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## The Curse of the Flexi-hose

When last I communicated **the image seen at left told a sad story** - well that, and ALL THE WATER that gushed from the bathroom cabinet when the flexi-hose broke.

All better now. Excellent service was provided through RACQ Insurance and **\*the Rescue & Repair Persons were good looking, prompt, polite and sometimes even female.**

Carpet dry, walls dry, new bathroom cabinet... Detective Devices installed at all water in-points and we begin to feel quite secure. **P.S.** *Old houses do often have flexi-hose too, depends on plumbing work done over the years..*

**At right, Me: before, during and after the mid-term elections in the USA....** the smile is somewhat forced but one must remain positive. **The appearance of distortion is intentional....**

**Politically astute US presidents have been healers, from Lincoln's second inaugural address to Bill Clinton in Oklahoma City through to George W. Bush at the mosque in the wake of 9/11.**

**Trump heads an administration that is one roiling campaign rally, as the mid-terms**

***have shown. This has undoubted electoral appeal, especially for the Trump base, but it leaves the American republic polarised and poisoned and less capable of acting intelligently and meaningfully in Washington, DC, or anywhere else.***

The above is by **Stephen Loosley**, visiting fellow of the United States Studies Centre at the University of Sydney, quoted in *The Australian Review*, Nov 10-11 2018. Loosley was reviewing the book by Doris Kearns Goodwin, 'Leadership: Lessons from the Presidents for Turbulent Times.'

Yes, **I did lodge my Absentee Ballot** as a registered Democrat in Larimer County in the state of Colorado (CO)

Here I quote my niece Cindy: The Dems took all the major offices in CO - Governor/ Lt Gov, Sect of State, AG, Treasurer and both the State Senate and the State House. **This bodes well for us locally and makes me glad I live here..** . A small victory: the first two Muslim women and the first two Native American women were elected to the House of Representatives.... A pretty mixed bag overall, but a few highlights and at least a real stop and check on Trump with the House...

**The source of The Fascinator:** it was made for me by **Susan Fell Mclean**, seen far left, and handed over when I opened her exhibition ***House of Hope*** in October, held at **Redland Art Gallery Cleveland**. The easiest way to describe it is sculptural shibori and the exhibition work *repositioned textiles as an extension of sculpture*.

One of Susan Fell McLeans sculptures appears below, with detail. Find out more [www.gondwanatextiles.com/susan-fell-mclean](http://www.gondwanatextiles.com/susan-fell-mclean)

**YOUR NEWS - ABOUT AUSTRALIAN EXHIBITIONS AND EVENTS** - do continue to send me your news (people are getting much better about it) so I can include it in the monthly updates on the website: [www.tafta.org.au/news-and-events/](http://www.tafta.org.au/news-and-events/)

*The sooner I know about events, the longer I can keep them posted. Contact me at [janetdeboer@inet.net.au](mailto:janetdeboer@inet.net.au) THIS IS A FREE SERVICE and notices are placed on the website, not in this bulletin. That way they can be swiftly updated each month.*

## **DEADLINES coming up, Australia and Overseas**

I'll mainly illustrate this section with **Awarded Works by Australians at the 30th anniversary WOW Award Performances: World of WearableArt New Zealand** which I was fortunate to attend again in late September as 'Media'. In the first quarter of 2019 watch out for my article on **UK entrants for 'embroidery' - the Textile Art magazine** published in the UK. I've also provided an article for the **March edition of 'Textile Fibre Forum' - WOWing the World of Wearable Art**.

Here I am in Wellington N.Z. with **Susan Holmes**, far left (who has received more awards at WOW than anyone else in its history); **Svenja** in pink who has a brilliant 10-year record

with WOW (see more further on) and **Peter**, the man who was brave enough to marry me.

**WOW Entries for 2019 have opened online and close on March 29th for International entrants.** The 2019 show season will run from **26 SEPT 2019 – 13 OCT 2019**. Tickets will go on sale from the World of WearableArt website on 01 FEB 2019. [Click here](#).

And speaking of Wearable Art: **There is a Deadline of 18 December 2018 to enter WAM: Wearable Art Mandurah.** The 2019 **Award Performances will take place in Mandurah, Western Australia on Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th June, 2019.** All the 2019 information and entry forms are now on the [website here](#).

