

The Practical Study Group

affiliated to the Embroiderers' Guild

The PSG is a diverse group of highly qualified textile artists who have built up a reputation both here and abroad. The group is committed to raising the standard of contemporary embroidery and the members are known for their exciting approach to art and design and for their ability to impart knowledge and enthusiasm for all aspects of textiles, cutting edge and traditional.

Over the past 25 years PSG members have been at the forefront of embroidery and textile education. Many members teach in schools or colleges of further, higher and adult education while others are involved with groups in the community. Several members have successfully published books and magazine articles and lectured and tutored abroad. The PSG have recently been involved in a number of very exciting projects in partnerships with museums, where educational programmes and travelling exhibitions have helped to heighten awareness of the diversity of textiles.

To sustain the development of their professional practice every member attends annual PSG weekend courses and presents their work for critical appraisal every five years. The group interaction during these courses and the critical appraisals provide both the support and the challenges necessary to sustain lively, dynamic work. As a group the PSG exhibit embroidery in a variety of venues and galleries.

All Practical Study Group members are happy to consider invitations to give talks, to tutor workshops and residential courses, and contribute to educational projects, both within the United Kingdom and abroad.



www.practicalstudygroup.co.uk

The Venue

Harper Adams is set in 600 acres of beautiful Shropshire countryside. The college is well served by major roads and is 40 minutes from Birmingham. The nearest railway station is Stafford (15 miles).

More Details

The Summer School begins at 2.00pm on Monday July 27th and ends after lunch on Friday July 31st 2009.

Please note the bedrooms will be available from 12.30pm on Monday but the studios will not be open till 1.00pm. All bedrooms must be vacated by 9.30am on the Friday morning.

Costs

Course fee, accommodation and full board	£435.00
Non resident	£335.00

Non residential students are reminded that the course includes dinner and workshops in the evenings.

If you are making a long journey, Bed and Breakfast for Sunday night can be arranged at extra cost through the booking secretary.

The course fee *does not* include lunch on Monday.

For further information and booking form please send an A5 stamped addressed envelope to

Gwen Hedley, Copthorne, The Undercliff, Sandgate, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 3AT

or download from www.practicalstudygroup.co.uk

Other Information

Maps, travel instructions and your course requirements will be sent to you on receipt of the balance of your fee.

All electrical equipment brought to the college must have a current electrical safety certificate. You will be asked to sign an undertaking that this has been done.

For those receiving in-service grants from colleges, please send the PSG your course fee then claim back a refund from your college.

Please note: Course fee insurance is your responsibility.

The PSG reserves the right to limit the participation in the course of any student.

SUMMER SCHOOL 2009

Looking Further



A residential Summer School
Tutored by PSG members
Open to everyone

Harper Adams University College
Edgmond, Shropshire

Monday 27 – Friday 31 July
2009

Jenny Bullen
Gavin Fry
Gwen Hedley

The Summer School in 2009 will focus on the theme 'Looking Further'.

Individual tutors have designed exciting approaches to creative work that all utilise stitch. You can select an almost 'totally stitch' experience casting 3D objects, or one that offers the opportunity for mixed media approaches that include stitch. Consideration will be given to form, line or mark and this may also influence your choice.



PRACTICAL STUDY GROUP

The Land

with Jenny Bullen

'Marks in the ground are never to be taken lightly'

The inspiration for this course will be taken from the land, peeling back layers of time, revealing mysteries and legends. Marks made by ancestors, pathways, tractor tyres, footprints of generations all leave their impact.

'All maps are full of dimensions and distortions'; we will add our own interpretations, using combinations of paper and cloth and hand stitch to acquire a sense of place..



Jenny Bullen is a freelance embroidery tutor who taught C&G Embroidery for many years. At present she is also working as a printmaking tutor and teaches regularly at the Embroiderers' Guild HQ at Hampton Court.

Her work is inspired and informed by themes of landscape, old and worn textiles and an abiding love of stitched textiles. Through drawing, printmaking and stitch she aims to produce work that questions and challenges the use of hand stitch.

Building with Threads

with Gavin Fry

Building with stitches over hollow 3D objects enables us to cast with threads and cloth. During the course we will build hollow sculptures using mohair and jersey fabrics; the results will be experimental but the stitches will initially be basic – running and back stitch. Later we can richly darn these forms and embellish them or join contrasting elements including found objects to them. The joy of this method is that you can cast anything (even a light bulb!) to make a vessel, jewellery or sculpture. This course is about intuitive making and hand stitching; together we will build with threads tactile objects which will take on a life of their own.



Gavin Fry studied embroidery at Goldsmiths College and after working in the fashion industry later trained at the Royal College of Art. He has exhibited widely including with Prism and the Practical Study Group and is a hand embroiderer. Gavin is a senior tutor with Opus School of Textile Arts teaching at degree and masterclass level. He uses marine biology and music/poetry as inspiration, employing a collage approach within both his sketchbooks and stitched works, believing that an intuitive approach flows freely following good research. His works are densely worked and small but rich in texture and colour.

Drawn to Stitch New Lines of Thought

with Gwen Hedley

Line is fundamental to both drawing and stitching, and offers many interesting possibilities for creative development. Using some exciting approaches, we will thoroughly explore the power of line, using its infinite variety of qualities to create linear designs, forms, patterns and textures. Through a range of art and mixed media techniques, we will work with many aspects of line and a very wide range of surface marks. The resulting designs will be creatively translated into stitch, to build a comprehensively filled creative workbook or portfolio. Individual tutorials will develop plenty of ideas for ongoing personal work. This course will be a creative journey.



Gwen Hedley is a nationally known tutor and textile practitioner, who has exhibited and taught widely both in the UK and overseas. She was awarded membership of the Society of Designer Craftsmen, and has published Surfaces for Stitch. She works freelance, tutoring groups and also as a visiting lecturer to textile/art students in schools and colleges. Her teaching approaches encourage the growth of critical thinking and are geared towards moving students along their own creative pathways.