

FOREVER EMBROIDERY STUDIO

News to Note:

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Seat Cover being stitched.



Hank vs Skein

Dear Fellow Embroiderers and Friends...

My attention has been focused on things other than embroidery lately, therefore I do not have as much to report in this letter so I have asked Santé to share some of her experiences while studying at the *Ecole Lesage* in Paris earlier this year.

Both Kevin and I have had 15 minutes of fame this past couple of months, both on television! In May, I was interviewed for a local community TV station, KMVT. I took with me some examples of embroidery from which the producer could select to illustrate the segment. My Coronation goldwork was chosen, and while I was being interviewed I demonstrated some goldwork on a lap frame. Keep an eye out in the local listings for *Colorful Journey of Success* on KMVT15.

Kevin had a non-speaking 'acting' part in a segment being filmed about unique construction work in three major world cities; Barcelona, Sydney and San Francisco, for the Discovery Channel's Science.

I have made some progress on the chair seat. The outside edges are worked in a larger canvas stitch, in one shade of Appleton wool. For this I have ordered a hank rather than a skein. Note: To calculate how much wool you will need for such a project, measure how much it takes to stitch a one-inch square in the stitch you have chosen to use. Multiply that measurement by the total surface you have to cover. A skein has approximately 27 yards and a hank 185 yards.

Other than RSN certificate and Diploma classes, there will not be any other classes scheduled in the studio until after mid September. Over the summer I shall be visiting a number

of exhibits, places and people. While I am away Ac, will be available for enquiries and orders should anyone need to buy supplies.

Have a wonderful summer stitching!

Lucy



On Set!



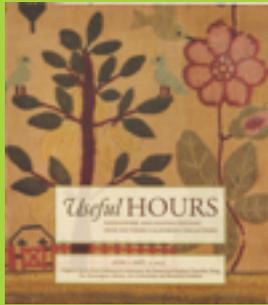
A most charming "Y"

Embroidered by Lucy for Gill Holdsworth's sampler that was given to her by the RSN staff at her retirement. Each member of staff, even non stitchers, made a letter or number on the sampler.



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Insert below:
Textile panel, ca. 1700–1710 Italy, or France
 Silk, metallic threads; damask, supplementary-weft patterning in twill weave
 150.5 x 106.7 cm (59 1/4 x 42 in.)
 Museum purchase, Textile Arts Council Endowment Fund in honor of Diane B. Mott 2011.15



Stitcher's Shared
 Summer Projects:

Svetlana's
 Christening gown
 for her grandson
 on 21 Jul 2013



Alessandra's gift to
 her mum



Lots to Share...

Local Art Scene of Interest

I took my six year old cousin, Skyler, to see the Embroidery exhibit at the De Young last week. The exhibit, *From the Exotic to the Mystical: Textile Treasures from the Permanent Collection*



is beautifully displayed with a wonderful range of embroidery, woven textiles and lace from around the world. It is well worth the visit and runs through until fourth of August. After the exhibition, Skyler came to my studio where I am teaching her to make her own bag.

On a recent trip to LA I visited the Huntington's Useful Hours Exhibit. It was well worth the visit and we have their beautiful booklet that they produced for the occasion in our library.

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Cantor Arts Center, Stanford University: Celebrating their "French Season" with a variety of shows through the Fall. Detail at museum.stanford.edu

The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens: *Useful Hours; Needlework and Painted Textiles from Southern California Collections* till 2 Sept 2013

The William Morris Gallery: *The Art of Embroidery: Nicola Jarivs and May Morris* till 22 Sept 2013

Stitch-Ins

July's Evening Stitch In was cancelled due to a special event to attend. Filoli hosted a "Step Back In Time" event



with a jazz concert and refreshments set in the 1920's era. Santé and I put our best Downtown Abbey foot forward and attended in character.

See the attached Event Diary for future Stitch In dates and look for the monthly email reminders.

Summer Projects!

