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TO ALL FELTMAKING ENTHUSIASTS

Happy New Year 2011 to you, wishing you a year of creativity and full self-expression in the arts and anything you do!

As some of you might already know, I moved my studio to Vesuvius here on Salt Spring last November.

Now I live and work with everything under one roof, enjoy the closeness to the ocean and wide views over the water while creating new work. The photo below gives you a glimpse of my new space, more photos will be posted on my website soon.

The workshop schedule for 2011 is out. I will be holding these classes in various locations in Ganges this year, more central and with lots of space for your projects. Classes for each workshop will still be small, in general limited to eight participants. So you will receive lots of attention and support for each of your projects. The beautiful heritage house I was mentioning on my website is no longer available for rent, the owner came back to live there herself. But – there may be another larger retreat style house available later this year. I will let you know.

Since I am renting the workshop spaces, I need to ask you to sign up as much in advance as possible to assure that the workshop is going to take place. Thank you for your cooperation.

All class fees include a light lunch, coffee, tea and goodies.

You can register by phone or by email. Please note that you can transfer funds via PayPal (ulrieke@ulriekebenner.com).

A material list, workshop location will be sent to you after sign up.

I look forward to working with you!

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Feltmaking Workshops on Salt Spring Island 2011 - Creating Art From Within -



FUNDAMENTALS OF FELTMAKING

Friday, February 18, 2011 (9.30am-4.30pm)

\$100 plus \$20 Materials

Study and make basic samples (e.g. coasters) from different wool types, including local breeds.

Lay out and felt a larger flat piece such as a placemat or wall hanging or make a small bag or pouch.

Use additional materials such as threads, ribbon, and fabric pieces or pre-felt.

Learn how to make cording and other techniques for decorative purposes.

All in merino which felts easily.

SCULPTURAL FELT

Saturday & Sunday, February 19 & 20, 2011 (9.30am-4.30pm)

\$250 plus approx. \$60 Materials

These two days will be dedicated to the making of individual felt objects.

This workshop is extending basic feltmaking to incorporate 3-dimensional skills in the form of hats, wearable or not, vessels and other 3-dimensional felt sculpture. This is a perfect opportunity to build your personal multi-dimensional felt object.

Bring a photo of an interesting form that is inspirational to you, or bring an object from nature that has a pleasing shape, or interesting texture, design or color. For example a shell, flower, stone,

a piece of driftwood, or a seed pod. Even a simple idea like water, wind, a dream, or a favorite story can become a theme for a work of art. You may want to add decorative techniques of pleating and twisting, and surface design to your vessel, including nuno embellishment, cutting, stitching and felted figurative elements, leaves, flowers and other abstract forms.

Two to three days with wool in your hands, feeling it growing from softness to the strength needed for sculpting and blocking.



TEXTURING FELT – INNOVATIVE SURFACE STRUCTURES

Friday-Sunday, March 11-13, 2011 (9.30am-4.30pm)

\$360 plus Materials approx.\$65

This workshop will entail three days of exploration and development in techniques managing 3-dimensional surface structures in felt. For visual impact, participants will work with the third dimension in a two dimensional medium. The goal will be to give depth and texture to material by using the inherent qualities of the different materials.

We will manipulate folds, pleats, ripples, movement in crumpled relief, and elastic structures.

The process will involve utilizing various methods for each specialized effect.

Involved in the processes will be making 'prefelts', using yarns, gauzy fabrics, for needle- and wet felting. Also, in this class, participants will explore techniques creating an array of sample pieces and a larger textured work which can be used as a special effect in a garment or left as two dimensional display fabric art.



FUNDAMENTALS TO SHEER SCARF FABRICS

A Comprehensive Introduction to Making Fine Felt Fabrics

Friday-Sunday, April 8-10, 2011 (9.30am-4.30pm)

Register by: March 20, 2011

\$360 plus Materials approx. \$65

Day One is dedicated to studying fibers such as merino, merino/silk, bamboo/merino, alpaca, mohair, Wensleydale, and local Cotswold to make sheer cobweb felt fabric samples. Decorate your personal cobweb neckwrap with novelty fibers, soy, bamboo and silk.

On Day Two you will work with fine merino roving, lay out and felt a lace-felt muffler. You will explore possibilities for designs and shapes, ranging from a straight grid to irregular lines and open spaces.

Color explorations invite themselves to this project: from 'carding'/blending colors and color gradations, multi coloring and/or additional embellishing with tangles of fabric and threads. This involves artistic play and challenge.