**Expressions of Interest due NOW: Textile Tutors wanted for the Beanie Festival 2019 (being held from June 28 - July 1),** Central Craft run a series of workshops during the Beanie Festival in Alice Springs each year They are looking for tutors to share their talents, inspire participants and enjoy this awesome event. For more information please contact Bron ASAP at [directors@centralcraft.org.au](mailto:directors@centralcraft.org.au)

**Central Craft** has an excellent studio in Alice Springs and they are looking for expressions of interest for an **Artist in Residence program to be launched in 2019.** For more information please contact Bron ASAP at [directors@centralcraft.org.au](mailto:directors@centralcraft.org.au)

**Central Craft is located at Araluen Cultural Precinct,**  
61 Larapinta Drive, Alice Springs NT 0870. Ph: (08) 89524417, [Website found here](#).

**HURRY!!!** with this one (**Deadline of 13th December**): 'We are now inviting **applications to hold workshops and exhibitions at Tactile Art in 2019.** *Tactile Arts Gallery is located at the front of our office and studio complex just 5 minutes from the centre of Darwin in the parklands of the Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory (MAGNT), looking out across the aquamarine waters of Fannie Bay to the Beagle Gulf.* We welcome applications for both solo and collaborative/group exhibitions from members, artists, curators, organisations and community members. **Our Program runs from February to December 2019.** For further information please **contact Ned Roberts** [programs@tactilearts.org.au](mailto:programs@tactilearts.org.au)  
If you would like to discuss your application or you have any questions please contact Ned at Tactile Arts on 08 8981 6616.

**PROPOSALS ARE DUE BY THE 13TH OF DECEMBER 5PM**  
**SUBMIT VIA THE LINKS BELOW**

[Link One:](#)

[Link Two](#)

**Deadline of 11th January 2019 to enter the 2019 Cordis Prize for Tapestry.** The prize is open to established artists **working in the field of contemporary tapestry**, and encourages ambitious and non-conventional applications of technique. The Cordis Prizes were initiated by Miranda Harvey and Ian Rankin of the Cordis Trust in order **to celebrate the city of Edinburgh as a centre of excellence for tapestry weaving.** The Cordis Prize for Tapestry is the biggest international prize for this artform. Inaugurated in 2015, the prize and accompanying exhibition has attracted entries from all over the globe including Japan, Australia, Denmark and France. [Details from this website](#).

**Deadline of 5 February 2019** to enter the **2019 AQC (Australasian Quilt Convention)**

**Challenge:** the theme is *MAGIC*; the size is 90cm square. Entries will be judged on design, interpretation of theme and workmanship. A section of finalists will tour the AQC craft events in Australia and New Zealand. **Three cash prizes will be awarded:** FIRST Prize \$3500; Runner-Up \$1500 and Viewers' Choice \$500. The AQC annual event is to be held April 11-14, 2019 at the Royal Exhibition Building, Nicholson Street, Carlton Vic (Melbourne).

[Find out more here.](#)

**Deadline of 28th February** to enter your completed tapestry for **OZ Tapestries 2019** – the theme is *Celebrate* – the woven tapestry is to be no larger than 20cm x 20cm. Contact Marie Clews [mclews@tpg.com](mailto:mclews@tpg.com) or Yvonne Eade [ylouisee@gmail.com](mailto:ylouisee@gmail.com) for details.

**Deadline of 1st March 2019** to enter the **Wangaratta Contemporary Textile Award 2019** with the award exhibition being held from 1st June – 11th August 2019 at the Wangaratta Art Gallery, Victoria. **There is a \$10,000 Acquisitive Award.** *The Wangaratta Art Gallery is proud to present the Contemporary Textile Award, which is a biennial acquisitive award and exhibition celebrating the diversity and strength of Australia's textile artistry.* [Find out more here.](#)

