



telopea

Editor : Irene Manion

Issue 1 April 2021



Pictured above Pam de Groot standing in front of her piece: Data Signatures, 2020
Image courtesy of the artist

EDITOR'S NOTES

Dear Members, if you come across any articles, websites, artists, techniques that would be of interest to our membership please email me the information with any links.

Furthermore if you have been in any exhibitions, publications, etc, again please forward me the information and any reviews of exhibitions current or recently past would also be much appreciated.

Finally, if there are any important dates that need to be included that apply to our membership please forward them to me at

telo peaedition1@gmail.com

IMPORTANT DATES

11th May 2021 Annual General Meeting of the Arts and Crafts Society of NSW 10.30 to 12.30pm, Customs House, Circular Quay

May 14: Friday Delivery of work to Barometer Gallery 9.30 – 10.30am

May 15 (Saturday to May 30 (Sunday,) Barometer Gallery Exhibition 'Stories Told'

May 30 from 3.30 – 4.30pm. Pick up work on Sunday

FEATURE ARTICLE

My first choice in this inaugural edition of Telopea is an artist specialising in crochet who lives in Norway but studied in Lithuania. Her work is contemporary in concept and she has a vibrant, successful online presence.

RUTA NAUJALYTE

Ruta Naujalyte is a crochet artist, who produces crochet jewelry with a unique twist as well as conceptual exhibition pieces such as the illustrated "Slice you up" 2019, 20cm x 26x 6cm (below left) and the illustrated meat mincer piece (below right). Ruta has displayed her work in various selective exhibitions and selective international textile biennales. Her vibrant website and online presence appeal to a wide audience and her website is worth a visit for its impressive design and beautifully presented online shop.

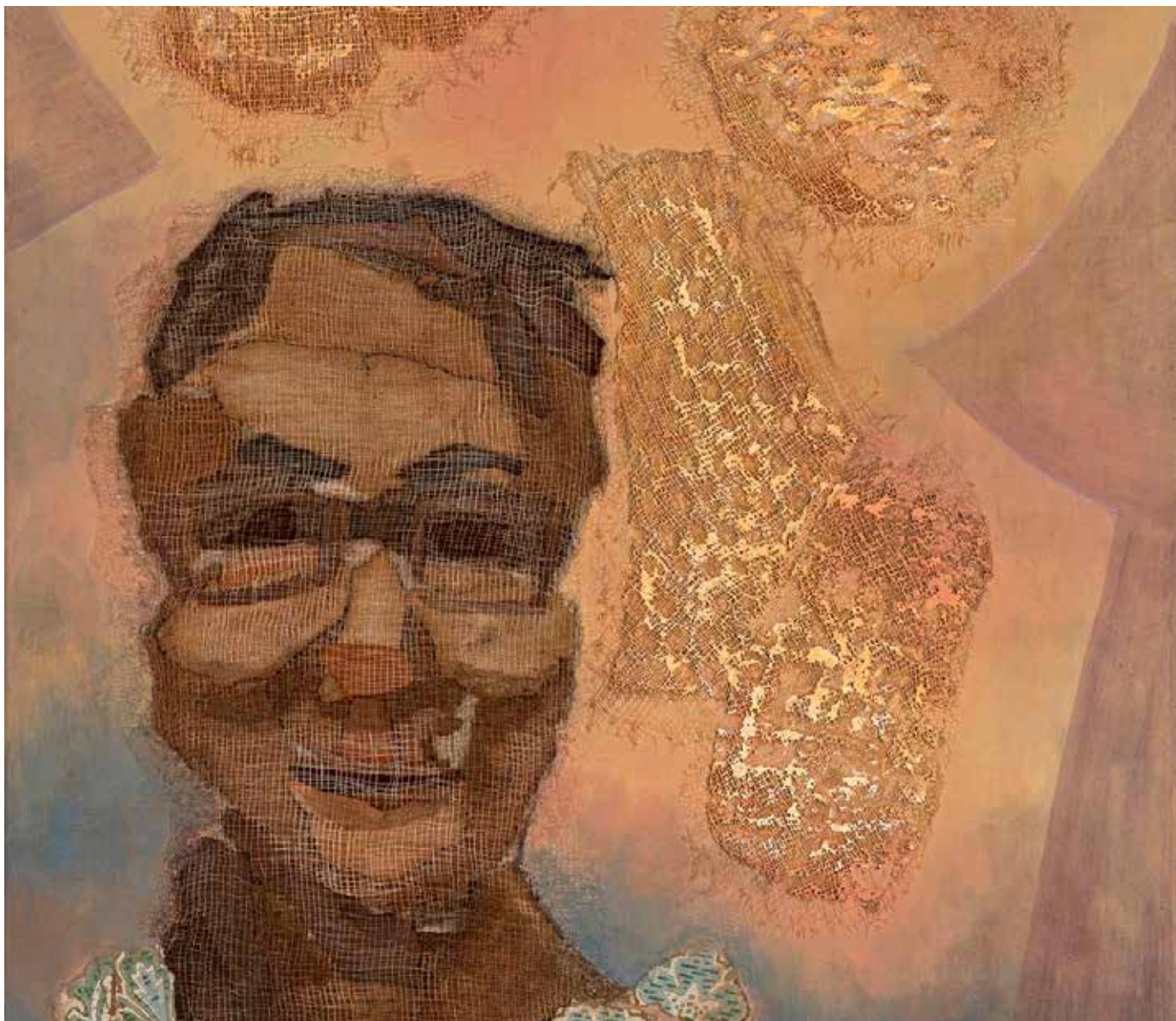
visit:

