

New England Weavers Seminar 2019

Teacher Bios

ANASTASIA AZURE combines ancient weaving, traditional metal-smithing and contemporary materials to create sculpture and jewelry. She received her MFA in Textiles from Rhode Island School of Design and BFA in Metals from California College of the Arts. She has taught a variety of weaving workshops at the Appalachian Center for Craft, UMass Dartmouth, RISD Continuing Education, and the Fuller Craft Museum. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Woven Metal Jewelry: Earrings & Pin, Woven Metal Pendant or Pin** (2 workshops)

SUZI BALLENGER is a veteran weaver. She has been teaching weaving and other textile techniques since 1996 to all ages throughout the United States. Her woven work focuses on a disrupted and fluid order of warp and weft. She is a designer and inventor – holding two US trademarks and a US Utility Patent for weaving tools. Suzi's work has been published in *Fiber Art Now*, *Handwoven* magazine, and *Rhode Island Monthly Home Design*; and has won several awards for innovation and creativity. She recently finished her MFA at UMass Dartmouth for Artisanry in Fibers. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Paper: Sheet to Spindle, Weaving Linen Bedding**

CAROL BIRTWISTLE began weaving in 1968 with classes in design and weaving at the Cleveland Institute of Art. She has also studied at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts and continues studies of fiber structure and color theory through workshops, conferences and independent study. She has been presenting workshops and lectures to guilds and conferences and has been teaching at WEBS for the past 30 years. Her classes focus on weaving skills, drafting structures and developing designs supporting the use of the textile. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Weaving for Beginners: On the 4-Harness Floor Loom**

LUCIENNE COIFMAN has taught weaving for almost 40 years at the Guilford Art Center, The Creative Art workshop and in her own studio. She also conducted workshops throughout the Northeast and the Midwest. For more than 30 years Lucienne has been studying Rep Weave, experimenting with the use of different fibers in the process. Her main interest has centered on color interactions and patterns, using up to 8 harnesses and

using pick-up techniques when needed. Her weavings have appeared in *Shuttle Spindle & Dyepot*, *Handwoven*, and has been included in many juried exhibits. Her book, *REP- RIPS -REPS Weaves* (2015), is a complete workshop for both beginning and advanced weavers. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Rep Weave: Books, Bags, Boxes & Beyond; Classic & Nontraditional Rep Weave**

KAY FAULKNER has been a full-time weaver for over 30 years. The ability to create unique hand-woven cloth is the prime focus of her studio practice. The potential of the woven structure is a source of fascination. She is committed to research and enjoys pushing the boundaries. Travel in Southeast Asia has provided one focus for this research. She has gained Master Weavers Accreditation and has taught, been published, and exhibited extensively both within Australia and internationally. Since 2015 she has operated a weaving school from her studio in Queensland. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **East Meets West: A Sampler**

JAYNE FLANAGAN has been handweaving and spinning since the early 1970s. She enjoys the problem-solving, planning, and the tools and processes of creating anything useful by hand. She is a past president of NEWS (2003) and is the current Complex Weavers Study Group Coordinator. She is an active member of several weaving guilds and study groups, including Mainely Weavers and Cross-Country Weavers. Jayne has taught various fiber topics all around New England including knitting, spinning, and flax culture. Her weaving interests range widely from "narrow-wares" (tablet and inkle bands) to draw-loom weaving. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Let's Sew Barbara's Terrific Take-along Bag**

SARAH FORTIN became enthralled with hand weaving as a student of Clothing and Textiles at Washington State University. After graduating and coming to the East Coast in the early 70's, she continued to pursue weaving as a craft while working as an Extension Educator. She became a juried member of the League of NH Craftsmen in 1985, weaving and sewing women's clothing, throws and blankets. Sarah has taught weaving extensively in the Northeast and across the country.

