

STUDIO *NOTES*

THE TEXTILES EDITION

PilgrimWaters



a design sensibility

*“Aspiring to
a simplicity
with a tactile
handmade quality.”*



STUDIO NOTES

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PilgrimWaters

Our Mission

We aspire to bring you exceptional quality in every item we produce, from the colours and the weave of the fabric to the wood we print on. At PilgrimWaters we are committed to the core values of genuine craftsmanship, timeless beauty and functionality.







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An Introduction to *STUDIO NOTES*



The creative process behind *PilgrimWaters* has been honed by collective decades of painting, printing and building. From our initial design concepts to our packaging presentation, every choice is guided by the desire to bring you aesthetic and lasting joy. We want you, dear reader, to understand the stories behind the tray for your morning coffee, the textiles you're wrapped in, or the throw decorating your bed. Hopefully this will increase your pleasure in owning our work.

With that in mind, we bring you Studio Notes - a quarterly digital

issue giving insight into 'behind the scenes' of *PilgrimWaters* HQ, the making of our products, and the stories of our creative journey. So read on!





A Bit About Us

A sneak peek into the inspirations and approach of the creative minds behind Pilgrim Waters

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The first step is the inclination to create. For Susy, like most artists, this began in childhood. The English countryside, summers in Ireland and a house always alive with artists and their work filled her mind with images of colour block pastureland, boulder behemoths, portly birds and hedgerows teeming with life.

As a budding artist, Susy's first visit to the collection at Kettle's Yard in Cambridge proved to be a revelation. Helen and Jim Ede made visual and tactile experience central to every aspect of their home. Susy

understood that creating such a space was not dependent on owning collector's items. Instead, her approach has always been to build visual perspective and a sensory understanding of everything she creates. The result is the simplicity of design softened by the lushness of cascading fabric and brightened and warmed by custom colour. Susy describes her process as 'un-precious, playful and irreverent.' Susy's particular expertise is in the relationship between colour and scale.

Keith finds inspiration from

designers such as Ray and Charles Eames for the adventurous and contemporary spirit of their designs.

Keith's background is in visual software and computer graphics. His experience is in material use and design. He sources the finest materials, builds small bespoke furniture pieces that are printed on, and call out to be touched. The *PilgrimWaters* modern aesthetic manifests into handcrafted, handmade, functional products.



Constructed textiles in Nepal

*As quality is so important
to us, we work closely
with a wonderful team
in Nepal, who weave
beautiful textiles.*

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Susy admiring the incredible work of our friends in Nepal



The pure merino wool before it's woven



As a textile designer, Susy knows that the most critical aspect of her work is the quality of the material. *PilgrimWaters* works with a small Nepalese manufacturer with a unique ability to translate light and colour into luminous textiles carrying on a weaving tradition that has been little changed over hundreds of years. Masterful weaving skills show through in every scarf, The light fine basket weave lets the print design show on both sides for a luminescent flow of colour.

They use cashmere and merino yarn which is spun on site,



Preparing the fabric for steaming

permitting a critical level of quality control. All of this is done by hand in a traditional weaving process that has been used for thousands of years.

Trips to Nepal have helped *PilgrimWaters* create a common vocabulary of colour, texture and design. Understanding each step of the process helps to customize the method to work with the realities of the printing processes.

Once woven, the fabric is either dyed with reference to a Pantone base colour or left raw. Thankfully their friends in Nepal are experts

at colour matching, which requires a highly measured and scientific accuracy.

Once printed, each piece is steamed for at least four hours to set the dyes into the wool. The technique involves individually pinning the scarf to a cotton backing which gets wrapped in a spiral on metal teeth and then placed in a vertical drum.

The factory is a few miles outside of Kathmandu, where they have the capacity to weave and print their products in small batches. The factory is



Intricate machinery used to craft our intentionally constructed textiles



open to the elements, therefore production is weather dependent and care has to be taken to avoid the monsoon season.



The wonderful shapes of the local landscape





The Hooli Throw 100% cashmere throw, manufactured and printed by our expert Nepalese friends.

Behind the Scenes at PWHQ

*What has been happening
in the studio and workshop
recently, as well as the current
inspirations that are driving
their creative process.*



Things are always evolving at *PilgrimWaters* HQ. We live and breathe our creativity and ethos of design functionality and so our home mirrors our current inspiration and ideas.