<https://www.rutanaujalyte.com/>

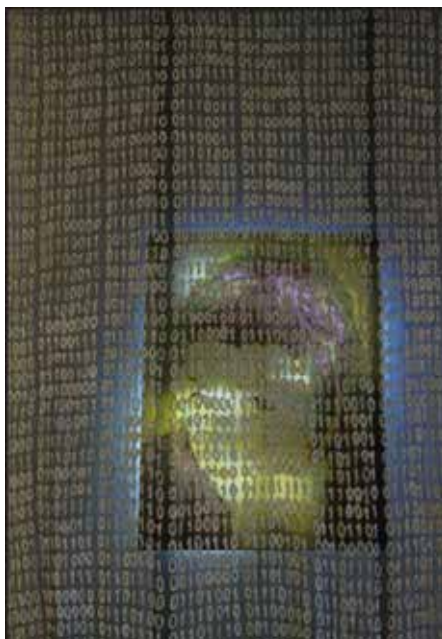
An interview with her can be read on the Textile Curator site at the following link
Rūta Naujalytė - Textile Curator

<https://www.textilecurator.com/home-default/home-2-2/ruta-naujalyte/>





Above *Oneself* by Carolyn Cbena
Materials Bark, gauze, devore velvet, recycled wallpaper acrylic paint and collage.



Left and on front page: *Data Signatures*, Pam de Groot,
Photo on canvas, merino wool slk, wet nuno felting.

Pictured opposite: *Windswept* by Jillian Culey 2020
Photo: April Spiers courtesy Gallery 76, Queen St, Embroiderers' Guild NSW Inc.

TWO MAJOR EXHIBITIONS FEATURING THE WORK OF SOME OF OUR MEMBERS.

Signatures: the mark as the embodiment of identity and intent by the Untethered Fibre Artists group is on at the Australian Design Centre. It opened on 25 March and runs till the 13th May 2021. Craft NSW members Pam de Groot, Carolyn Cabena and Helen MacRitchie all have innovative and conceptually exciting pieces in this exhibition. A closer look at the work of each artist, as well as an explanation of the piece and a short biography of the artist can be viewed at the ADC website:

<https://australiandesigncentre.com/past-exhibitions-and-events/signatures/>

Not a Basket Case, just finished at Gallery76, at the NSW Embroiderers Guild Gallery: 76 Queen St, Concord West NSW. Jillian Culey of Branching Out Designs, created a unique piece entitled *Windswept*. A review of this exhibition will follow in a future edition. Congratulations to all our members



THE ANCIENT FABRIC THAT NO-ONE KNOWS HOW TO MAKE

This article tells the fascinating story of a transparent muslin cloth, so fine that it was transparent, so fine, despite its astonishingly high thread count, and so fine that it could be drawn through the hole of a finger ring. The technology for creating this unique fabric is now lost and there are only a few examples left in museums to prove that it ever existed.

Thanks to Vicki Lowery for suggesting this article that might be of interest to our readership.

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20210316-the-legendary-fabric-that-no-one-knows-how-to-make>



AUSTRALASIA'S BIGGEST & BEST BI-MONTHLY ANTIQUES AND COLLECTABLES MAGAZINE

JULY-AUGUST 2006

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FAIRS HERE & ABROAD



POSTCARD FROM EDINBURGH



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A DESIRABLE COLLECTABLE

Aus\$8.95 NZ\$12.95

ISSN 1445-8160



Dorothy Wilson sitting at her bookbinding press in her bincery at Duncraggan, Raglan St, Mossman c.1906
Pictured on the cover of 'Collectables Magazine'

THE HISTORY OF CRAFTNSW

Over the next few issues I will be publishing sections of a historical article that was written by Wendy Coates about member Dorothy Wardill who was a bookbinder and founding member of the Arts and Crafts Society of NSW.

