The Textile Study Group

The Textile Study Group (TSG) is a professional and highly experienced group of nationally and internationally recognised textile artists and tutors, well known for innovative and challenging approaches to textile art practice and teaching, both in the UK and abroad. The group, first established in 1973, supports members in achieving the highest standards of teaching and exhibiting.

TSG members place great importance on the development of their own individual art practice in their role as educators. Based largely in the UK, members meet for two weekends a year in a supportive but challenging environment to participate in workshops led by outside tutors from a wide range of disciplines. They also undertake a critical 5-year review with an appointed mentor. This is a crucial and valued opportunity to reflect on their own practice and teaching, as well as to engage in debates about current developments in the world of textiles.

The objectives of the group are to promote and advance the practice of stitch and textile art through a broad spectrum of educational activities: workshops, courses, lectures, publications and exhibitions.

Members aim to deliver expertise and excellence in various areas of textile arts to inspire students of all ages and abilities.

The TSG runs an annual residential Summer School tutored by three group members. Each year's Summer School offers course participants an opportunity to work in a supportive environment and aims to encourage and inspire students to widen their horizons and extend their ways of working. It is open to all those who want a few exciting days working in a friendly and inspiring atmosphere.







Address

Hillscourt Hotel and Venue, Rose Hill, Rednal, Birmingham B45 8RS www.hillscourt.co.uk

The Venue

Hillscourt is a delightful venue set in 25 acres of beautiful grounds and gardens. The Victorian house dates back to 1897 and retains many of its original features. It is located in leafy South Birmingham, near to Bromsgrove, Worcestershire and close to the Lickey Hills.

The venue is easily accessible by road being a 5 minute drive from the M5 Junction 4 and 5 minutes from the M42 Junction 1. The nearest station is at Longbridge and the nearest airport is Birmingham International Airport.

There is ample free parking available.

More Details

The summer school begins at 2.00pm on Monday 17 July, and ends after afternoon tea on Thursday 20 July 2023.

All bedrooms are to be vacated by 9.30am on the Thursday morning.

Costs

All bedrooms are ensuite.

Full board, course fee, accommodation £690
International students £710
Non resident day delegate and course fee £543
This includes lunch, dinner and workshops in the evenings.

The course fee does not include lunch on Monday 17 July.

If you are making a long journey, bed and breakfast for Sunday and/ or Thursday night can be arranged when booking. This also applies to partners who wish to stay at the centre.

Those receiving in-service grants from colleges should send the Textile Study Group the course fee and claim back a refund from their college.

Booking

Booking, payment and cancellation information is in the accompanying booking details. Download the booking details from www.textilestudygroup.co.uk

Terms and Conditions

The booking details include important Terms and Conditions in line with our liabilities to the centre. Please ensure you read these carefully.

Contact

For any queries about the Summer School please contact polly.pollock@textilestudygroup.co.uk







SUMMER SCHOOL 2023



artists and tutors sharing ideas imagination and skills

Salvage: Transform

A residential Summer School tutored by Textile Study Group members Open to everyone

Hillscourt Hotel and Venue, Rose Hill, Rednal, Birmingham B45 8RS Monday 17 – Thursday 20 July 2023

Lois Blackburn Shelley Rhodes Julia Triston

The focus of this Summer School will be on salvaging and repurposing a wide range of materials.

You may choose to work with a personal collection, finding inspiration in found objects, you could find new life in old materials or you might be drawn to work with discarded materials and the principles of fan making to explore ideas.

Your enthusiastic and experienced tutors will encourage and support you in finding new stories to tell through your work.

Fold | Festoon | Fan with Lois Blackburn

Fan making is on the 'Red List of Endangered Crafts', at serious risk of no longer being practised in the UK. In this workshop I will share my passion for making these beautiful, functional, art objects.

Together we will explore, play and be inspired by fan making techniques from history and from around the world. We will use sustainable materials to create the fan forms: found objects, scrap papers, leftover fabrics and threads, charity shop finds, discarded artworks. We'll decorate, fold, cut, stitch, shred, apply, paint the surfaces.

Students can choose to work with their own imagery and themes, or simply respond and find joy in their chosen materials.

This workshop is about having fun, letting go of expectations, exploring materials, and creative play.



For 14 years Lois has directed arts company arthur+martha CIC, leading projects and running workshops, including with older people, people at risk of homelessness, people with dementia and war widows. In her own practice she creates issue-based pieces, most recently using quilt making, batik and fan making. She exhibits internationally and has been commissioned for a range of public and private artworks.

textilestudygroup.co.uk/members/lois-blackburn

Think Inside the Box with Shelley Rhodes

Many of us are collectors and gatherers of things left behind: found, overlooked, discarded or mundane objects. You will bring along your own personal collection to inspire drawing, mark-making, sketching and expressive writing. This may lead to threedimensional constructions and assemblage, handmade books, scrolls, stitched samples and collages.

These elements will be edited, selected and presented inside or outside a box, which may remain whole or be deconstructed. Fragments of the original collection may be incorporated. You will consider repetition, simplification, wrapping, folding and layering. Stitch will enhance work and act as a joining mechanism. Materials will be salvaged and repurposed.

As artists we are often told to 'think outside the box', meaning to think in an original and creative way. You will be encouraged to do this as you observe, transform and re-present your collection.



Shelley studied graphic design and now teaches mixedmedia workshops throughout the UK, internationally and online. Alongside making work for exhibitions, she has written two books, published by Batsford. She loves to travel and records her journeys alongside her everyday observations, which she shares daily on Instagram @shelleyrhodesartist.

textilestudygroup.co.uk/members/shelley-rhodes

Unpick | Observe | Upcycle with Julia Triston

From beach finds and charity shop treasures to vintage lace and household linen, each cloth and surface reflects its own identity and embedded memories, stories and history – imagined or known.

In this workshop you will deconstruct old/found/ collected textiles after examining their characteristics, elements, and 'landmarks'. You will then transform and upcycle them to create collaged surfaces with new narratives.

Composition is the key. Through a series of creative exercises, you will work in paper and cloth to play with edges, shapes and patches, negative space and boundaries. You will record, unpick, observe, layer, add, remove and build, before constructing your final collages with hand and machine stitch. These exercises will lead to a cohesive series of sketchbook samples, and many ideas will emerge for developing future work to suit your own style and practice.



Julia has a deep-rooted passion for exploring making processes, and a keen interest in material culture. A curiosity about notions of identity and sustainability informs her upcycled artworks. Julia has a Masters in Contemporary Applied Arts, exhibits and teaches internationally, and runs masterclasses online. She has co-authored two Batsford titles.

textilestudygroup.co.uk/members/julia-triston