



## Creative Fibre Education

Tutor: Jeanette Verster

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### Biography

Like many women of my generation I have been taught to stitch and knit by my mother.

My mother was a maker par excellence and lived by the mantra that if you want to know how to make something, someone would have written a book about it. That was long before YouTube (which I often use). She always had projects on the go, in any available medium and it is thanks to her (and to my rather short attention span) that I love exploring different techniques. It does make categorising my work rather difficult and the only common thread from one work to the next is thread/yarn/fibre (pick your favourite).

I was fortunate to have had art teachers at school, and later, that were all encouraging and open to experimentation with textiles and not merely expecting the traditional painting and printmaking. For many years I taught music from primary grades through to tertiary level. My working life also included stints as art and crafts teacher, set designer, and costume designer and maker. At the end of 2018 my husband was transferred to New Plymouth and that gave me the opportunity to give my undivided attention to my own arts practice.

Over the years I have taught countless workshops and exhibited widely. I have been honoured to have been the winner of several awards both locally and nationally.

### Workshops

Page	Title	Level	Duration	Available For
2	Wet Felting with Cellulose	Intermediate	6 hours	National; area/local; travelling tutor
3	Design for Fibre artists	All	3, 6 or 9 hours	National; area/local; travelling tutor
4	The Stash Buster: Combining paper with other fibres and/or elements	All	4	National; area/local; travelling tutor
5	Folded Book Structures	All	3	National; area/local; travelling tutor



## Creative Fibre Workshop

### Workshop: Wet Felting With Cellulose Paste

Tutor: Jeanette Verster

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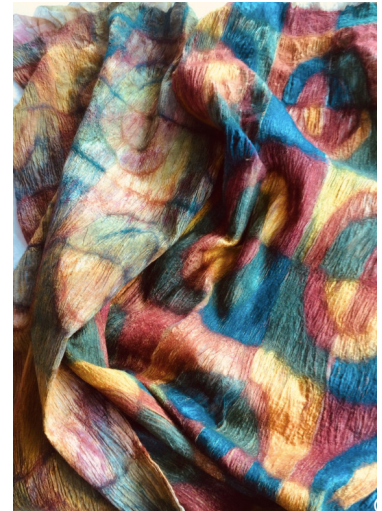
#### Description

Using cellulose paste as an aid in the process of wet felting, particularly where pre-felting is required, opens a world of design possibilities. This workshop will add another skill to felters' arsenal. The design aspect of the course are not only relevant for this technique but is sure to be useful in all creative work.

Images:

Left: Detail of a large wrap. Merino with applied foil.

Right: Detail of scarf, wool on silk.



Available for:

National; area/local; travelling tutor

Level

Intermediate and advanced.

Minimum No. of Participants

4

Maximum No. of Participants

10

Duration

Min. 6 hours (can be split over two days)

Learning Outcomes

Participants will be able to:

- Prepare wool with Cellulose to use in wet felting projects
- Design and make at least one sample using cellulose wet-felt

At the conclusion of the workshop the participants would expect to take away one or more wool samples approx. 40x40cm. These will be large enough to be finished as a bag or cushion. Pattern samples made on paper.

Materials Required by Participants

Basic felting kit: Bubble wrap, soap, pool noodle, scissors, tulle etc. In addition participants can bring merino fibre of their own colour choosing, but there will be a selection available that is included in the material fee.

Materials Provided by Tutor

Plastic sheeting, wool, paper, crayons, cellulose paste, pencils, cutting boards, brushes, prepared wool sheets.

Materials Fee

\$25

Advance Preparation

Only for extended workshop: pre-cutting paper into specific sizes.

Classroom Facilities

Tables, (approx. 1.5 square metre per person), white board, running water, sink, drying room or racks if possible.



## Creative Fibre Workshop

### Workshop: Design for Fibre Artists

Tutor: Jeanette Verster

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#### Description

Get to grips with the basics of design by exploring the elements of art and design principles with a slant towards fibre art. Knowing the theory behind design often makes the actual creative process easier and clarifies preferences.

Available for:	National; area/local; travelling tutor
Level	Any
Minimum No. of Participants	5
Maximum No. of Participants	15
Duration	3 hours
Learning Outcomes	<p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Explore art and design elements to become familiar with the terms.</li><li>• Create small samples to demonstrate principles.</li><li>• Discuss and motivate design choices.</li><li>• Critique designs by referring back to and using the art and design vocabulary.</li></ul> <p>At the conclusion of the workshop, the participants would expect to take away several samples made in paper. These will be handy for later reference or as a starting point for a design for a fibre arts work.</p>
Materials Required by Participants	None.
Materials Provided by Tutor	A variety of coloured papers, glue, cutting mats, craft knives.
Materials Fee	\$10
Advance Preparation	None
Classroom Facilities	Enough tables and chairs for participants. White board.



