

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 21st and ends after lunch on Friday July 25th 2008.

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	£420.00
Non resident	£320.00

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 2008

Threads of Meaning



A residential Summer School
Tutored by PSG members

Open to everyone

Harper Adams University College
Edgmond, Shropshire

Monday 21 – Friday 25 July
2008

Jan Evans
Siân Martin
Dorothy Tucker

Each tutor has used their particular interest, strength and skill to develop the theme for the course in a highly individual way. You can choose a course that gives you the opportunity to enhance your knowledge of symbolism or one that can be a revelation in thinking and the effects of light, or alternatively one that can develop your use of stitch while exploring the significance of shapes and spaces.



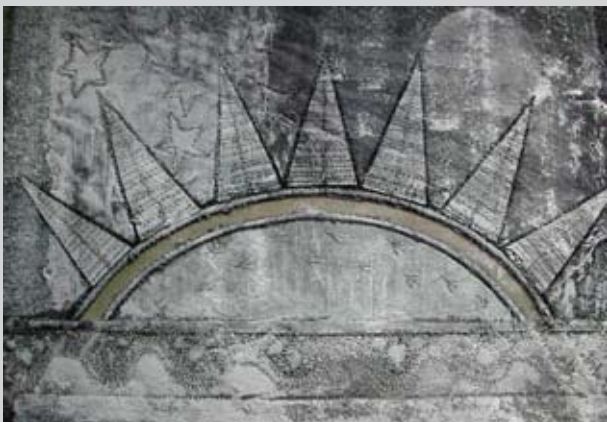
PRACTICAL STUDY GROUP

Along Personal Lines

with Jan Evans

There are considered to be 5 basic patterns, shapes which from ancient times to the present day have been used worldwide. The circle, spiral, cross, square and triangle have similar meanings in most cultures. In our own lives certain motifs and colours have a resonance. By combining personal symbols and individual choices, simple and complex developments will be explored.

Drawing and collage will lead into explorations in line, and contrasts of scale and texture. Printing, stencilling and resist methods on paper and fabric combined with stitch, by hand or machine, will contribute to an exciting folio of ideas.



Jan Evans is a freelance textile artist and tutor who taught City and Guilds Embroidery at the Gloucestershire College of Arts and Technology for 8 years. Since that time she has continued to take workshops to Embroiderers' Guild members as well as classes in her own studio. She works to commission and is also an exhibiting member of 2 other textile groups, and has had 2 solo exhibitions in 2007. She enjoys experimenting with basic fabrics (calico, scrim, muslin), changing the surface and creating areas of texture, and often uses locally found materials in her work. The history of the landscape of her home area inspires and constantly challenges her.

Seeing the Light

with Siân Martin

'Seeing the Light' can be interpreted in different ways; a revelation in thinking and the effects of light. Students will experiment with a range of translucent and transparent materials – tissues, chiffons, acetates, organzas, cling film and more – to explore different ways of creating suspended textile surfaces by layering, fusing, trapping and linking methods. A series of experimental samples will culminate in a still-life study, looking at light through glass, coloured inks and balloons leading to lots of exciting ideas for further work.



Siân Martin is a nationally recognised tutor and textile practitioner: an exhibiting member of the 62 Group of Textile Artists and Fibre.Art.Wales as well as the Practical Study Group. She is a visiting lecturer on the textile degree courses at Somerset College of Arts and Technology and teaches City and Guilds Embroidery at Urchfont Manor. Siân is director and tutor of 'Distant Stitch', her embroidery by correspondence course. She has developed many design and textile workshops to extend creative thinking through the medium of fabric and stitch. Siân uses the concepts of transparency and layering within her own textile art pieces which can be seen on her website www.distantstitch.co.uk.

Shapes and Spaces

with Dorothy Tucker

By folding and stitching together layers of washed and worn fabric we will make a cloth which is lovely to handle. As we work with the simplest of stitches to outline shapes and fill spaces we will become intrigued by the subtle changes which begin to take place in the soft surfaces of the cloth, and then we will be drawn into stitching a design in which the meaning and textile qualities evolve as we work.

Collections of objects will provide our starting points and the course will be inspired by Dorothy's research into Kantha, a special way of stitching from Bangladesh.



Dorothy Tucker exhibits her work regularly with the Practical Study Group and with PRISM, and tutors students on the distance learning BA degree programme with Opus School of Textile Arts. Since completing the Fine Art and Embroidery Diploma at Goldsmiths she has taught textiles and embroidery in higher and further education, and for the Embroiderers' Guild. She has written two books, Appliqué and Embroidered Pictures. As Education Officer at the Embroiderers Guild, she edits Textile Ideas, the Guild's magazine for Young Embroiderers, and her work also involves developing learning activities for workshop programmes, events, and outreach projects, e.g. Common Threads.