FOR THOSE OF you who are working on projects over the summer, I invite you to share pictures your work with us. Above is a project that RSN Diploma Student, Alessandra, worked on last summer while on a cruise at sea! She is sending it to her mother as a gift. Also shared by Svetlana, one of the regular local stitchers, is the Christening gown she created for her grandson in less that 3 weeks!

Even I have UFOs too! This is a project I started back in 2007, the technique is stumpwork, but what will it be? Look out in the next newsletter to see what it becomes!



Skyler's Summer Bag Making Project

Stumpwork Project in Process



FOREVER EMBROIDERY STUDIO

Bridal Gown Completed

Embroidered using stranded cotton and silk using whipped back stitch



Felted Bears by:

Cheryl Merrick and Lucy Barter



More to Share...



AT THE BEGINNING of June I became a 'student for the day' when I took Svetlana's felting class held in the my studio. It was so much fun! Each bear made that day had lovely character; I think that my little bear resembles a Care Bear I had as a child!



Incidentally, Peapod Fabrics, situated in the Inner Sunset District of San Francisco carries a lovely range of wool roving for felting. It is also a lovely store for any quilter, the ranges of fabrics are displayed by colour and there are many vintage inspired patterns that are very appealing.

1400 Irving St (at 15th Ave)

News

IN THE LAST NEWSLETTER I mentioned I was working on a bridal gown for a wedding in the middle of June; the bride's inspiration for the dress was one worn by Audrey Hepburn in *Sabrina*. The finished dress was received with enthusiasm and as you can see the bride, Meghan, looks beautiful in the dress.

SHOP ETSY...I do not have an antiques page for this newsletter, so instead I would like to suggest a visit to my friend Sinead's Etsy store, *Vestra Vintage Vita*. Sinead has a lovely collection of vintage tins, perfect for storing metal threads, or turning into needle cases; trims, buttons and other beautiful smalls that I am sure will tempt you all. Visit at:

vestravintagevita.etsy.com

For a 10% new customer discount type in CODE: firsttime

Extra Bits...

Ac, my assistant, has her own e-mail address. For all sales, class details, bookings, and enquires please contact Ac at: Ac@forever-emb.com

We are always working to update our contact files. Apologies if there is an error. Please update info via e-mail. Remember, we do not sell or share our mailing list. Thank you



VVV for
Vestra Vintage Vita
Latin for Your Vintage Life

vestravintagevita.etsy.com

APPLIQUÉ IS THE use of fabric to layer and construct a design. The bulk of the image will be pieced together with sewn bits of fabric rather than an area filled with thread using a variety of stitches for the desired effect.

This method has been in use for thousands of years. There is historical evidence of Nomadic tribes applying designs of felt, feathers, leaves, beads, etc, to skins and furs dating back to 200 BC. Evidence supports that Egyptians wrapped animals in decorative appliques between 300-1000AD.

As societies and technologies grew, some textiles were seen as rare and precious materials that should be reused and not discarded. Appliqué became the technique to embellish household items, ecclesiastical clothing, military banners, and home furnishings.

Today appliqué is acknowledged as an art form and produced for decoration more than its former use in domestic items, modern samples seen on page 4.



VVV Etsy Item July 2013 for \$22



Left:
Barbara Filipeck
Inspiration: the brightest
bird in the Audubon
Collection, "Bill" has a
tie and a patterned wool
swatch incorporated