Amongst the jolly chaos, there are always layers of projects in various states of completion - paintings, boxes, textile designs, fabric samples, tea towels, tray components, to name a few. It's a moving feast of colour and form.

Susy

The realities of the pandemic have made the duo consider practical products for their homes even more so. Susy has been working on a 'box' project in collaboration with Angela Liguori of *Studio Carta*. Angela is a dear friend who runs her successful Italian ribbon and desk accessories studio. Together, they produced a limited edition sewing box, handmade by Keith and painted by Susy. The boxes are made from plywood and each lid is tailored to each box. The intention was to create unique and abstract designs. Cutting and adding abstract shapes, layering, smudging, drawing, and blending



Susy passionately believes orders should be wrapped with consideration and each order should feel like a gift. She uses Studio Carta ribbon with minimal tissue wrapping for all thier lovely customer's orders.



Keep your eye out on their social media pages for details on the box project!

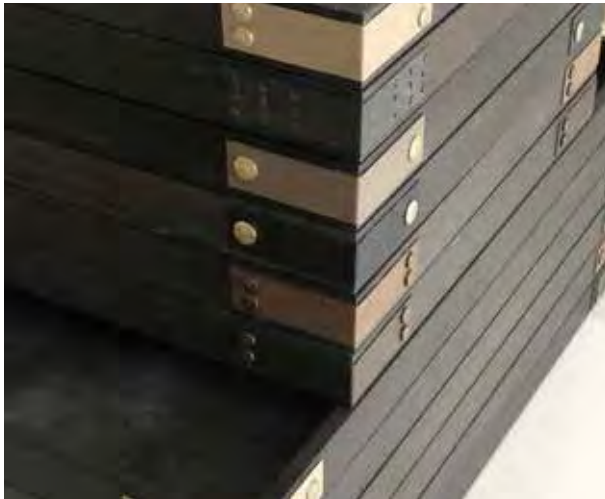


The lovely Angela of Studio Carta



colours. The boxes are layered with plaids and checks using tissue paper, in varying degrees of complexity. Some are blush pink and some have minimalist shapes. Long ago a professor of Susy's exclaimed "you are compulsively decorative". Yup, 'tis true! Each box is complete with surprises and are painted on many sides, and on some the underside of the lid is painted too. On the minimalist front, it is just a piece of single tissue collaged on, or left bare.





Keith

Keith has a strong interest in real world objects, with function and purpose. He remembers going to his grandfather's carpentry workplace, and being introduced to hand tools, which left a strong impression on him. He always wanted to be a scientist but became interested in three dimensional design, inspired by ideas and principles of the *Bauhaus*.

All of these early interests come together when Keith makes his trays. They are currently collaborating with *Artefact Home Boston* on the second set of



twelve custom trays. This limited edition comprises two size trays. Keith dyes each tray with custom mixed aniline dye. As part of the collaboration, *Artefact Home* selects individual leather and nails to ornament the corners of each tray for a distinctive finish.

Squeezed in between projects Keith has also completed another small batch of our favorite grey and white mini trays, which go well in pairs. And he is working with *MacKimmie Co.* for a selection of round trays. This tray order is part of a living theme collection and will use a blackberry and cotton white colour palette.



Mini Trays ready to carry your everyday needs!



SPOTLIGHT: the Box Tops

*This section features one of
our special products just for
YOU available in the shop*

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The team have been grooving away behind the scenes, designing and making the new development of apparel ready for Spring.

Using the finest cotton-silk, the Box Top is the perfect layering piece, versatile for all seasons. As we enter bright and blooming Spring ~ the Box Top is a great piece to add some much needed fun and colour into your wardrobe.

Susy came up with the design by experimenting with shapes in her sketchbook. This is where most of her ideas bloom and is the most exciting corner of her studio!







The box top is a reversible design, and features hand stitching. One side is cotton silk, and the other side is dyed cotton. The garment is exquisitely machine quilted, with one pocket on either side.





Available now to purchase
www.pilgrimwaters.com



Thank you

We have loved putting together our first studio notes issue, and we thank you for joining us in our creative journey. Things are always changing here at PWHQ and it brings us such pleasure to be able to share it all with you.

We are truly grateful for our friends in Nepal and India who work closely with us and have supported our work by pushing the edges of construction and printing, helping us bring you extraordinary products.

A big thank you to our graphic designer Clementine for everything she does for us, and

creative writers Susan Shepherd and Ramona Hamblin for word smything!

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FRIENDS MENTIONED

artefacthome.com

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