

Award for New Weavers

PK MARACIN, CROMWELL

Editor's Note: Congratulations to the recipient of the Award for New Weavers for 2024, PK Maracin from Cromwell. PK was presented with the award by Tricia Jane, then president, at the Creative Fibre AGM held in Christchurch on 10 May 2024. The selectors were impressed with her portfolio and work that she presented. They look forward to seeing more of her work.

PK's background story and the beginning of her weaving journey was covered in a recent 'Meet A Member' feature in the December 2023 issue of *Creative Fibre*. PK adds to this below, in relation to applying for the award.



I entered the Award for New Weavers not only for the ego, but to challenge myself. I completed my submissions for this award, four full pieces and two samples just before Christmas 2023. At that time, I had been weaving for 16 months. In the 12 months of 2023 I warped up over 100 projects on my loom. Besides basic twill structures I have learned and experimented with warp/weft faced weaves, Monk's belt, shadow weave, five different types of laces, turned twill, block analysis, crackle, and overshot. Not every weave structure excites me, nor interests me. In fact, right now I am going through an ultra-fine plain weave linen shawl stage.

By the time you read this I will hopefully be further into my weaving journey – though weaving is a journey you never complete. To me it is the golf of the textile arts: just when you think you got it sussed, you realise how much you don't know or understand.

I want to thank Creative Fibre for this award, and the judges for their very positive and encouraging feedback. Working towards a goal forces one to think outside the box and take on challenges, even if that challenge is a timeframe. I encourage everyone to enter for any of the awards as it is a great foundation for furthering yourself. With the award money I received I bought two weaving books by Marian Stubenitsky and partially paid for an electric bobbin winder – winding ultra-fine linen by hand was getting on my nerves!



From left:

- *Building Blocks* – hand dyed fine New Zealand Merino yarn in three different warp and weft colourings to create a 9-block grid. Point twill diamonds. 8 shaft.
- *Oaxaca sample*, fine cotton warp and ultra fine Bamboo weft in colour and weave sequences over huck lace. 4 shaft.
- *Brickwork* – hand dyed and naturally coloured fine New Zealand Merino yarn. Woven in shadow weave. 4 shaft.