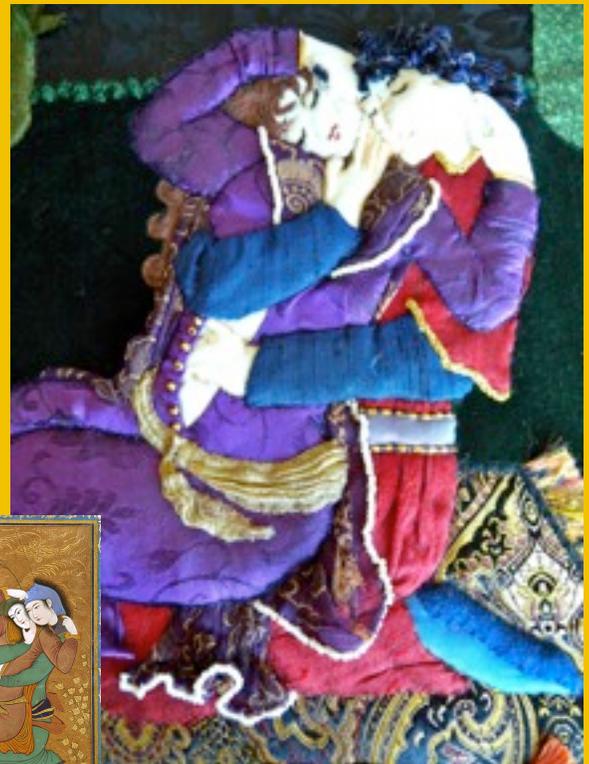
Right:
Sandra
Force
Inspiration:
Vintage
hosiery
advert



Many RSN students have now completed their Certificates in hand-embroidery, and some are moving on to the Diploma level. The first of the techniques is Appliqué. Here are some examples done by RSN students at the San Francisco Satellite.

Vicki Joh

Inspiration:
Asian Painting, Image
from a Calendar



Denise
Robello
Inspiration:
A Book on
Persian Art



Terri King
Inspiration: her
sewing room

Other notable Large Scale
Appliqué Projects:
Overlord Embroidery
Kate Middleton's Wedding Dress
Many Church Banners



Small Scale Applications:
Badges using Appliqué: canvas linen
makes the tail, kid makes the starfish



RSN Autumn Day Classes

RSN Day Courses are available in the San Francisco Bay Area this Fall!

Course Details:
 Fee: £100/ day
 Duration: 10am-4pm
 Location: Burlingame, CA
 Website uses international date codes.
 Look for registration updates online at:
<http://www.royal-needlework.org.uk/shop/index/58>

Silk and Gold Monogram with Lizzie

Thursday 31 Oct



A one day, simple illuminated letter, of choice, this class will work basic goldwork and silk techniques to create a monogram.

Blackwork with Hazel

Friday 1 Nov



Learning 2 stitch patterns and using varied threads for shading, create an image of peas in a pod inspired by 17th C botanical stitched motif

Opulent Tudor with Hazel

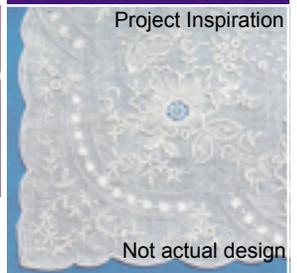
Saturday 2 Nov



Using a variety of metal threads, including a metal "tissue", and silk floss, learn to create a flower motif on velvet inspired by Tudor Embroidery

Whitework with Lizzie

Sunday 3 Nov



A Whitework class with a focus on borders applying Pulled and Drawn Techniques and dainty flowers using small surface stitches like padded satin

RSN Certificate Courses at Forever Embroidery Studio

Studio option allows for flexible scheduling. Dates need not be consecutive, choose what best fits your needs. Scheduling of dates are done with Ac at Forever Embroidery Studio, while payments are transacted by the RSN at Hampton Court Palace.

2014 Studio Dates will be ready next newsletter, Oct 2013.

Please contact Ac for specifics and details at Ac@forever-emb.com



Many thanks to Dale and his staff at Luv2Stitch in San Mateo, CA for hosting a book signing with Anne and Rachel.



RSN SF Spring Events Recap

Royal School of Needlework courses at the Hyatt, Burlingame, CA in April and May with the new Programme Director, Anne Butcher, teaching alongside Rachel Doyle, author of the RSN's Essential Stitch Guides Canvaswork book. Once again, amazing work was produced by the students who traveled from near and far to take part in the Certificate and Diploma courses.

An RSN Student Display of twelve pieces of work were displayed at the Burlingame Library for two weeks. Thank you to all those who let me know that you went to the Library; I am glad you enjoyed seeing the work. The next display at the library in the fall will be focusing on one technique only, and I have chosen Jacobean Crewel work.