Her work has been awarded many times at the League of NH Craftsmen's Fair, New England Weavers Seminar, NH Weavers' Guild Exhibits, HGA's Convergence and The Blue Ridge Handweaving Show in NC with several of her pieces receiving recognition for excellence in craftsmanship and creativity. Work appeared in Convergence'10 exhibits (2nd place in the Fashion Show) and '12. Her coat, "Wine Country" received 3rd place at the recent HGA Convergence Fashion Show, and yardage "Shattered Reflections" was Best In Fiber in the Living With Crafts Exhibit at the 2014 League of NH Craftsmen Fair. Other work has been published in *Handwoven* magazine. Sarah continues to explore and expand in her art with new techniques as she teaches and exhibits in the area and around the country. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Split Ply Basket, Design Process**

CONNIE GRAY states "Teaching is my craft and my passion." Having learned many crafts at her mother's knee, Connie enjoys sharing with others. Special favorites are fiber arts, weaving, polymer clay, and lately, book arts. Connie has been fortunate to teach at Sharon Arts Center in Sharon and later Peterborough, NH (now affiliated with NH Institute of Art in Manchester) for 30+ years, and also at NEWS, NH Weavers Guild, Harrisville Designs, as well as the former Fiber Arts Center in Amherst, MA. Recently she helped set up a fiber arts program at a farm for developmentally disabled adults in Hillsboro, NH. Exhibits of her work include: Sharon Arts Center/NHIA, NEWS, and HHWG, Monadnock Community Hospitals Healing Arts Gallery. Connie is known as a "workshop junkie"! She feels very fortunate to have learned and shared from the best. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Inkle Weaving, Play with Polymer Clay, Decorative Accents for Fiber Artists**

CHRIS HAMMEL learned to weave over 30 years ago while attending graduate school in Iowa City. In 1998, she completed the six-year Master Weaver Program at Hill Institute in Florence, MA. Her work has been published in *Handwoven* and *Complex Weavers Journal*. She has taught classes at WEBS in Northampton, MA, Fiber Arts Center in Amherst, MA, Snow Farm in Williamsburg, MA and The New England Weavers Seminar 2005, 2007, 2013, 2015 and 2017. In 2004, Chris became the Director of Weaving at Hill Institute. Earlier she taught high school Latin and Art holding BA and MA in Latin Language and Literature from Smith College and University of Iowa, respectively. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Beyond Beginning**

CAROL JAMES has been playing with strings for a long time; she learned to embroider and to crochet before she entered kindergarten. Since the 1980's she has been exploring a wide, flat braiding technique known in North America as fingerweaving. In the mid 1980's she was introduced to sprang. She is now a world recognized teacher. She has spent the past 20 years rediscovering textile forms that had been considered lost, resurrecting these ancient techniques and making them accessible to everyone through her publications and workshops. Carol has published several books on these textile arts: *Fingerweaving Untangled*, *Sprang Unsprung*, and *Sprang Lace Patterns*. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Sprang, Fingerweaving Québécois**

TOM KNISELY is the resident weaving and spinning instructor for Red Stone Glen Fiber Arts Center (717-212-9022). Tom has been weaving and spinning for more than four decades. Tom is a regular contributor to *Handwoven* magazine and has done several instructional videos for FW media on many aspects of weaving. He has written four books, *Weaving Rag Rugs*, *Handwoven Table Linens: 27 Fabulous Projects from a Master Weaver*, *The loom Owner's Companion: Know and Love Your Loom*, and *Weaving Baby Blankets*. Tom enjoys collecting antique textiles as well as ethnic textiles to use in his classes as inspiration for project ideas. Tom lives in York County, PA and just a few minutes away from the studio. Red Stone Glen is owned and operated by his daughter Sara Bixler and her husband Destin. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Boundweave, Guided Tour of the Gallery Show**

PATRICIA MORTON has been weaving since 1990, teaching since 2003, and selling woven articles for many years. She is the co-owner, along with her husband Milton (a cabinetmaker) of Treeditons, a family-owned and operated company, now based in Appomattox, VA, which specializes in handwoven garments, weaving tools, and Shaker boxes. Patricia is passionate about weaving and is focused on exploring how different fibers interact with light, color, and structure to create unique textiles. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Painted Warp, Breaking the Grid, Bead Leno: Holes Where You Want Them**

