

Fiber Dimensions Meeting 2-8-2017

Minutes

Meeting called to order by chair, Pamela Leith, at 10:02 am at the home of Juline Beier. Thank you Juline for your generous hospitality.

Attending were: Juline, Roz Ritter (guest of Susan Doyle), Myrna, Laurel, Susan Doyle, Marcia, Deble, Regula, Ursula, Beth, Pam, Giselle, Susan Heller, Rose Marie, Phyllis, Marie.

Treasurer's Report: \$3854.53 in the bank. Five checks to deposit for a total of \$3979.53. Four members have not yet paid their dues.

Last meeting's minutes approved. The question was asked whether members were able to download photos that had been sent of artworks at last meeting's critique. Not all were able to download. We will try again this month.

Juline volunteered to photograph artworks brought for critique.

Susan Doyle introduced guest, **Roz Ritter**. Roz is a long-time artist and student of Carole Beadle visiting to be considered for membership in Fiber Dimensions. All members gave their name in introduction to Roz.

Critiques:

Juline presented two large open-weave baskets made of paper and beeswax. She uses solvy to sew the paper in 12 x 12 squares, randomly cuts the stitched squares before putting together, rolls with beeswax, heats with heat gun and molds over bowl for shaping. Myrna suggested she might want to try soy wax for different coloring or effect. Juline has also made many smaller bowls that make a lovely



group.

Deble showed a small abstract piece embroidered and stuffed with fiber fill, that currently stands on a base. She is working toward a set of several pieces that will come out from the wall. For this piece she will add a top,

which may be a round red shape. Several members were reminded of a cactus which was not the intention.



Piece tried on the wall and had good shadows.

Suggestions: Need a weight at the bottom, Could either take the cactus look theme further or change position to make it not look like a cactus, color adds to cactus look. See work by Lauren Dicioccio, currently showing at Jack Fischer Gallery, Minnesota Street Project until February 11.

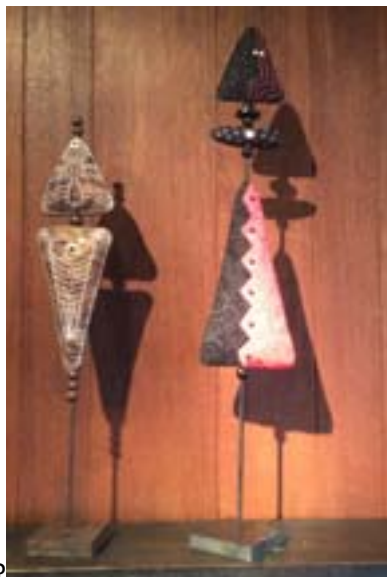
Ursula brought a multicolored abstract crocheted piece. It was hung both vertical and horizontal and preferred as a vertical with irregular top. 3-D qualities nice, undulations and ripples.

Suggestions: Titles: Puzzy, Vulva, Oakland Women's March. Find way to cover or hide hanging device.



Discussion of whether to hang on a wall or in a shadow box.

Susan Heller brought two pieces of stuffed fiber/embroidery and beads mounted on painted wooden dowels with base. Elements can be turned front to back.. The style follows her work on masks and has an affinity to people. Sales and client response have been good.



Suggestions: Try making own beads, femo?, rusted disks?

Susan showed how to stitch a straight line: Attach a stabilizer to the back side of the fabric. Then draw a line or design onto the stabilizer. Next machine stitch over the drawing. Then turning to the front side, wrap each machine stitch with embroidery thread, yarn etc.

Roz Ritter showed two of her artworks as a visual story teller and embroidery artist.

The first was her wedding dress, originating in a 1962 ceremony, which was deconstructed and used as the



base material for embroidered scenes from her life journey up to 1977.

The second piece, "If it wrinkles, it must be real" is a large printed photo (printed by Spoonflower) of her face, with wrinkles embroidered and a guide at the side documenting how she got them. She plans to add hanging

devices. Suggestions were reinforcement for the back of holes and button holes for



hanging.

