

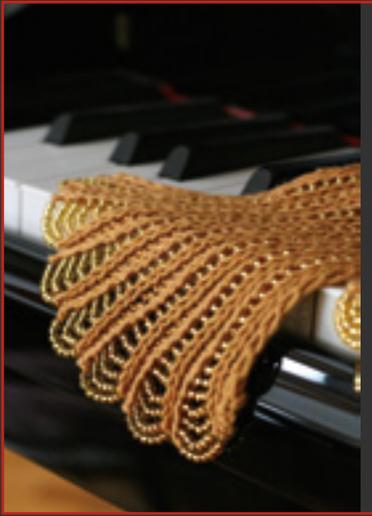
Fiber Art Almanac

Annual Collection 2013

Volume 3

WILDWOOD | PRESS
FIBER ART PUBLICATION

telling the story of how it came to be



Jennifer Wilder lives in the Twin Cities with her family. She enjoys hanging out with her family and many friends as well as loving the solitude of creative thinking.

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Front cover: Quilt by Nancy Wick Hand dyed fabric by Nancy Birger
Right page: Spanish moire paper marbling by Mary Holland
Above: Art Deco Beaded Scarf pattern by Diane L. Augustin

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Welcome to the Almanac!



It's year **3!** So excited that the *Almanac* has made it this far! Thanks to all of the artists whose work is on these pages!

What a wonderful time to be working with fiber and creating beautiful pieces. From the humble sock to a three dimensional knitted circus to subtly textured weaving to boldly colored depictions of the galaxies. All of it is fascinating.

Each person's art is unique, yet they share characteristics. Primarily the ability

to 'see' and then create their view. The artists have described where they get their insight, many times it's how they interpret the natural or constructed world around them or which materials are used and how they come together during the process. Some like the process of working each stitch. Some start at the end with visualization intact. Others see where it goes. On the following pages, I've given a brief description of each artist. Without using too many superlatives I've tried to give the reader a feel for what comes to mind after meeting them, photographing their work then putting it all together into a cohesive story.

Since I have included a monthly calendar template, the flow of the book is a little different this year. It presents the opportunity to talk about artistic references. Each month has a focal point which allows the reader to see the work in, perhaps, a new way. The first topic is Dimensionality, then Subtle Texture, Detail/Elements, Shared Heritage: Handed-down, Outside Elements, Color Work, Whimsical Fun, Composition, Transformation, Shared Heritage: Crossing Cultures, Tools and Art Wear. Much of the work could fit into more than one group, but I looked at the predominant feature. My interpretation, that is.

Knitting patterns are included again this year. I am so happy to announce that Diane Augustin designed the patterns. She is very talented, professional and the patterns are wonderful! None of my hokey attempts this year (sigh). And for the first time the *Almanac* includes a quilt block pattern. Kim Gannaway designed the quilt block for her Hankie Quilt. What a fun way to treasure those heirlooms!

The format of this particular edition is very flexible allowing the reader to start any time during the year. There are enough months and days to accommodate an entire years worth of appointments, notes and journaling.

Enjoy it all!

Jenny
Publisher
Wildwood Press

Nancy Birger, Quilter



Nancy and I talked about color and how color is different across the US. I asked her if the many places she lived have influenced what she thinks about color and her work. She said she wasn't going to let the high desert mountains of Nevada change her notion of color that developed in West Des Moines. We laughed and then she showed me THIS QUILT. It is so beautiful. It's high mountain desert color. Just like the mountains west of Vegas; not at all like West of Des Moines. This quilt is made from commercially dyed batik fabric.

With her many moves across the United States, Nancy thinks quilting makes for a wonderful social way of life. When she moves she joins the local guild and makes friends from there. It doesn't take her long, she's fun to be around.



Meeting Nancy at her home near Stillwater, MN gives the impression of a clean aesthetic with soft, diffused monotone colors. Her beautiful home is a retreat sitting on top of a wooded hill that drops dramatically into a serene lake. It's an understatement when she says that her home and studio are in contrast to her art. Nancy's work is colorful, bright and multi-layered. Each piece is rich with visual sensation shining out from the tiny glass pixels of color and light.

Nancy reflects on her bead work with a keen sense of humor. Asked about her creative challenges and she'll tell you that she would like to invent a way to burn calories while sitting and beading. Or that she is a slightly mad scientist who has a continual flow of bead work ideas she wants to test out. To our advantage she spends countless hours testing her theories that sometimes work out and sometimes not. She says that she learns more about "bead physics" from each theory she tests.



Nancy was reportedly born with a needle in her hand and after exploring nearly every needle art, she began experimenting with beads after a chance encounter at the Mall of America. Nancy has published two books *Bead Creative Art Quilts* and *Bead Creative Like Crazy*.

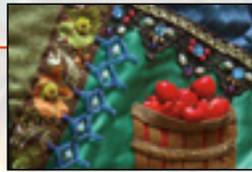
She teaches nationally, her work has appeared in many publications and she was commissioned to make a crazy quilt for the Minnesota Historical Society. Look for it later in the *Almanac*!

I've heard her classes are super fun, too. At the end of the workshop, a coronation ceremony takes place whereby her students who have proven they are Bead Explorers are crowned and admitted to the Royal Order of Bead Explorers by Her Majesty, the Queen Mother of Royal Bead Explorers.

Over the past couple of years, Nancy's interest have combined silk and beads. The pieces represented in the *Almanac* show her successful 'tests' with bead physics combining beads and silk.



composition



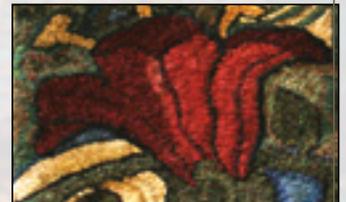
Composition: the way visual elements fit into a piece of art.