Jacobean Embroidery by Jessica Fanego

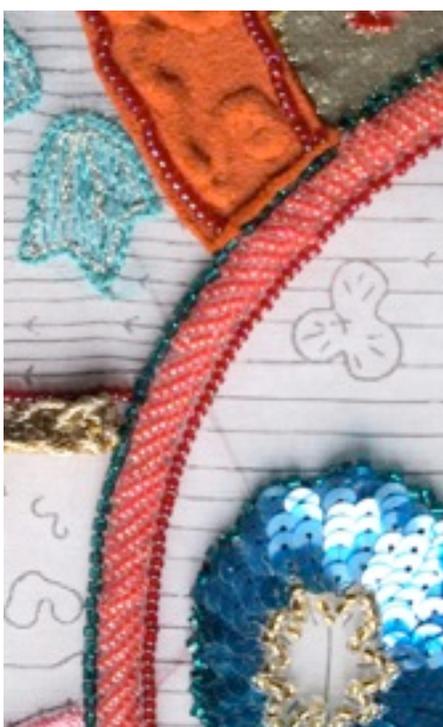


RSN SF Spring CC 2013 Welcomes Anne Butcher and Rachel Doyle



Congratulations to Helen Dolph of Manhattan Beach, CA, who was awarded her RSN Certificate when she attended Rachel's Stumpwork Day Class.

RSN Certificate was also awarded to Melissa McMillan of Yorktown, VA



Santé at Lesage

Sitting, looking around at the other students already working, I began to question my decision to take this course and wondered if I was in the right place, because up to this point, after walking through the doors which had opened promptly at nine-thirty, being directed to my seat after giving my name, everything had been in French!

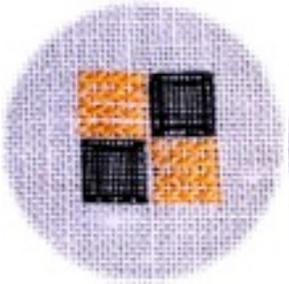
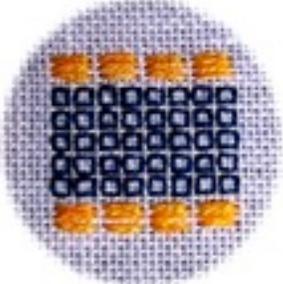
The classroom, with windows facing out onto the street, contained seven other students. The walls of the room displayed many examples of the techniques taught at *Lesage*. A teacher came to me and began speaking in English, and I instantly became more comfortable.

The Ecole Lesage Professional Training Course was what I had signed up to complete in six months (with 150 school hours and about 350 home hours).

The classes were held in three rooms with about eight students per room doing a variety of techniques, and three to four teachers instructing us. The students came from all over the world; a number with some professional working experience and others, like myself, with some knowledge of embroidery but complete novices when it came to the *lunville*, or tambour hook. Each technique or lesson, is demonstrated to you by the teacher. In general the student watches while the technique is done; works the technique in the presence of the teacher and, once approved, the student is required to go home and do their best to master the technique before the next class. The classrooms are very quiet, but comfortable. Cameras and other devices are not allowed in class at all!

My training began with learning how to assemble the frame and start a sampler using "the" hook. Once introduced to my new tambour hook, learning how to hold it took immense dexterity. Unlike English embroidery, most of the work began by working on the backside of the fabric. The hand under the frame is holding some sort of sequins or seed beads on a thread, while the hand above the frame is holding the hook which is collecting the bead and sequin, and securing it to the fabric in the form of a chain-stitch. The motion in which this is executed reminds me of watching a sewing machine work.

In general students take between two and four classes per week. Each class consists of about 12 hours of homework for me. If the goal is to finish in six months the average student sleeps less than five hours a night in order to meet the requirements of the next teaching day. I learned that the teachers at *Lesage* are the creators, or have been the creators, of many of the haute couture looks that go down the Paris runways. The *Ecole Lesage* is the training source for Chanel. Most students who want to become embroiderers at this level will do a three-year internship after completion of at the school before getting a paid job.

