a plant biologist allowed me to influence my artistic creativity with my experience with nature, creating landscapes that reflect my love for the environment.'
Martha Catano



'Outback Store'

Martha uses a 70 year old treadle sewing machine - foot-operated and quiet (you may be surprised to know that you can still buy treadle sewing machines brand new). Martha says that being able to work at a slower pace, with more control and without machine noise has increased her concentration as well as her enjoyment of the process.

That and using recycled fabrics hasn't hurt her 'green' credentials either.



'Sea Turtle'



'Uluru Sunrise'



'Koala with Joey'



'Cormorant'



'Barrier Reef'



profile on

Carolyn Cabena

handstitched digital print

A life member of the Australian Textile Arts and Surface Design Association (ATASDA), Carolyn Cabena is a tireless textile artist and teacher who uses many different techniques of applying dye to fabric, creating garments and accessories with her unique fabrics.

Over the last fifteen years, she has worked in batik, screen printing, shibori dyeing, resist discharges, devore and pleating. Her wearables include

overdyeing, using stitch and block resists, shibori on silk georgette and devore on velvet.

In the context of this current issue, we feature Carolyn's small wall pieces - plant dyed fabrics collaged on a digital print linen background and handstitched over a wool filling.

'My aim is to create Australian images and capture the spirit and rhythm of natural design'

Carolyn Cabena



South West Rocks plant dyed fabrics, digital print, linen, wool filling.



profile on

Lois Parish Evans

thread painting

Lois Parish-Evans' earliest training was with her mother, who taught sewing to local women in Papua New Guinea and from an early age, art and textiles played an important part in her life. At art school, she majored in Fibre and set out to be a textile artist - and she is.

She also has a Masters Degree in Art Therapy. She spent three years working with terminally ill patients and loves to work with children in hospitals and schools, particularly young people who are withdrawn from school because of emotional and behavioural issues.

Lois' art is inspired by design in nature - its colours, textures, pattern and movement. Central to her stylised image-making is the sewing machine and her ability to draw or 'paint with thread and fabric.

Thread painting is a freestyle machine embroidery technique that uses thread and the sewing machine as someone might use paint and a paintbrush. The embroiderer manipulates the sewing machine and fabric by hand and uses thread colour, thread weight, and direction of stitching to create texture, movement, shape, pattern, etc to give voice to an image.



'Kangaroo Paw'



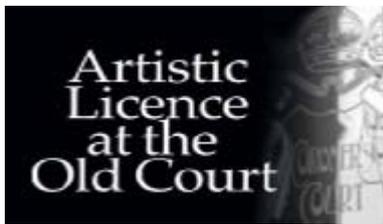
'Lisianthus'



'Poppy Seed'



'Dancing Kangaroo Paws'



artistic licence at the old court

An exhibition of excellence by members of the Society of Arts and Crafts of NSW, an associated event of City of Sydney's **Art and About 2010**.

when 28 September to 24 October, 2010

where Craft NSW 104 George Street The Rocks Sydney 2000

p 9241 5825 **w** www.artsandcraftsnsw.com.au/exhibitions.htm



out of the flames

Ceramics by members of the Society of Arts and Crafts of NSW, Pat Hayward, Liz Hardy, Heidi Francis, Gillian Dodds and Greg Sugden, together with guest exhibitor, Marion Walliss.

when 26 October to 7 November, 2010

where Craft NSW 104 George Street The Rocks Sydney 2000

p 9241 5825 **w** www.artsandcraftsnsw.com.au/exhibitions.htm



tidal wonder

Silver objects, sculpture and jewellery by respected silversmith Valerie Aked - an exhibition of new work exploring her love of silver and the sea.

when 20 October to 31 October, 2010

where Ewart Gallery, 33 Laurel St Willoughby NSW

p 9958 6540



australia wide two

A travelling exhibition from Ozquilt Network Incorporated, a national organisation for art quilters and those interested in art quilts.

when 22 October to 5 December, 2010

where Fairfield City Museum and Gallery NSW

w [ozquilt network](http://ozquilt.com.au)



small wonders

Christmas gifts and Christmas tree decorations, handheld precious pieces - good things do come in small packages.

