

FIBER DIMENSIONS MEETING MINUTES

MARCH 13, 2013

Location: Katy's home

Chair: Giselle

Secretary: Laurel

Present Giselle, Susan D., Margaret, Katy, Marcia, Beth, JoAnn B., Jennifer, Marie, Myrna, Phyllis, Juline, Judy S., Pam, Judy C., Joanne S., Shoko, Diana, Marja, Gerry, Roy, Wendy, Laurel

March minutes approved

Treasurer's report by Juline:

Balance: \$6,341.65

2013 Dues: 43 members paid. Five unpaid.

CRITIQUES

Marja showed two translucent hanging pieces that are feather light and range from white to gray. They're made with Merino wool yarn that she sandwiched between cloth and stitched. After washing, the cloth is removed to reveal the felted piece.

Katy is making a series of aprons in which the pockets are shaped like holsters. Each contains a mixed media handgun that she constructed. The installation is her response to the NRA's inane suggestions that we protect ourselves and children by carrying guns and posting armed guards in schools.

Beth showed Citi Fleurs, a collection of welded steel rods topped with glistening painted balls of mysterious origin. After much speculation, all of it off base, Beth revealed that the balls are made of clay. She's hoping to show them at the Walnut Creek Ruth Bancroft Garden in June/July.

Allegra sawed (and sawed and sawed) balsa into dozens of blocks with curved hollows and stained them. Her plan is to arrange them into a hanging suggestive of the United States flag or a free standing sculpture.

Working with plant fibers, Phyllis formed a shape suggestive of a low slung river boat using weaving and coiling techniques. She is challenging herself to make it appear more solid without incorporating paper.

OLD BUSINESS

Membership matters

We welcomed Susan Doyle, a sculptor who uses her art to explore the nexus between the vernacular Mexican cross and political turmoil regarding immigration. She showed a tall felted cross with stitched iconography and 2D silkscreen pieces that relate to anguish and illegal immigration.

The new membership principles presented in February were adopted unanimously with this change: Instead of taking effect in 2014, the attendance requirement will apply to 2013 shows.

We revisited the issue of when to add new members, because Creta Pullen signaled her interest in joining Fiber Dimensions to Roy and Pam and others are interested in inviting Marla Brill. We decided to stick with our practice of voting on new members just once a year at the January meeting. There's consensus that it's wise to invite a prospective member to attend one meeting prior to January to see whether there's a mutual good fit. For various reasons, we decided to discourage guests from bringing work. If you plan to bring a guest, inform the host in advance but there's no need to send out a group Email.

Meeting places

In February after a discussion about the challenges of hosting meetings, Laurel was tapped to investigate whether the Falkirk Cultural Center might be a suitable backup meeting place. She queried Curator Beth Goldberg and learned the following: The fee for groups that rent on a regular basis is \$30 per hour. Occasional rentals are \$45 per hour, with a two-hour minimum per meeting. Falkirk is open from noon until 5 pm and not available for morning rentals.

Following a brief discussion, the group decided that Falkirk isn't suitable for FiDi meetings because it's not available for morning meetings.

Someone asked those who are willing to host meetings for a show of hands. Four people said yes - Myrna, Juline, Katy and Marcia.

Phyllis said that some corporations and nonprofits contribute to the community by letting groups hold meetings in their space for free.

Shows

Bay Model, from June 10 – July 19. Margaret is Chair. The discussion focused on whether to advertise this show and, if so, how.

Community Congregational Church in Tiburon, from May 2 to June 30. Reception May 5. Jeanette is Chair. Participating artists need to send her the following information ASAP: title, height and width, medium and price. Note: The church takes a 20% commission.

Cancer Center. July 8 – Oct. 4. Wendy needs colorful images(s) of 2D work that pops a bit and appears 3D for the announcement post card.

Giselle relayed information from Lucy and Regula who looked into the Thoreau Center for Sustainability in the Presidio as a potential venue for a FiDi show. After visiting the space, each concluded that it's a "last resort" option. The negatives include low visibility because it's basically an office building, little wall space and inadequate security for artwork.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members' exhibition news

Juline, Allegra, Chris and Myrna have work in Innovations in Contemporary Crafts, a juried exhibition of Contemporary Crafts in California at Richmond Art Center juried by Monica Moses, Editor in Chief of American Craft magazine.

Phyllis will have a show at the Morris Graves Museum of Art in Eureka this year.

Allegra will participate in "Women Who Work With Tools," a panel discussion by local artists at the Sonoma County Museum, April 18, 7-8 pm. The event is in conjunction with the museum's exhibit, "Tools as Art: the Hechinger Collection of Contemporary Art. She has work in "Petroleum Paradox: For Better or For Worse," at Narrows Center for the Arts, Fall River, MA.

Calls for Entry

Marin Society of Artists. Open Craft and Sculpture: Traditional to Cutting Edge. Entries received: April 1, 10 am – 1 pm.

ACCI Gallery, 2013 National Juried Exhibition, May 10-June 9. The deadline April 5. To request a prospectus Email: muse@accigallery.com or send a SASE to ACCI gallery.

Must see shows

Victoria May, "Maintenance and Operations," at Don Soker, 80 Sutter Street, SF

Marin Museum of Contemporary Art, AB/Normal: 3 Bay Area Emerging Artists

Summoning Ghosts: The Art of Hung Liu. Oakland Art Museum

Reminders:

Be sure to add our new members to your Email address book

Marie Bergstedt Marie47bergstedt@yahoo.com

Joanne Salz jmsalz@comcast.net

Judy Calder Judithcalder@comcast.net

Susan Doyle Doyle@att.net

Here's how to log into the Members Only section of our Web site. This is where you'll find past minutes and roster.

Login: FiDi (case sensitive)

Password: design4me

Next Meeting

April 10 at Marcia's. Notify her if you can't attend.

Directions to Marcia's home at 260 Margarita Drive, San Rafael, CA 94901

Phone: (415) 457-6230

If possible, please Car-Pool

Do not use your GPS. Most GPS devices will route you over very narrow roads with blind curves and steep fall-offs. Just follow the directions below.

From the North: Take 101 South to ***Central San Rafael exit*** which comes out onto Hetherton. Travel South on Hetherton as it parallels the freeway, staying in the left lanes.

Make a ***left turn*** at Second Street, which is the fifth traffic light, and go under the freeway.

(Proceed as in ***Next***, below)

From the South, or from I-580: Take U.S. 101 North to the central San Rafael exit and stay in the far right lane.

Make a ***right*** at the first traffic light, onto ***Second Street***, and get into the middle lane.

(Proceed as in ***Next***, below)

Next:

Go east for 1.5 miles, passing Montecito Shopping Center. (Second Street will then become Pt. San Pedro Road.)

Make a ***left at Margarita Drive*** marked by a large green sign in the median just before the turn.

Follow the double yellow line as it winds its way up Margarita Drive, for 0.7 miles. At all major intersections, bear right and continue to follow the double yellow line.

#260 will be on the right. Try to park in the driveway, if at all possible. If the driveway is full, you may park on the gravel area above the house, along our fence, or even along the right side of the street, below 260.