On Day Three you will create another light-weight neck wrap, this time using the nuno felting technique. With sheer silk or cotton fabric as your base 'canvas' as in a painting, you will sketch out your design. After making your selection of colors comes the fun part of laying out your personal imagery. Then the felting of your scarf can begin!

SHAGGY FELTED RUG USING LOCAL WOOLS AND LOCKS

Saturday-Sunday, May 21-22, 2011 (Sat 9.30am-4.30pm; Sun 9.30-3pm)

Register by: April 20, 2011

\$190 person/\$ 275 couple (1 rug/4 seat cushions)

Felt a durable lasting hearth rug or several flat seat cushions with a surface layer felted from raw (unprocessed) wool! No prior felting experience necessary!

We will be using a selection of wools, some from local farms, such as Border Leicester, Suffolk, Romney, Cotswold in natural sheep colors plus Corriedale and Merino wool. Mohair or Cotswold locks can be used as final embellishment. The approximate size for the finished rug is 2 ½' x 3 ½'. Material fee will vary depending on the amount and type of wool used (approx. \$50).

Felting a rug is a very physical process and requires physical strength and endurance.

Discount registration is offered for people who would like to participate in the class as a team.



FASHIONING MOSAIC & COLLAGE FELT FABRICS

Color in Wool and Silk

Friday-Sunday, June 3-5, 2011 (9.30am-4.30pm)

Register by: May 6, 2011

\$360 plus Materials approx. \$65

Join us for an inspirational workshop of play and fun with wool and sheer fabric collaging. In Mosaic and Nuno Collage we will work with inspiring fabric fragments and lots of colored wool. We will cut, assemble and stitch together shapes of dyed, painted or printed silks and other gauzy fabrics like tulle and lace as a base for wonderful works of felted art to wear.

Day One is an introduction to aspects of mosaic and collage techniques in feltmaking. This can be expressed through sampling or the creation of a neckpiece.

Day Two you will extend and explore the sample techniques from day one. This will involve producing a mosaic and collage fabric from the pattern and color combinations that you have developed.

On Day Three you will bring your experiences together and create a piece of art in the form of a STORY SHAWL. This will involve constructing a personal mythology. These will conform to moments in your life that are special to you such as a walk in spring or a celebration. You will create an expression of your own magic.

TEXTURING FELT – INNOVATIVE SURFACE STRUCTURES

Friday-Sunday, Sept 30 – Oct 2, 2011 (9.30am-4.30pm)

Register by: Sept 6, 2011

\$360 plus Materials approx. \$65

This workshop will entail three days of exploration and development in techniques managing 3-dimensional surface structures in felt. For visual impact, participants will work with the third dimension in a two dimensional medium. The goal will be to give depth and texture to material by using the inherent qualities of the different materials.

We will manipulate folds, pleats, ripples, movement in crumpled relief, and elastic structures.

The process will involve utilizing various methods for each specialized effect.

Involved in the processes will be making 'prefelts', using yarns, gauzy fabrics, for needle- and wetfelting. Also, in this class, participants will explore techniques creating an array of sample pieces and a larger textured work which can be used as a special effect in a garment or left as two dimensional display fabric art.

FASHIONING MOSAIC & COLLAGE FELT FABRICS

Color in Wool and Silk

Friday-Sunday, Oct 28-30, 2011(9.30am-4.30pm)

Register by: Oct 1, 2011

\$360 plus Materials approx. \$65

Join us for an inspirational workshop of play and fun with wool and sheer fabric collaging. In Mosaic and Nuno Collage we will work with inspiring fabric fragments and lots of colored wool. We will cut, assemble and stitch together shapes of dyed, painted or printed silks and other gauzy fabrics like tulle and lace as a base for wonderful works of felted art to wear.

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Workshop Registration

Phone 250-537-1723 or email ulrieke@ulriekebenner.com to register.

Workshop Deposit and Payment Fees:

At time of registration a non-refundable deposit of \$100 is required. The balance of the workshop fee is due 30 days prior to the first day of the session.

Workshop Cancellation Policy:

Ulrieke Benner – Art You Wear makes a substantial investment when planning a class and vacancies can be hard to fill even if there is a waiting list. If you cancel any time up to 30 days before the beginning of a class, you will receive your \$100 deposit only if we can fill your space. If not we keep the deposit. If cancellation is received less than 30 days prior to the session, the balance less the deposit will be refunded only if we can fill your spot.

If the workshop is cancelled for any reason by UB – Art You Wear, all fees will be refunded. UB – Art You Wear cannot be responsible for non-refundable travel or accommodation costs.