<p>A Goal of 5, 44, 17, 25, 36 Badges</p> <p>36 Submitted = 1/2 square yard! or also €108</p> <p>Online donations to SNSM can be made directly at the following link:</p> <p>http:// www.snsn.org/ page/faire-un-don</p>	<p>Octopus</p>  <p>The legs were crocheted in one chain and sewed doubled over</p>	<p>Moonscape</p>  <p>Using Langley Merino Wool for moon surface and silk for reflection</p>	<p>“L” Quarantine</p>  <p>I met Lucy taking an RSN Blackwork class. It translated well to nautical flags.</p>	<p>“D” Keep clear I am moving with difficulty</p>  <p>Nautical flags signal; international codes, letters, or numbers</p>
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Santé at Lesage Cont...

Some of my days at Lesage were good and some were bad. Honestly, it took me three weeks just to be able to hold the thread on the fabric. I am still working out how to get the beads attached without forgetting one! On one of my noted bad days, I had a teacher tell me that my work was not satisfactory. She did a sample on the side to show me how a piece should look. I agreed, my piece was not up to the superior standard. I was a little devastated but later was told that if I had been doing this for 40 years I would have mastered it too!

At this moment I have only finished half my course and will go back this Fall to complete my second sampler. Even though this course has proved very difficult so far, I have loved every moment off my learning experience. My vision has become clearer. I can understand how the work is done, and can appreciate why it takes so many hours to do one piece!

Now back in San Francisco and having had a few months off working, I can see the value of my learning and have noticed an improvement in my overall work. I look forward to getting back to Paris to finish the rest of the program so that I can start my own new portfolio works.

More French Embroidery: Ac's Stitching for Charity...

D'ecole de Pascal Jaouen is another French embroidery school located in the Brittany region with two locations in Quimper and a boutique in Brest.

To help promote embroidery and to support a local volunteer group, the school has ambitiously taken on the goal of making 10,000 embroidered badges that will be sold for €3 each as a fundraiser. Badges will be sold from now until mid September and results announced in November. Badges were submitted for the charity event from all over the world, each embroidery to be no larger than an inch and a half round done on a 4in square bit of cloth. Nautical themes were requested, any technique permitted, just stitch with heart.

The goal was chosen based on the estimated annual visitors to the school that teaches in many French venues.

SNSM is a volunteer group of 4,400 members who watch over 20 nautical miles with 221 stations and about 600 lifeboats in their fleet. Each station has from 10-40 volunteers keeping watch 24/7 year round. They respond to a variety of distress situations; be it a mechanical failure, a leak on board, a stranding, medical related urgencies, or persons in the water. In 2011 6,593 people were rescued at sea. In 2012, 8,071 people were rescued, there were 3,279 operations carried out, with 26% of those occurring at night.

To purchase a badge, you may send in €5 and a self addressed envelope, a randomly picked badge will be posted back to you.

Online updates for the badges (je suis desolé mais c'est en francais):

<http://actus.pascaljaouen.com/broder-un-badge-pour-la-snsn/>



D'Ecole de Pascal Jaouen
1 Rue de Kergariou
Quimper 29000
France
www.pascaljaouen.com

Day Course
summary at
FOREVER
EMBROIDERY
STUDIO...

24 Sept:
Stitchers Block Clinic
9:30am-12:30pm & 1pm-4pm
\$45 per session



Meet Lucy...

Lucy is committed to the preservation and time honoured techniques involved in hand embroidery. As the RSN US Course Coordinator, Lucy runs RSN courses in San Francisco throughout the year from her studio and in Burlingame for two intensive sessions each year. In addition to her RSN involvements, with Forever Embroidery Studio, she is involved with Filoli, and travels

around the world to give private instructions and lectures. To learn more about Lucy and her work please view the interview done by LightSourceSF:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sm_cattgNjA

Forever Embroidery Studio also accepts commissions, and offers conservation and restoration services. For more information contact lucy@forever-emb.com

Stitch Event Diary is now a separate printer friendly attachment. Details of events are published in the newsletter and monthly Stitch In announcements.

Dates Subject to Change. Confirm events by booking at ac@forever-emb.com.

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