**Entries open in March for the Victorian Craft Awards** with an exhibition to take place in Melbourne in July/August (no specific deadline indicated). Established in 2015, the Victorian Craft Awards is the largest biennial exhibition of Victorian craft. **Open to artists working across all mediums, and at all stages of their career,** the Awards showcase the rich diversity and exceptional standard of current craft practice. ***We welcome applications of individual works and installations utilising craft skills, processes and materials.*** Up to 100 artists will be selected for an **exhibition of finalists held at Craft** and additional venues in the CBD. [More about CRAFT here.](#)

**Deadline of 30th April** to submit work for **Stitchy Central** – Enter the community exhibition *Stitching Through Time – A Celebration of 20 Years* which includes a **People's Choice Award (cash prizes) in three categories, Group, Individual and Student.** Any textile medium welcome, such as embroidery, knitting, crochet, mixed media, textile books, 2D, 3D, wall hanging, sculpture, rugs, wearable etc. Size limited to under 1.5 M any dimension. Contemporary and Traditional styles welcome. [Find the entry form here.](#)

**This exhibition is part of the** Wangaratta Stitched Up Textile Festival (6-14 July 2019, Wangaratta Victoria). [info@stitchedupfestival.com](mailto:info@stitchedupfestival.com) Find the [Website](#) here.

**At left:** *Winner of the International Award: Australia & South Pacific: Absinthium by R.R. Pascoe. 'Inspired by the fabled hallucinogenic properties of the wormwood plant. Made from hemp braid and monofilament thread.*

Applications open on May 1st **and close on 16th June** for the 2019 **DARE TO DIFFER Contemporary Quilt Exhibition:** The Quilters' Guild of South Australia Inc invites all quilt/textile artists resident in Australia to participate in this **selected exhibition at Gallery**

**M** – Marion Street, Marion Cultural Centre, Oaklands Park Adelaide. *Dare to Differ* will be in place from 5-29 September 2019. **Submissions should be original, innovative, predominantly fibre, comprising at least two layers stitched together** – not framed or stretched. Online Applications to enter become available from 1st May 2019 [here](#), Or contact the Convenor, **Suzanne Gummow** (08) 8268 7005 (h) Email: [suzannegummow@bigpond.com](mailto:suzannegummow@bigpond.com)

Finally, to help you plan well into the future: **QuiltNSW is excited to relaunch The New Quilt at Hawkesbury Regional Gallery, Windsor, NSW from 5 February – 4 April 2021. Consult this website. The closing date is October 2nd, 2020.** The New Quilt is a juried survey exhibition showcasing the art of quilting and is **open to any textile artist resident in Australia** whether or not they are QuiltNSW members.

- there is no prescribed theme – submit your best work reflecting your creative practice. Quilts must not have been previously exhibited anywhere in Australia.
- a quilt means stitched and layered materials using any technique
- 2-D, 3-D, installation work, ceiling hung work, work on stretcher bars, and framed work will be eligible subject to certain size restrictions.

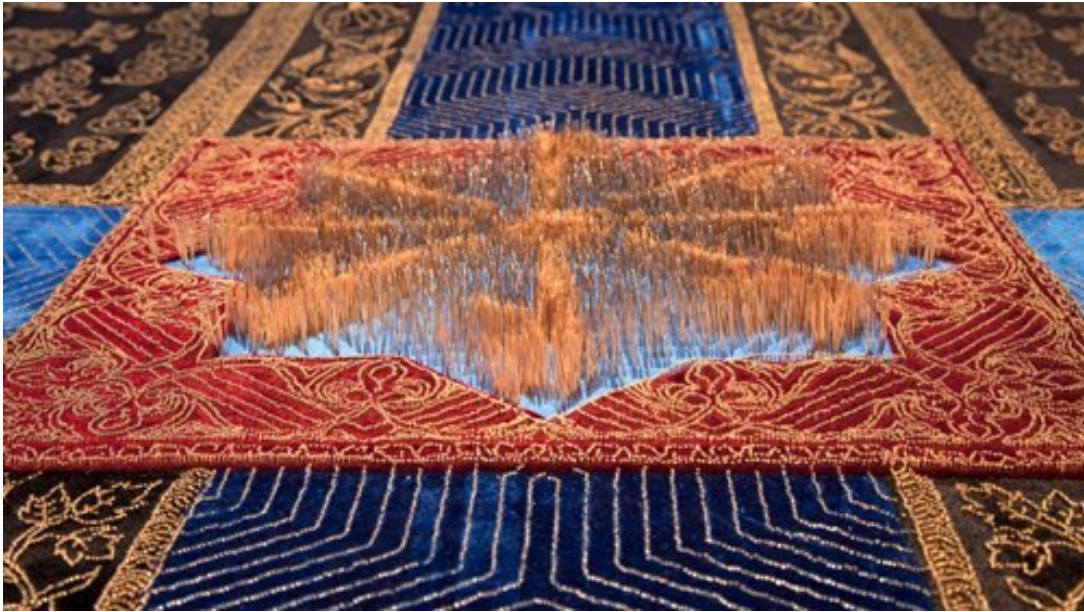
[Download conditions of entry here.](#) or email [thenewquilt@quiltsw.com](mailto:thenewquilt@quiltsw.com)

