

**Note from the Secretary - Chris is distributing the minutes because my FiDi Group Mail is kaput. Laurel**

## **Fi Di Minutes March 12, 2014**

**Attending:** Jo Ann B., Allegra, Juline, Susan H. Susan D., Marja, Margaret, Ursula, Chris, Regula, Marie, Thorley, Giselle, Roy, Laurel, Judy C., Beth, Pam, Phyllis, Shoko, Cynthia, Sheila, Alex, Rose Marie, Emily, Stuart, Carole D.

Chair: Giselle

Secretary: Laurel

Host: Juline

### **Critiques**

Marty showed a pair of glass grit and felt flowers in pots that will be part of an 18-piece collection she'll donate to a raffle nonprofit benefit. She also showed an intricate wire mesh orb that will be electrified with LED lights. The tips are capped with dried dandelion blossoms that lend a visual poof to the piece.

Ursula showed crocheted bread slices made from jute and wool. She plans to display them on a breadboard.

Roy showed *Between the Lines #4*, an abstract acrylic painting suggestive of trees and desert rocks and a spherical sculpture in progress. It contains 100 feet of wire wrapped 60 times around two bars and compressed. It will be part of a multiple.

Susan Doyle showed a hanging paper sculpture constructed from aged National Geographic pages. She cut the pages in strips and randomly stitched them on a machine before trimming the collage into a form suggestive of a child's dress.

Rose Marie showed *Baby Moses Learns the Alleth Bete*, a Palestine basket evocative of a raft containing a doll dressed in a handmade paper gown embellished with stitched iconography. She also showed a sculpture made with tags from fruit and vegetable bags.

Emily showed "Tangerine Tantrum" a cylindrical sculpture that celebrates her love of embroidery, plastic, fiber and ordinary objects. Two lampshades provide the armature for the sculpture, which contains

a collection of elements, including placemats, flyswatter, deconstructed sari cloth, zippers, and beads.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The balance is \$4,634.97.

### **Old Business related to Intersections - 6**

#### **Income**

Juline reported the income from art sales: Fiber Dimensions made \$216 from the sale of 19 CDs made by Stuart. We made \$617 from art work sales. Seven artists sold work and donated 10% of their proceeds to FiDi.

|         |          |
|---------|----------|
| Allegra | \$342.50 |
| Giselle | 36       |
| Laurel  | 25       |
| Regula  | 13.50    |
| Judy S. | 80       |
| Lucy    | 60       |
| Katy    | 60       |

#### **I-6 attendance**

Regula and Diana will report the number of visitors at the April meeting. They'll also bring show items that need to be stored by individual members between shows and distribute them. Regula will make a list of the people who are storing stuff.

#### **Recycling name tags**

Please bring the plastic portion of your ID tag to the April meeting and give it to Marty for reuse in future show.

#### **Respecting one another**

Emily was not at the February meeting but heard plenty about the "hurtful" treatment of the I-6 artist who was criticized for selling individual elements of an installation, contrary to I-6 rules. The critical remarks were made in an anonymous Email that was read aloud. Here are Emily's condensed remarks. "I have belonged to this group for a long time and always held in high regard the way that we interact with one another. We're remarkable artists who have done some great things together. But I don't think I'm in this group for the kind of treatment that I heard displayed at the last meeting. Many people went away with an ugly, unhappy feeling about how we relate to each other. I would like everyone to think about this. Yes, there are rules that people fudge and break. But we really don't need to be cruel.

"Let's please honor each other and get along. (The artist's) feelings were hurt badly by the group. She apologized four times loudly to everyone. It wasn't fair, it wasn't nice, and she didn't deserve it. All she did was she tried to sell

some pieces individually. Maybe this was a bad thing to do but she did apologize. She was hurt very deeply by the group. Her treatment was unnecessary."

### **New Business**

Long time Fiber Dimensions artist Joan Klein became an Honorary Member by consensus.

### **Trying something new**

Beth proposed that we devote one or two meetings annually to an activity aimed at getting to know each another, such as deconstructing an article of clothing or hiring an artist to lead a group workshop. Her proposals drew enthusiastic comments and additional ideas including devoting a meeting to discussing our work in progress or to critiques.

By consensus the group adopted the goal of having two meetings during the next 12 months aimed at building community creatively. Beth will organize this effort. Related expenses will come from the treasury. Attendance at business and nontraditional meetings count equally.

### **Consider renaming future shows**

Phyllis observed that most people who attended Intersections 6 were friends of the artists and that few visitors came because they read or heard about it. "Why is that? I feel the name of our show is not clear." She recommends that we spend time at a future meeting discussing ways to better communicate the scope of Fiber Dimensions art and aim for language that prompts people to say, "I'd like to see what that looks like!" She prepared the following draft to stimulate future discussion:

#### **BEYOND TEXTILES**

Innovative all hangings, sculptures, assemblage and more.

Fiber art is the next step for Textiles, using all forms of traditional textile techniques to create exciting unexpected artworks, using paper, wood, thread, yarn, plastic, found objects and metal.

### **Call for Entries**

Marin Society of Artists: Open Craft and Sculpture Show - Traditional to Cutting Edge. Deadline April 1. For details go to <http://www.marinsocietyofartists.org/doc/MSAOpenCraftProspectus2013.wps.pdf>

### **Announcements**

Lady Sapphire has work on exhibit at the Reclaimed Room, 701 Amador, SF. It closes March 19.

Allegra has work in the Spring Show at Sometimes Books, 11101 Highway One, Suite 105 Point Reyes Station. Open Noon to 4 pm and by appointment. Through June 1

"Marty Jonas and the Revolving Thread - Creating Space, Filling Space." At the Benicia Historical Museum, 2060 Camel Road, Benicia, through June. Museum Hours: Wednesdays through Sundays, 1-4 pm

Lisa Kokin will give a lecture at Carole Beadle's College of Marin class on March 21. Giselle will Email details. A \$5 donation is requested.

### **Shows to see**

Museum of Craft and Design, a Stoney Lamar show and "Obsessive Reductive. The upcoming show, which includes work by Ann Weber, is are exciting, too, according to Chris who is on the board.

"Women's Work" at Donna Seager's gallery in Mill Valley

The outstanding photography collection at Pier 24 in SF. [www.pier24.org](http://www.pier24.org)

The 23rd annual Marin County High School Art show with 14 schools participating. March 9 - 29. Wednesday through Sunday 11 to 4 at the Gallery at the Art & Garden Center, 30 Sir Francis Drake Blvd., Ross.

### **Next Meeting**

April 8

Beth will provide details on the time, place and focus

Secretary - Susan Heller

**Fiber Dimensions gave A Big Shout Out to Sheila... Her granddaughter, Alpine skier Julia Mancuso, won a bronze medal in Sochi. Her four Olympic medals are the most ever for a female American alpine skier. Wow!**