when 9 November to 2 January, 2011

where Craft NSW 104 George Street The Rocks Sydney 2000

p 9241 5825 **w** www.artsandcraftsnsw.com.au/exhibitions.htm



braidwood quilt event

The Airing of The Quilts and FyreGallery \$1000 Acquisition Prize held in conjunction with the Braidwood Quilt Event

when 27 November to 28 November, 2010

where Braidwood NSW

w [braidwood quilt event](http://braidwoodquilt.com.au)



worlds of inspiration

by Filament, an Embroiderers' Guild of NSW group, the culmination of a year's research into the historic textiles of a number of cultures.

when 6 November to 9 December, 2010

where St Vincents Hospital Art Corridor, Darlinghurst NSW

w [filament blog spot](http://filament.com.au)

TUITION

Tutor	Craft	Email	Workshop information
Pam de Groot	Felting, beginner - advanced	pamdegroot.fibre@gmail.com	Please contact tutor direct
Jenny Hopper	Nuno felting and dyeing, beginner - advanced	jennyhopper@tsn.cc	Please contact tutor direct
Jude Skeers	Hand knitting - hats moebius etc	judeskeers@hotmail.com	Please book via website
Penel Bigg	Flamework beadmaking; Beadweaving with seed beads	firebird@gmail.com	Please contact the tutor direct
Sandra Shaw	Screenprinting workshops	sandra.shaw2@bigpond.com	Please contact the tutor direct
Val Aked	Silverwork classes	9975 3734	Please contact the tutor direct
Carolyn Delzoppo	Cloisonne enamel	see website for information	www.carolyndelzoppo.com.au
Helen Beale	Basketry	helen@helenbeale.com	Please contact the tutor direct

CRAFT WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS IN NSW

a summer 'stitch fest'

The Embroiderers Guild of NSW Inc is running a comprehensive Summer School in January 2011 - more than fifteen workshops throughout the month.

when: January 2011

where: 76 Queen Street, Concord West NSW

further info: 02 9743 2501 *summer stitch fest*

fabric colouring with gai rayner

The Quilters' Guild of NSW Inc. Some techniques covered in the workshop include salting, heliography, colour tonings and Genesis Creations tie-dyeing.

when: 19 November 20 November 2010

where: Guild Office NSW

further info: 02 9283 3737 *workshops Quilter's Guild*

scheherazade's reticule

Inspired by the intense colour of Middle Eastern Ceramics, this creative textile taster will lead you into a fun and lateral way of designing. Tutor Kirry Toose

when: 9 February 2010

where: Epping Creative Centre, Dence Park, Epping NSW

further info: email nsw@atasda.org.au *workshops ATASDA*

guild lace workshop

The Knitter Guild NSW is holding a lace workshop on basic lace techniques. Tutor Smila Smithers.

when: 7 November 2010

where: Epping Creative Centre, Dence Park, Epping NSW

further info: 02 9868 6799 *workshops Knitters Guild NSW*

exploring the surface: making paper plates

Explore ways of preparing plates for printing using cardboard, perspex and acetate. These plates can be used for background texture, overprinting or combined with etching plates and monoprints. Tutor Liz Jeneid

when: 13 November 14 November 2010

where: Primrose Park Art and Craft Centre, Matora Lane, Cremorne NSW

further info: 02 9380 5449 *workshops Primrose Paperworks*

**15th biennial ausglass conference:
peripheral vision**

In January, 2011, Sydney is host to international and Australian artists at the 15th Biennial Ausglass conference - Peripheral Vision.

when: 20 January 23 January 2011

where: Sydney College of the Arts

further info: conference@ausglass.org.au w *peripheral vision*

**canberra glassworks:- artist in
residence**

The Canberra Glassworks are offering up to three residencies in 2011 for established artists. This residency is for artists who have achieved significant recognition for their technical and artistic work. The residency provides artists with a place and time for research and development, creating a new body of work, developing a particular idea or continuing along a theme.

when: 2011

where: 11 Wentworth Avenue, Kingston ACT

further info: 02 6260 7005 w *artist in residence*

vitrify: alcorso ceramic award 2011

The Vitrify Alcorso Award is a newly established \$10,000 annual prize for ceramics. The award is open to artists nationally.

when: 30 November 2010

where: Vitrify c/o the Alcorso Foundation, PO BOX 2010, Hobart, Tasmania 7001

further info: *vitrify alcorso*

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We welcome material you wish to submit for publication and appreciate your feedback, comments and suggestions. Please email:
newsletter@artsandcraftsnsw.com.au

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