JOHN MULLARKEY is a nationally recognized teacher who has been tablet weaving for over a decade. His work has been displayed in the Missouri History Mu-

seum, and garments using his card woven bands have been featured in international fashion shows. His designs are featured frequently in *Handwoven*. John is the primary author of *A Tablet Weaver's Pattern Book*, and has produced two DVDs for Interweave Press: *Tablet Weaving Made Easy* and *Double-Faced Tablet Weaving*. He is the developer of the Schacht Zoom Loom. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Tablet Weaving: Kivrim & Coptic**

SALLY SHORE was born in Wisconsin and taught to sew and knit as a child. She studied fine art at Kent State University in the late 1960's with a concentration in graphic design. She took a weaving class just before graduation. Sally wove commissions for architects' and designers' clients and then owned a graphic studio in the late 1970's. She began working with ribbons after receiving the book *Weaving with Ribbon* by Valerie Campbell-Harding in 1991. Since then she has been experimenting with color, texture, and weave structures, concentrating on triaxial or "mad" weave: an Asian basket making technique which can yield cubes, stars, and many other optical illusions. Her self-published book, *A Ribbon Weaver's Handbook*, contains photographic illustrations for six weave structures. In addition to weaving, Sally engages in crafts of beading, felting knitting, and fiber collage. She has taught at several HGA Convergences. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Ribbon Weaving, "Mad" Triaxial Weaving, Be a Boa Constructor**

ROBYN SPADY was introduced to handweaving as a baby with her handwoven baby blanket woven by her great-grandmother. Inspired by her blankie, she learned to weave at a young age and has been weaving for over 40 years. She completed HGA's Certificate of Excellence (COE) in 2004 with the specialized study Loom-controlled Stitched Double Cloth. Robyn is fascinated by the infinite possibilities of crossing threads and loves coming up with new ideas to create fabric and transform it into something new and exciting. She is committed to turning the weaving world on to double-faced fabrics, four-shaft weaves, uncommon and advanced weave structures, and passementerie techniques. Robyn is also the founder and editor of *Heddlecraft* magazine. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **PCW Fiberworks: An Introduction to Weaving Software, Conference Speaker**

JANICE SULLIVAN graduated with a BA in Textiles from Boston University and Massachusetts College of Art with a Masters in Art Education. She lived in San Francisco from 1982 -2005, teaching classes in Weaving and Surface Design and exhibiting her work both locally and nationally. She has taught at City College of San Francisco since 1995, as well as San Francisco State University and College of the Redwoods in Fort Bragg, CA. In her 40 years of loom-manipulated, multi-tensioned double weave, she has pioneered a new approach to sculptural textiles. Her work also incorporates painting, printing, stitching, and dyeing techniques. Janice's work is represented in many corporate and private collections including several Kaiser-Permanente Medical Centers, Moody's Investment Services, Quantum Corporation, Summit Medical Center & Southwest Texas Medical Hospital. Currently Janice lives in the Mendocino area, where she maintains a weaving and dyeing studio. She holds membership in the North Coast Artists Gallery in Fort Bragg. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Dyeing: Color Wheels & Gradations, Exploring the Fashion Show**

BARBARA TELLER ORNELAS and **LYNDA TELLER PETE** are fifth-generation Navajo weavers from the Newcomb and Two Grey Hills area on the Navajo Nation. They started teaching Navajo weaving 17 years ago; they have taught together in various places across the country and individually in their respective home cities. Barbara and Lynda present workshops for beginning to advanced weavers, and teach classes at museums, art centers, and at Canyon de Chelly, in Arizona. They give lectures, demonstrations and presentations. They grew up weaving Two Grey Hills tapestries, learning from their mother Ruth Teller, and sister Rosann Teller Lee. Barbara Ornelas is well-known and highly regarded for her Two Grey Hills tapestries and has won two Best of Show awards at the prestigious Santa Fe Indian Market held annually in August in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Likewise, Lynda has won several textile awards; most recently the Best of Division and Best of Classification at the 2011 and Best of Division again in 2013 Santa Fe Indian Market. (Barbara's two children, Sierra and Michael Ornelas, are sixth generation Navajo weavers and both have their weavings in private collections and in museums.) Barbara and Lynda teach these workshops because they want to elevate the art of Navajo weaving and share the Navajo culture. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Weaving the Navajo Way Beginning & Advanced**

