

**Happy New Year:** 25 February 2023

I'm late, I'm late - like the Mad Hatter! What happened to January, February, where did they go?

### **My personal challenge:**

I've spent nearly seven months stitching this piece which turned into my AQC challenge. I came across a face book post by South African Artist Robyn Gordon, about the need to challenge oneself & for me this is what this piece is all about. I wanted to make a denim piece completely by hand, to test my limitations & to tease my creativity. Hand stitching this piece, using pliers to pull the needle through became my obsession, repurposing old denim & scraps of cloth. Like any creative piece it sometimes took on a life of its own. So many times the thought of burning it was tempting. At this moment my "Denim in Bloom" has been selected for the next round; I am honestly amazed & excited to get this far.



### **Workshops in Berry NSW this year:**

I have planned a diverse range of tutors to tease & tempt you & to test your creativity. Everyone questions their ability, but it is through stepping out of your normal routine that sometimes can spark a new creative journey:



**Ro Bruhn – Friday 17 March, one day "Painted Canvas" Workshop**

**Ro Bruhn – Saturday 18 & Sunday 19 March, two days "Peppertree Cottage" Textile Workshop - Ro Bruhn:**

If you haven't worked with Ro before you are in for a wonderful treat. The inspiration of being with Ro's creative nature, from her use of bright & happy colours, to the clothes she wears, to her words & her style. Ro's never ending evolution of creating art, textiles, painted fabrics, textile scenes, sculpture, jewellery, paintings, mosaics, journals, painted papers — Ro is one of my favourite artists and I love being in her presence & I hope you will too. @robruhn

**Anne Kelly – Friday 31 March, one day "Bird Postcards"**

**Anne Kelly – Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 April, two day "Pet Portraits"**

**Anne Kelly.....UK Artist Anne Kelly will be back in Berry for three days.**

Anne is offering a **one day 'Bird Postcard'** workshop and **two day 'Pet Portraits' workshop**.

Anne focuses on using textiles that would generally be discarded & end up in landfill. Of course you are welcome to use whatever fabrics & textiles you have, there are no limits, no rules.

The joy in creating with Anne is in using all those odd bits & pieces you have been keeping for just the right project.



**Anne Kelly**

You do not need to own a pet in order to create a '**Pet Portrait**'. Somewhere there is an animal in your past or present; it can be a bird, fish, horse, chicken, duck, donkey, sheep, cat, dog, mouse or perhaps you longed to own a pet. Here is your opportunity to create a portrait for yourself, a friend, or family. If you need inspiration, you can borrow a picture of any of my menagerie via @elizabethaed. Inspiration can be found in fabrics, old tea-towels, drawings, magazines..... don't limit your creative thinking. Nothing is silly or outrageous & everything is possible. Perhaps you have sketches or little drawings from your children or grandchildren, how special they could be turned into textile art. @annekellytextiles

## Judy Coates Perez – Saturday 12 & Sunday 13 August, two day “Stitch Meditation” Workshop

**Judy Coates Perez** – Slow down & find your inner peace with improvisational stitching on linen, while using basic stitching techniques that do not require skilled perfection to create beautiful results. Slow stitching can be like meditation, with the concept of focusing more on the process than the finished result. It is the perfect portable project that you can easily pick up & put down & at any time, with very few supplies needed.

In this workshop you'll learn how to make clean stop & starts in your lines of stitching without making knots & create an embroidered fabric that looks beautiful on both sides. Learn how easy it is to create visual texture & pattern by changing the direction of stitching, shifting the colours & borrow stitch patterns from the Japanese technique of boro mending. Learn to let go of plans & expectations & work improvisationally letting the design develop organically. @judycoatesperez



**Judy Coates Perez**

## Cath Derksema @thehappenstore - Sunday 26 November - Enhance & Upcycle Loved Garments

Learn the art of embellishing a piece of clothing to make it more artistic, stylish & fun. Perhaps you have a favourite piece of clothing that you want to update creatively? Or like me, you own several pieces that just aren't quite right, boring, too plain? Either way, they hang in the wardrobe & don't get used. Cath is the Queen of creative & fun clothing, design & inspiration. @thehappenstore



**Cath Derksema**

## Kathryn Harmer Fox

### Kathryn Harmer Fox - Friday 8, Saturday 9 & Sunday 10 September, three days – Berry NSW Creating a Postcard (A4 size) Sew a Bowl, Create a Portrait

Kathryn is loads of fun, interesting & incredibly talented. I can hear you say: “oh no, I don't think I can make that!” Believe me you can. Kathryn will bring out the best in you.

On Kathryn's requirements list she mentions:

“Learning about your own individual styles, how to choose the ‘right’ snippets of fabric & thread, how to become process rather than product driven.

Kathryn notes:

“Psychological - often the major thrust of many of my workshops: making art is a healing process. How to let go & have fun, learn to play, laugh, what holds you back & how to counteract these tendencies. How to build confidence.” @kathrynharmerfox



**Kathryn Harmer Fox**

Happy creating – Elizabeth @textilefest ;-)

## Beechworth Creative Textile Festival – 15, 16 & 17 September:

I have been invited to participate in this inaugural event and I'm thrilled to be organising classes with:

**Kathryn Harmer Fox - Postcards, Bowls, Portraits - @kathrynharmerfox**

**Ro Bruhn - Unpick, Paint, Create: Creating Scenes with Painted Repurposed Fabrics - @robruhn**

**Bree Thomas - Making Wool Moths - @breesmoth**

Go to my website for details on the Beechworth Creative Textile Festival for class descriptions & registrations.

If you would like more information on any of the above workshops, please email me.

I hope I can inspire to join me in our 2023 creative adventure



**Kathryn Harmer Fox**

**Ro Bruhn**



**Bree Thomas**

## One Red Thread Textile Art Prize & Exhibition: "Kindred Spirits"

### Calling All Artists:

I've been hearing rumblings that the topic is too hard so think about all those times you felt a connection to a person, pet, place or object.

Challenge yourself.

I am hoping you will register your interest via my website by 14 April but your work does not have to be with me until 20 May. ORT2023

Kindred Spirits will be judged & awarded at the Sydney Craft & Quilt Fair 2023.

Details and conditions of entry are available on my website: [www.textilefest.com.au](http://www.textilefest.com.au)

@textilefest @elizabethaed

One Red Thread Textile Art Prize & Exhibition 2023

### 'Kindred Spirits'



Kindred Spirits - Someone whose presence makes you feel alive, validated, accepted, worthy & who brings a spark of joy to your wellbeing. The connection you form may be that you feel joy being with them, around them, thinking of them.

This Exhibition will be judged & awarded at the Sydney Craft & Quilt Fair—2023 with thanks to Expertise Events for their generous support

Presented by Textile Fest  
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