THE CREATIVE LIFE OF DOROTHY ELSPETH WARDILL (NEE WILSON): BOOKBINDING AND CRAFTS IN 20TH CENTURY AUSTRALIA.

The Arts and Craft Society of New South Wales – Early Days

In 1926 the inaugural President of the Arts and Crafts Society of NSW, Mrs. Muriel Fawcett Danvers Power wrote:

Twenty years ago, across the harbour, there stood an old house with a tower, surrounded by a garden such as artists love. In the house an invalid spent many hours of pain and, cut off from ordinary life, had time for thought. In the garden a daughter, full of life and vigour, had a Bindery, where she bound fine books in beauty worthy of the soul within the words. An idea came to them!

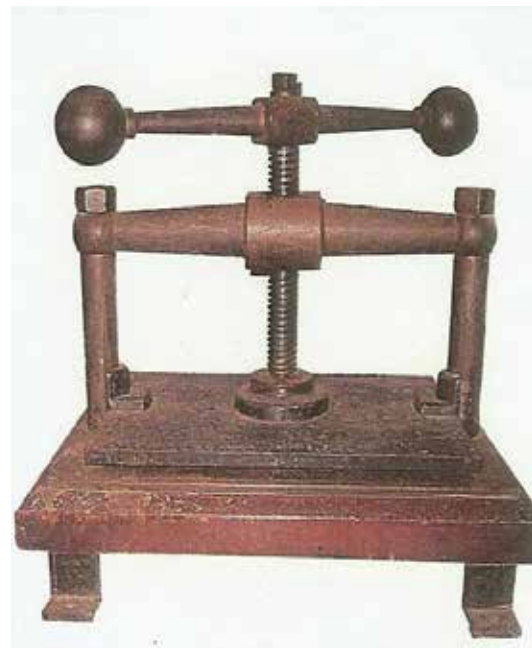
As a result, one evening seven people met in the old house and formed themselves into “The Society of Arts and Crafts”. Their object was to meet at one another’s homes once a month, bringing a piece of work executed during that month, for criticism and mutual help. In the beginning there was no thought of selling work, only broadening their outlook and above all, of developing the capacity to receive criticism, however severe, with gratitude.

Three of the original seven are still members of the Society – The Girl in the Bindery – now living in another state, the President, and a china painter who, in her youth, wandered in Europe, studying art for the love of it, and later, when fortune’s wheel turned upside down, having been born an artist, clung to her art and made it her profession.”[1]

The four women, described were:

My great grandmother, Alice Wilson (the invalid), daughter of Judge Josephson[2].

My grandmother, Dorothy Wilson[3] who attended the Fort Street Girls High School in Sydney and spent some time travelling the world and staying with relatives in Scotland before her bookbinding career began. She was the bookbinder with her bindery in the garden of Duncraggan, Raglan Street, Mossman and became the



Bookbinding press used by Dorothy Wardill.

first secretary of the Art and Crafts Society.

The writer of the above excerpt and first President of the Art and Craft Society Muriel Fawcett Danvers Powers and

Ada Newman, a ceramicist and my grandmother's great friend.

[1] A History of the Society of Arts and Crafts of New South Wales 1991 provides a detailed record of the Society's membership and activities over 85 years.

[2] He believed in the education of women, travelling with his daughters to Europe to broaden their horizons. While there he collected antiques, paintings and statues; the latter bequeathed to the Art Gallery of New South Wales and remain on show in the sculpture gallery.

[3] Dorothy was born in Newtown, Sydney 30/4/81 and died in Brighton, Melbourne 10/8/53, aged 72 years.



Dunclraghin, Raglan St Mossman Dunclraghin, Raglan St Mossman

Part two of this history will be included in the next edition of *Teloepa*.

Find out how the Arts and Crafts Society grew, and a description of an attempt to force attendance at their meetings.



The Society of Arts and Crafts of NSW trading as craftnsw

Founded 1906

Incorporated 1929

ABN: 55 000 022 195

Patron: Professor The Honourable Dame Marie Bashir AD CVO

Ambassador: Claudia Chan Shaw



<https://www.artsandcraftsnsw.com.au/>



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