



# CANDIDATES FOR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 @ 3:00PM

\*In accordance with Circle Craft bylaws, as the number of candidates is within the allocated maximum number of directors, all candidates are elected by acclamation.\*

## BOARD CANDIDATES



**JENNY HILDEBRAND**

Jenny Hildebrand is a self-taught feltwear designer and fibre artist whose approach employs the ancient art of hand felting alongside modern techniques to create luxurious contemporary products. Born and raised in the lower mainland, Jenny currently lives in Cordova Bay, BC, where she draws inspiration for her work from the natural beauty of the Saanich Peninsula. Jenny is honoured to have been a member of Circle Craft since 2015, and, by joining the Board, hopes that her entrepreneurial background, experience in project development/management, and recent (2019) MA in Global Leadership will allow her to make a significant contribution to the ongoing success of the organization.

## STANDING FOR RE-ELECTION



**JO LUDWIG**

After spending 20 years in Edmonton, where I apprenticed as heavy duty mechanic, met my wife Peggy Brackett, and studied philosophy at the University of Alberta, I moved to Victoria in 1997. There I rented a small industrial space and, together with Peggy, started KilnArt Glass Studio. We taught ourselves glass fusing and kiln forming, on the basis of which I became a member of Circle Craft in 2003. In 2007 we moved to Crofton, where KilnArt Glass Studio continues to thrive. In 2015 I started working in metal as well, making steampunk/folk-art sculptures. I have always been proud to be a member of Circle Craft, and after so many years of selling in the shop and exhibiting at the Christmas Market, I feel it is time to contribute to the Co-op in my turn.



**LORNA MOFFAT**

After graduating from the Glasgow School of Art in 1987, with both BA Hons and postgraduate degrees in textile design, I set up in business making one of a kind textiles for the home and sold my work in galleries and stores in both the UK and North America. I left Scotland in 2002 and travelled around the world with my husband's job, finally settling in Canada in 2012. That winter I visited the Circle Craft Christmas market and knew immediately that I wanted to be part of it. I have been a member since 2017 and now very happy to be on the board and help promote this fantastic co-op. I believe Circle Craft is a great platform that elevates craft and gets people talking about the making process. I think the gallery and the market are places where we can educate the audience, showcasing beautiful objects made in BC, made to last and made with passion.



**KAARINA TALVILA**

I grew up in Toronto and moved to the West Coast after completing a degree in Geology at the University of Toronto. I had a ten-year career in the resource fields before going back to school to study Surface Design at Capilano University. The work I do now encompasses two different areas of fibre - handmade boxes of Japanese and Nepalese papers, and one-of-a-kind handbags and purses of such diverse materials as silk fabric, non-woven wild silk and handmade paper. I joined the Board in 2017 and serve as both Membership Chair and Board Chair. During my tenure, and with the guidance of the entire Board, we have performed a review of all of our rules and bylaws to ensure that we are in complete compliance, we have hired external consultants to perform both a legal and an HR review of our organisation, and we have done a complete overhaul of our financial reporting so that our statements are clearer and easier to read. All of these steps have helped to ensure that our Co-op is strong and robust. During these very turbulent times we will be facing enormous challenges - challenges that we couldn't have even imagined a few short weeks ago - and an experienced Board is critical in making sure we survive these times and go on to thrive once again.



### **NANCY WALKER**

I have been on the Selections Committee for a few years and now I am chair of that Committee. I joined the Board last year (2019) and I am thrilled to join such a competent, resourceful, thoughtful, forward thinking team. There are not many shops that are so full of fine craft where each story behind every piece is so important and celebrated. Circle Craft Co-op is such a unique and amazing enterprise and I am honoured to be part of growing and fine tuning it. I studied art at The New England School of Art in Boston, Universities of New Mexico and Oregon and I am a SFU and Emily Carr Graduate. I've been a jeweller, a metalsmith, an illustrator, costume and set designer and, for the past 34 years, I've been talking in clay.

## **CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS**



### **LIZ DE BEER**

As a potter Liz has always been intrigued by natural products and processes. Growing up in Africa she was surrounded by a rich resource of wonderful design elements in nature from which she draws inspiration. Liz is the Studio Manager at the Parkgate Community Center in North Vancouver. This studio came into being in September 1999 and has been developed under her guidance into one of the best community studios available to the public. Liz has a preference for earthenware vessels that are simple in shape and uses a combination of oxides and glazes to produce surface coloration on the raw clay surface that is striking but not distracting. She also has an interest in surface manipulation through carving and use a variety of different techniques such as sgraffito to create graphic imagery reminiscent of African woodcarving.



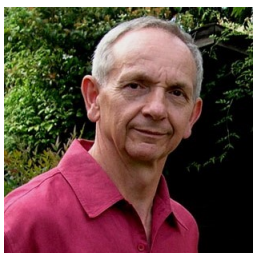
### **RUDI DIESVELT**

Rudi Diesvelt is a long time Circle Craft member who rejoined the board in 2019. His work consists of a wide variety of leather items from intricate Celtic designs on journals, notebooks and embossed belts to 12 x10 photo albums bound by hand. Also featured are the wonderful binders and books rich with character and history made from the very unusual 200-year-old leather that was recovered from a shipwreck in Plymouth Sound, England. Over a period of thirty years he has done many custom pieces, some from this beautifully textured old 'Catharina von Flensburg' leather. In recent years his artistic talents have expanded to working with metal (Brass, copper, silver and gold) in reply to requests for custom engraved Celtic buckles.



### **EMIL FUNG**

Mr. Fung was trained as an engineer, worked on Wall Street as a media & telecoms banker and has been a serial entrepreneur, technologist and international dealmaker. During his 38+ year business career, he has designed nuclear reactors, undertaken mergers & acquisitions for Fortune 500 companies, explored for gold and uranium globally and acted as both principal and strategic consultant for advertising, marketing, media, telecoms and tech enterprises serving China and Asia. Currently, he is working in the biotech space seeking to create cancer therapies through the use of mirco-radiation theranostic treatments. He is an avid supporter of the arts and is motivated to promote the cultural relevance of one-of-a-kind artisans as a member of Circle Craft's Board of Directors.



### **GREG KAWCZYNSKI**

Greg Kawczynski has been a member of Circle Craft for over 25 years. In 1988 he emigrated to Canada from Poland, where he graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow, faculty of Sculpture. He started working in ceramic arts in 2005, for an exhibition with Circle Craft, and presented few dozen of his birds, made in various techniques. Greg's interest in joining the Board came from a curiosity of what challenges the organization is dealing with and a hope that his experience, as both an Artist and member, will be useful to both membership and staff.