**SEND NEWS OF ANY COMPETITIONS YOU FEEL SHOULD GO IN THE SECTION ABOVE.**

I can only find out so much myself. I do what I can to track information in Australia and overseas but there's a LOT going on out there. **I'd love to know what you may know..**  
[janetdeboer@iinet.net.au](mailto:janetdeboer@iinet.net.au)

At right: **FIREBIRD by Susan Holmes** of New Zealand - I just had to give you a glimpse of her fabulous work. [Find many more images here.](#) To see an article I wrote about Wearable Art for Oz Arts magazine (that includes a section on Susan Holmes [click here](#)).

**Random Janet Journeys.....**



Recently I've had access to two hugely inspiring exhibitions. Since the **9th Asia-Pacific Triennial (APT)** is in my hometown of Brisbane I'll re-visit it many times until it finishes at the end of April. Layers upon layers. It is impossible to convey the impact of the piece shown above by **Aisha Khalid** who lives and works in Lahore, Pakistan. *In her textile works, she draws on a form of visual language rooted in Persian culture, with its emphasis on pattern, colour and geometry, as well as incorporating designs from traditional Charbagh gardens. These large-scale hanging tapestries, embedded with thousands of long, gold-plated pins, employ Khalid's foundational skills and show the confident hand of a miniaturist, together with her sensitive understanding of pattern making and her love of textiles. The sharp pins pierce through several layers of cloth and add a three-dimensional, sculptural element to the works, creating a tension between beauty and danger, pain and fragility.* And this is only one work among many. **See the APT if you can.** [Find out more here.](#)

And - **You need to see UNTIL which remains to March 3rd 2019 at Carriageworks in Sydney.** I heard the **USA artist, Nick Cave**, speak in Brisbane the day Donald Trump's "win" was announced. He was devastated but confirmed that ART is needed more than ever now.

**In the largest work every presented at Carriageworks, UNTIL, he confirms that Art is a vehicle for change.** Believe me, seeing these installations will change you. [Consult this website.](#)

A 'safe haven surrounded by optimism' is one description Cave has offered, also a 'dialogue about tough issues'.

Also running to March 3rd 2019 (see 'UNTIL' above): **Fifty: Celebrating 50 Years of Collecting Fibre Art** at **Ararat Gallery TAMA** (Textile Art Museum Australia). The image at left relates to this long and important history of collection. **This exhibition celebrates the Gallery's 50th birthday by presenting a selection of the collection's best loved works alongside some of its rarely seen gems.**

**Ararat Gallery TAMA - the Textile Art Museum Australia is a landmark development** and many contemporary Australian artists working with textiles have and will be collected, and are to be featured in current and upcoming exhibitions. **Make sure Ararat is one of your Go-To Places in Victoria.** [Consult this website.](#)

**'Standoff at Maleny' by Jan Strudwick** is seen below. The Friends Regional Gallery Caloundra Inc. presented the *Local Artists – Local Content* 2018 Art Prize exhibition from 18 Oct - 9 Dec at **Caloundra Regional Gallery Qld**, with forty finalists included. It was an across the board competition for all local artists. Michael Brennan from Noosa Regional Gallery was the judge and **Jan Strudwick was awarded Best in Show.** To find out more about the artist [click here.](#)



**Flying Arts Alliance announced Suzy Furness of Ilkley) as winner of the Textile Art Award for the 2018 Queensland Regional Art Awards, entitled *Wanderlust*.** This award is sponsored by Janet De Boer and Art for Life donor and has a value of \$1,500 cash. Non-acquisitive. *Wanderlust* is on tour in Queensland into 2019.

