

contemporary weave

with Liz Williamson

STURT SUMMER SCHOOL

3rd - 8th January 2012

\$670 GST included
no material fee



Weaving has many social and cultural associations plus technical traditions that can be explored for contemporary designs. When linked with a current ecological or sustainability concerns, these traditions provide a rich resource for reference and a framework for developing new approaches to traditional loom weaving.

Examine, adapt and explore a selection of weaving traditions for designs that suit the philosophy of reuse, recycle and renew.

This workshop will allow participants to experiment with weave patterns and structures; various fibres and yarns; natural and manmade materials; natural colours; and to design and weave textiles that reflect a current concern. All workshop participants will design and weave pieces for a specific end use eg for the body, as accessories, for interior applications or as 3D objects. The workshop will include the basics for beginner weavers; drafting; warping; dressing the loom; manipulating weave structures; finishes and presentation.

My own practice as a weaver illustrates the approach of this workshop as several weave traditions underlie my current practice namely the rag rug tradition involving the reuse of fabric as weft; the tradition of woven sacs, storage containers and bags; the double cloth structure and the tradition of weaving cloth specifically to wrap the body.

Liz Williamson is an internationally recognized textile artist who has exhibited widely both in Australia and overseas and is represented in most major public collections in Australia. Liz is currently Head of the School of Design Studies, College of Fine Arts, University of NSW, Sydney where she also coordinates the textiles programs. In 2008 Liz was selected for the prestigious Living Treasures : Masters of Australian Craft series, an award given by Object Gallery and Craft Australia acknowledging her contribution to craft and design over more than 30 years. Her weaving is individual, innovative and experimental.

The Summer School runs for 5½ days between Tuesday 3rd and Sunday 8th January and the classes are held from 9am to 4.30pm (12.30 on Sunday). Tea and coffee are provided.

STURT SUMMER SCHOOL

Accommodation available
Cnr Range Rd & Waverley Pde
P.O Box 34 Mittagong NSW Australia
Ph 02 4860 2083 Fax 02 4860 2081
www.sturt.nsw.edu.au

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Please bring with you:

- Looms. If you have a table loom or small loom, please bring it. If not there are table and small floor looms in the Sturt Weaving room that can be used
- Weaving accessories eg warping board, shuttles, bobbins, bobbin winder etc. if you have these; if not these will be available in the Sturt Weaving room.
- Accessories – scissors, pens, notebook, tape measure, calculator, pins, needles, tapestry needles. **Essential.**
- Yarns – please bring a selection of yarns that you are interested in weaving with. These can be cotton, silk, wool, rayon, bamboo or yarn made of any fibre that you can source. Bring yarn of any size and thickness. As a very, very general guide, weaving wearables and accessories, will use fine yarns while 3D objects and interiors will take medium sized yarns. Warp yarns need to be flexible and strong; more diverse materials can be used in the weft. A selection of yarns is essential. Some yarns and materials that you could experiment with and some silk and wool material for plant dyeing will be available to purchase
- Materials – the workshop will allow you to experiment with a variety of materials so please bring a selection of materials that you are interested in for example 1. Paper and fabrics that can be cut / ripped into strips for weaving. 2. Fine metal wire that is flexible enough for weaving. 3. Plant materials can be used for wefts. 3. Leather lacing, cord or braids.



A selection of materials is essential.

- Plant dyeing : I am keen to use local plant material for dyeing. To experiment with plant dyes bring either silk or wool yarn or material. **Optional.**
- Please bring four textiles that you are particularly intrigued by : these could be from a particular place or culture; of interest because of social connection; of interest because of their structure, texture, colour or pattern on or in the cloth; these could be woven, embroidered, printed or non woven. **Essential.**
- And a mug for your tea or coffee