## Creative Fibre Workshop

### Workshop: The Stash Buster: Combining paper with other fibres and/or elements

Tutor: Jeanette Verster

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#### Description

If you will admit (like most fibre artists) to owning a collection of small fibre treasures, a stash of beautiful handmade papers, embroidery flosses and yarns or a stash of all of the previous and more, this is the workshop for you. Using an innovative system to create multimedia art works, participants will discover how to manipulate paper and combine materials into exciting and personal artworks.



Detail of work made of handmade papers and hand spun silk yarn on watercolour paper.



Combination of elements – knitted harakeke flax circle, silk yarn on paper, copper letters.

Available for:

National; area/local; travelling tutor

Level

Any

Minimum No. of Participants

5

Maximum No. of Participants

10

Duration

3–6 hours

Learning Outcomes

Participants will:

- Select papers and materials from their personal collections to create art works
- Explore techniques to combine contrasting fibres on a flat surface.
- Complete several samples demonstrating a range of techniques (about 10).
- Create one small work using own materials
- (For longer workshops) Create a small series of art works on a personal theme.

At the conclusion of the workshop the participants would expect to take away several samples and one (or more) completed work(s). Some samples will be suitable for use on greeting cards.

Materials Required by Participants

A small selection of art papers (4–6 A5 sheets) and other “stash”. Needles, embroidery thread, awl.

Materials Provided by Tutor

All materials required for samples: papers, threads, glue, ink, paint, brushes etc. Pack of prompt cards for each participant.

Materials Fee

\$20

Advance Preparation

None. I will provide more detail to participants about the type of stash that will be suitable.

Classroom Facilities

Sufficient workspace, sink and running water.



## Creative Fibre Workshop

### Workshop: Folded Book Structures

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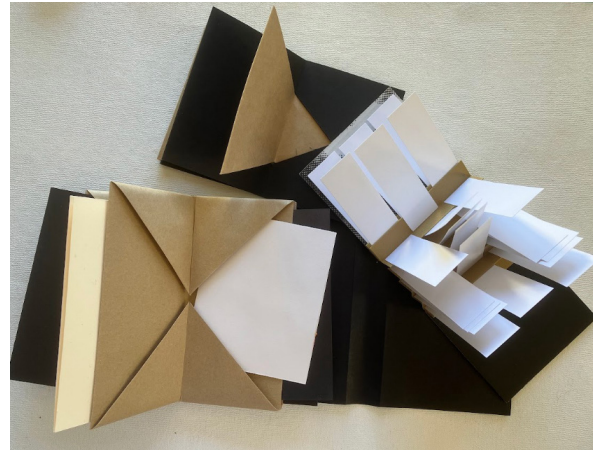
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#### Description

Folded book structures are wonderful creative vehicles for a wide and diverse range of artists. Fibre artists can showcase beautiful handmade papers or use it to display small woven knitted or crocheted treasures. In this workshop participants will learn how to make a basic accordion book, an interlocking accordion book, 'blizzard' book, and a flag book.

#### Books:

- Front left: Pocket book. This structure is ideal for saving or presenting gift cards or small art works.
- Back: Interlocking accordion book. A small format that is ideal for contrasting papers or textures.
- Right: Flag book. A form that can be as big or small as, long or thin as the imagination allows.



Available for:

National; area/local; travelling tutor

Level

Any

Minimum No. of Participants

5

Maximum No. of Participants

10

Duration

3

Learning Outcomes

Students will:

- Learn basic paper folding techniques
- Make an 8-fold accordion book
- Make an interlocking accordion book
- Make a pocket book with cover
- Make a small flag book

At the conclusion of the workshop the participants would expect to take away completed models of accordion book, interlocking accordion book, pocket book with cover and flag book. The longer course option will include an option to make and finish one of these into book that will have decorative covers.

Materials Required by Participants

Materials Provided by Tutor

All papers (will be pre-cut to size by me for each project) for short course. For longer course participants will be asked to provide some additional papers for their final project.

Materials Fee

\$20

Advance Preparation

Only for extended workshop: pre-cutting paper into specific sizes.

Classroom Facilities

Sufficient work space. White board.