***Flying Arts*** is a not-for-profit organisation inspiring the appreciation, practice and professional development of the visual and media arts as a lifetime interest or career throughout regional and remote Queensland, [Find out more here.](#)

At left, 'Dusk to Dawn' handwoven by Suzy Furness

**The inaugural *Seed Stitch Contemporary Textile Awards 2018*, presented by Australian Design Centre in partnership with the Seed Stitch Collective** during Sydney Craft Week in October 2018, attracted over 95 entries. The award is an open call-out to contemporary artists in NSW working with textiles across many genres,

**The Seed Stitch Collective is Soraya Abidin, Sky Carter, Suzanne Davey, Niki McDonald, Emma Peters and Kylie Walsh.** The collective originated in 2016 after the first SSCTA was hosted at the Warringah Creative Arts Space. To view all the finalists' works and learn more about the Seed Stitch Collective [click here](#).

**A new opportunity in Adelaide opening in February 2019: STITCH- Co-working for creative people.** Stitch is a new **co-working space designed for creative people** providing private offices and open work spaces **including a gallery, workshop and event space** with free wifi, located in the south west corner of the city (263 Gilbert Street). *We are seeking expressions of interest from people working in the arts who are interested in joining our community and welcome applications from creative people who would like to work at Stitch from our desks and offices, or create exhibitions for our gallery space, present workshops or hold special events. Stitch will provide marketing support and on the ground facilitation.* Prices will vary by size but will range from around \$100 per week for a shared space to \$350 a week for a private office that 4 people could share. [More details here](#).

**The first member of the *Stitch* community (see information above) is *Fabric of Life*,** a business that has been providing textile conservation services and working with handmade textiles for many years.

**Mary Jose**, who owns and operates the well known *Fabric of Life* confirms her goal is to **provide for the care, preservation and display of a wide variety of antique and contemporary textiles.** This includes free advice on the care of your textiles; specialized cleaning; stabilization of weakened or damaged textiles & mounting and preparation of textiles for framing, display or storage. **From February, Fabric of Life will relocate to 263 Gilbert Street, Adelaide as part of the Stitch community.** [More about Fabric of Life here.](#)

Investigate this new title:

***The Last Straw: A Continuing Quest for Life Without Disposable Plastic.***

Environmental artist **Bryant Holsenbeck** had long wondered where trash goes when we throw it "away." Realizing that what we discard never really goes away, she became concerned about all the disposable plastic that piles up in landfills and clogs our streams. **Bryant began saying NO to single-use plastic, and she spent a year discovering ways to live without it. This book documents her journey and the creative alternatives she found.**

The author says: *The Resource Center for Women Ministry and the South worked long and hard and made my blog about using so much less plastic into a book. It is beautiful, I am grateful!*



For purchase of this book online click [here](#).

## THE FINALE - Be Sure to Sign IN..



Thanks to Svenja (see WOW information earlier in this bulletin) **I am now a fan of the FAN BRIGADE.** *Livi Reihana and Amanda Kennedy are stupid ugly feminazi bitches... or talented comedians taking the New Zealand comedy scene by storm (depends who you ask).* For a look at one of their productions that I especially enjoy [click here](#).



And on that strange note, Shaun the Sheep (of London) and I wish you a **HAPPY CHRISTMAS.**

Plus: I'd like to remind you that to have your exhibitions and/or events listed on the TAFTA [website](#) in 2019, you just need to send me the details as early as possible.

**JUST SEND SIMPLE TEXT.** Then I don't have to key in the information again (from a PDF file) or try to figure out what you want to say.

You can also contact me at [janetdeboer@iinet.net.au](mailto:janetdeboer@iinet.net.au) **THIS IS A FREE SERVICE** and **notices are placed on the website**, not in this bulletin. **That way they can be swiftly updated each month.**

As for the new year:



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