MARJIE THOMPSON enjoys being “stuck’ in the pre-20th century weaving world. Her focus is the textiles produced both at home and by the professional weavers. Marjie enjoys adapting these weaves to contemporary colors and uses. She is the coordinator of the Complex Weavers “Early Weaving Books and Manuscripts” study group, past president of NEWS, a past Dean of the Weavers’ Guild of Boston, past president of Complex Weavers, an active guild member Weavers’ Guild of Boston, current president of the New Hampshire Weavers’ Guild, and a member of many study groups including Cross Country Weavers. Her woven pieces have received the HGA award, Handwoven’s Weaving for the Home Award, and Marjie is one of a handful of weavers awarded the “Weaver of Distinction” title from NEWS in both the gallery and fashion shows. She is the co-author of *Forgotten Pennsylvania Textiles of the 18th and 19th Centuries*, *The Huck Pattern Collection*, *Miniature Patterns for Weaving by Josephine Estes*, and the editor of *The Gartner Manuscript*. Her articles have appeared in *Weavers*, *Handwoven*, *Complex Weavers Journal*, *Shuttle, Spindle, & Dyepot*, and *The Spinning Wheel Sleuth’s Loom Supplement*. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Shaker Textiles & Chair Listing; Squiggles, Wiggles, & Lines; Float Work (Using Tabby)**

MIHOKO WAKABAYASHI hails from Japan and has a background in alternative education. While teaching weaving (as well as English and music) at Tokyo Shure (a pioneer alternative school) she became attracted to the philosophy and freely expressive style of Saori weaving as promulgated by its founder Misao Jo. Following instruction in the Saori approach and specific techniques she earned her certificate as a Saori leader and also was awarded a solo exhibition of her woven work in Kyoto. Mihoko moved with her husband and son to Worcester MA in 2000 where she opened the first SAORI studio in the USA. She has taught widely since that time, promoting Saori weaving and training new teachers. Since 2005, Mihoko has conducted an annual SAORI Japan tour. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Saori Weaving**

MARCIA WEISS is an Associate Professor of Textile Design and the Director of the Fashion & Textiles Futures Center at Jefferson (Philadelphia University + Thomas Jefferson University). A specialist in woven design, Marcia teaches advanced studio courses at the undergraduate and graduate levels, as well as invited workshops and webinars. She is an internationally exhibited artist,

with fiber-based work exhibited in solo shows, juried shows and invitationals. Her current body of work involves double cloth warp ikats, inspired by artisanal textiles of Central Asia and West Africa, and a rich heritage of Pennsylvania German quilting. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Double Cloth Design & Draft, Double Cloth**

MARY ZICAFOOSE is a Nebraska-based artist whose distinctive tapestries have been represented in the International Triennial of Tapestry, Poland; Museo de Textil, Oaxaca; China National Silk Museum, Hangzhou; and in fifteen United States Embassies abroad. A two-time USA Artist Fellowship nominee, Mary is co-director emeritus of the American Tapestry Alliance, and served on the board of GoodWeave, an international NGO dedicated to the eradication of child labor in southeast Asian carpet factories. Extensive exhibition, teaching, and lectures include the de Young Museum, San Francisco, CA; Houston Museum of Fine Art, TX; Penland School of Crafts, Penland, NC; Arrowmont School of Craft, Gatlinburg, TN; and weavers guilds worldwide. Teaching at NEWS 2019: **Tapestry on the Horizontal: Love on a 4-Harness Loom, Keynote Speaker**