5	6	7	
12	13	14	
19	20	21	
26	27	28	

Notes:

1	2	3/4
8	9	10/11
15	16	17/18
22	23	24/25
29	30	31

Notes:



Susan Antell, *Wool Dyer*



Susan is very serious about color. She methodically experiments with dye to create new hues and new textures for her art projects. Susan has published a booklet that contains detailed documentation of dye recipes using complementary colors. It is all about truly understanding the color wheel and defining the steps to accomplish specific color choices.

This piece depicts the Aurora Borealis. Susan created depth by adding embroidered trees in the foreground placing the shimmering sky as the backdrop. The thread painting and seed beads give the piece its up and down movement like what is seen in the night sky.



Fiber Art Almanac

Apr./May, 2013

Sunday, April 28

Monday, April 29

Tuesday, April 30

Wednesday, May 1

Thursday, May 2

Friday, May 3

Saturday, May 4

Aimee Radman, *Weaver*



A professional fiber artist, Aimee sells her work at the Textile Center, Weavers Guild of Minnesota (WGM) and at regional art shows in southern Minnesota as well as on Etsy. (Look for Fiber Fusion online). She has a degree in Broad Area Art with an emphasis in Fiber Art from University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

Aimee teaches at the Textile Center and WGM and is an active community member at both places. When Aimee considers a piece she first decides what will be the end purpose for the piece such as for personal use or for a show. She looks to the marketplace for trend information about colors that are in vogue and what types of fiber to spin and weave.

Carolyn Vance, Knitter



Carolyn's interest in handwork started early on. Aided by her British neighbor and her mom's interest in needlework she learned to knit, crochet and sew. Many of her projects favor traditional styles from the countries which surround the North and Baltic Seas. Carolyn is a technical expert and enjoys devising methods that eliminate common knitting problems. For example, Carolyn knits hats from the top down. By casting on at the crown, she says it's a perfect fit every time!

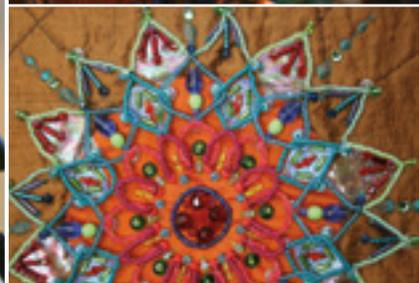
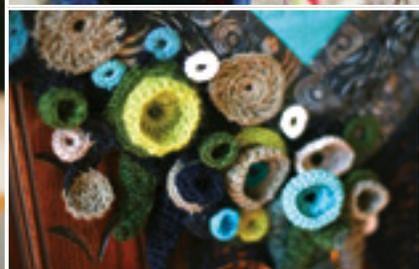
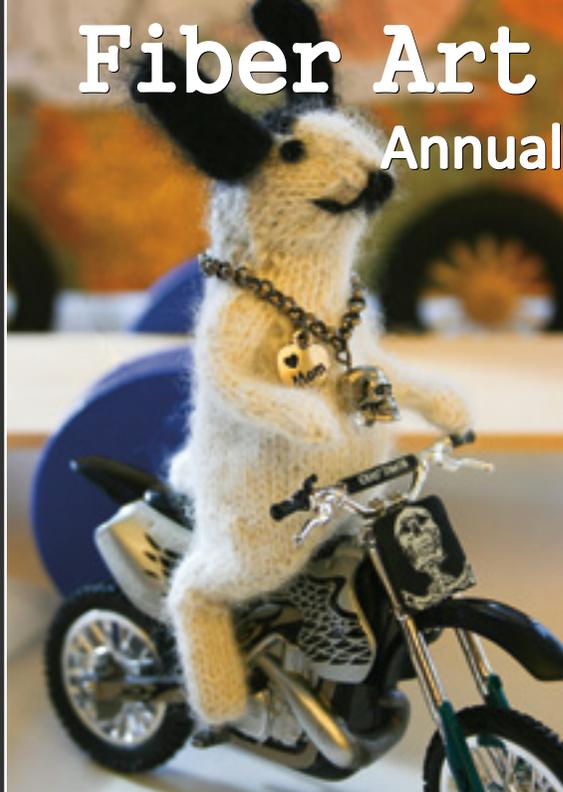
Carolyn is a Master Hand Knitter and devotes her time, expertise and teaching skills to knitters who participate in the Master Hand Knitting program through The Knitters Guild of America. Don't be shy--just ask!



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The Fiber Art Almanac turns **3!!**

Now with a monthly calendar!

So flexible! Customize an open dated book to begin when *you* want to begin or choose a dated *Almanac* beginning January, 2013 or both! Both styles showcase the same talented artists and have enough room for daily inspirational thoughts about fiber art throughout the year!

Join the community of fiber art!! Each week, the *Almanac* features a story about the artist and the art! Let yourself be drawn in to the world of fiber art with creations by both established and emerging fiber artists.

Beautiful photographs will take you to your happy place! The impressive work will inspire your creative expression!

Five lovely knitting and crochet patterns and a quilt block are included in the book! Beaded knitting and a crochet bag designed by Diane L. Augustin and an heirloom hankie quilt block designed by Kim Gannaway are included in the book!

Big enough to use, small enough to fit—stuff the *Almanac* into your project bag!

For ordering info—www.fiberartalmanac.com or jennifer@fiberartalmanac.com

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