

Thursday 28 May

Jane Dorner & Simon Hurst

Fellows in Folly

Simon and Jane are members of the Folly Fellowship having won the unique category of the *Shed-of-the-Year* Competition with the folly that Simon designed and Jane decorated. Their illustrated talk will look at the notion of 'folly' and 'fellowship' in various senses of the words.

Thursday 11 June

Sketchbook evening

What are you working on?

A chance for Brothers to share sketches, models and samples of their current projects.

Thursday 25 June

Allan Brown & Dylan Howitt

Film screening: The Nettle Dress

Textile artist Allan Brown spent seven years making a dress by hand just from fibre of locally foraged stinging nettles. A modern-day fairytale and hymn to the healing power of nature and slow craft. - "An exquisite, inspiring film" - Sir Mark Rylance.

Thursday 9 July

Philip Sanderson

Artists and Weavers at West Dean Tapestry Studio. Portraiture and public art

West Dean Tapestry Studio has been working with artists and designers to create bespoke tapestries since 1976. Studio Leader Philip Sanderson will discuss the evolution of the Tapestry Studio at West Dean and explain the process of translating ideas and images into tapestry.

SUMMER BREAK

Thursday 24 September

James Fox

Craftland: A journey through Britain's lost art and vanishing trades

Britain has always been a craft land. For generations what we made with our hands defined our identities, built our communities and shaped our regions. James Fox explores that deeply necessary connection between our creative instincts and the material world we inhabit, revealing a richer and more connected way of living.

Wednesday 7 October

Committee Meeting

Thursday 8 October

Langlands & Bell

Traces of Living

Turner Prize nominated and BAFTA winning artists Langlands & Bell discuss their unique practice exploring human relationships from the personal to the political through art, architecture and design, in an illustrated conversation with Dr Jean Wainwright.

Thursday 22 October

Philippa Brock

2D-3D

Philippa Brock's woven textile works explore research based, experimental 2D – 3D woven textiles and she also curates weave residency programmes. She is considered a disruptor of digital industrial power jacquard loom methods, manufacturing her innovative exhibition and industry based works.

Thursday 5 November

Jonathan Burton & Cockpit Makers

Following the Line: Line and mark making in contemporary craft

Cockpit CEO Jonathan Burton in conversation with 3 Cockpit makers. Metalworkers; Jackie Oliver and Kim Sutherland and embroidery artist Kamilah Ahmed will discuss crossovers and connections between their practices.

Wednesday 18 November

Committee Meeting

Thursday 19 November

Rachael Matthews & Celia Pym

Textile artists Rachael Matthews and Celia Pym have been sharing their experiences with mending and making things for many years now. They have noticed that the more conscious people become about the preciousness of materials, and the mending of their clothes, the more work comes their way and the less time they have to meet and share the joys of it. They are looking forward to meeting at the Guild and talking about their recent works.

Thursday 10 December

Annual General Meeting (members only)



The Art Workers' Guild

2026 Programme
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Guild Meetings: Thursdays at 7pm
Committee Meetings: Wednesdays at 6.30pm

Thursday 15 January

Master's Night

Charlotte Grierson

Charlotte has always taken an explorative approach to weaving, seeking an interaction between the yarns she uses and the structure of the weaving to create interesting fabrics. She hopes to give an insight into her journey.

Wednesday 28 January

Committee Meeting

Thursday 29 January

Shelly Goldsmith

Weaving chair legs: My life in textiles

Shelly Goldsmith will present her multimedia textile practice. She will discuss the range of textile methods and materials used across 2D, 3D and installation as a logical approach across a 40-year career.

Thursday 12 February

Jessica Light

The Tassel Queen of Bethnal Green

London's last East End passementier, Jessica is known for creating original design-led trims and tassels, using techniques that date back to 16th century. Jessica will talk about her career, the history and the future of this fascinating endangered heritage craft.

Thursday 26 February

Nancy Vong Johnston

Threads of Meaning: Weaving Culture, Connection and Regeneration

Nancy Johnston, founder of House of Tengri, explores textiles as living expressions of identity and interdependence. Sharing how Tengri emerged to revive culture, global connection, and conservation. Revealing how craft and cloth form a regenerative language that restores our relationship with people, place, and planet.

Thursday 12 March

Becky Aston

From Hand to Circuit: Understanding Texture Through Woven Electronics

Rebecca Aston is a Computational Artist and lecturer at Goldsmiths University. She will talk about coding as a creative craft. She will present work that explores the multisensory perception of texture, focusing on woven electronic textiles and hand spun conductive yarn.

Thursday 26 March

Kurt Jackson

From Cornwall to London

Kurt will take us on a journey through his practice, projects, approaches and rationale. An environmental artist let loose across this country; paintings, sculpture, poetry and more.

Thursday 16 April

Ekta Kaul

Needle as compass: Embroidered Cartographies

Artist Ekta Kaul explores the intersection of embroidery and cartography, tracing how the needle has long served as a subtle compass. From 19th-century schoolgirl samplers to contemporary stitched maps that chart memory, migration, and belonging through thread.

Wednesday 29 April

Committee Meeting

Thursday 30 April

Sarah Campbell

Sixty-five years in the business – things change, things stay the same!

Sarah began working on painting textile designs in an informal way with her sister in 1961. The essence of Sarah's work, creating patterns, remains constant though much has changed around her. At heart, Sarah's values and beliefs about what she considers worthwhile design remain the same.

Thursday 14 May

Mary Schoeser

Marianne Straub RDI: a designer's designer

Swiss-born Marianne Straub (1909-1994) was to become one of Britain's most influential designers. This talk is a chance to glimpse the creative output of a handweaver committed to well-made mass-produced textiles from c.1933-1992, and an inspirational postwar teacher.