She also told of two other projects she is doing, one with make-up and facial treatment tubes in towers and one mapping age spots.

Myrna showed a leather handbag she designed and made especially to hold the things she carries. She buys much of her leather near her home at 17th and Folsom in San Francisco.

Old Business: The Marin Civic Center Fiber Dimensions Exhibit artists were praised for following through beautifully by Beth, who also gave credit to Phyllis for the initial contact. Phyllis expressed that she believes it is the most interesting exhibit she has seen at the Civic Center. The exhibit is in the Administration Building, first and third floor. It is open only during the weekdays, 8 to 5ish and closed on weekends. Ask people where the escalator is and it will help you find the exhibit since there is only one escalator.

Phyllis has talked with her consultant and can bring her to the March meeting to talk about her work and contacts, left brain skills for creative people. The group voted to have her come in March. We will have her speak first so that she can have time to cover whatever is needed. Other meeting discussion will be after she is finished.

Juline reported for Diana that Richmond Art Center is interested in our work if there is a theme. Members should think of possible themes and this is something to decide in coming meetings and get back to Diana. Ideas on the spot were: Holding on by a Thread, Textales, Treading Together.

Phyllis spoke of the good work she experienced at Gallery 64 in San Rafael where two architects work with an interior designer to bring clients to see artwork exhibit at a reception in their office. It is an avenue for excellent sales to people with new homes. Members discussed ways to get names of designers, American Society of Interior Designers, and personally known designers to bring them to see the Civic Center exhibit. Beth will work with Phyllis to draft a letter to designers.

Group also asked about reaching stagers for selling homes.

Marcia gave packets of brushes to everyone.

Announcements:

Roz, Susan Doyle, Laurel, Jennifer, Melissa and Marie (also Julie Garner) will exhibit as FACETS at Blue Line Arts, 405 Vernon Street, Roseville, CA, 916-783-4117, Hours Tues and Thurs 11am-5pm, Wed, Fri, Sat 11am-3pm. This small-group show was invited by Tony Natsoulas. The exhibit runs March 3 to April 1, but there will be a reception, preceded by a slide show and brief talks by all seven artists at approximately 5 to 5:30pm on Saturday, March 18. The time for the slide presentations has not been confirmed by Tony Natsoulas.

Marie will be the speaker for the regional SDA meeting Sunday, February 12, 1pm, 3 Kingsbury Ct., Alameda.

Beth will be exhibiting at the Sebastopol Center for the Arts, in "Reflections and Shadows, February 17-March 26, Hours Tues-Friday 10-4, Sat-Sun 1-4. She has a hanging clouds piece.

Susan Heller has one piece at "On The Fringe", Harington Gallery @ Firehouse Art Center, Pleasanton, CA, March 9-April 15.

New Business:

Susan Doyle told of her experience having portfolio reviews at ARC Gallery in San Francisco. One of the gallerists with whom she interviewed felt that her work had to be framed for professional presentation. She asked the group for opinions and experience with framing. There are both positive and negative experiences. Artists need to decide what works for meeting their goals since some galleries/presenters prefer frames and others prefer no framing for fiber work.

Workshops: Do we want workshops for the group this year? When?

It was decided to try to have workshops in May and October.

Are there members who want to present workshops?

Regula can do a workshop on making art cards if the group is interested

Allegra previously said she could do Jelly Plate printing

Beth could do armature construction

Do we want a Solvy workshop? What about Tyvek?

We need to decide at the March or April meeting and put workshops into the calendar.

Juline had old photographs, booklets and news articles available for anyone who may wish to use them for artwork.

Meeting adjourned.

Next meeting, Wednesday March 8, at Marcia Kent's home, 260 Margarita Drive, San Rafael, MKent260@comcast.net.

Submitted by Marie Bergstedt