



Anne Griffiths – Contemporary Textile Art – May Newsletter

Dear All,

Welcome to my first newsletter. I will send this out every month or so just to let you know any exhibitions or courses that are coming up and anything I have visited that you might be interested in. If you have already read this on the web page then apologies but you have been added to the mailing list.

I hope that send this as a document gives me the opportunity to add more images and also saves you remembering to visit the website.

If you want to unsubscribe at any time then do email me and I will take you off the mailing list.

So, what happened in May? For most of this month I have been working on new workshops, putting together the programmes and designing samples. Preparation for the ["Baskets of Fruit"](#) residential course in Cornwall this autumn is almost complete. I still have to finalise ideas for the Spring 2013 Cornwall course with a "Beach" theme so there should be more news on this next month.



The [Ardecca Summer School](#) in Wiltshire at the end of June covers a range of different subjects including indigo dyeing, felt making and embroidery. There are still a few places, if you can come, either for one day, or for the whole week. The machine embroidery dayschool at Court Hill South Oxfordshire in July is now full so I have added a second day on 18th September. This will cover similar topics as July as well as developing ideas from the July day.

You can read more about all of these courses on the [Talks and Workshops](#) page. I have also written an article for the July article of "Stitch" about how to make strawberries like the ones shown above. These is just one example of the three-dimensional fruits that I will cover on the "Baskets of Fruit" course.

If you are interested in art collaborations, then you might like to visit [Diamond Light Source](#) in Oxfordshire this month. Diamond is the largest UK-funded scientific facility to be built for over 40 years. I have worked there on outreach projects and as Artist in Residence. You may have heard my talk "Diamond Stitches", and you can see images of the projects "Designs for Life", "Diamond

Residency" and "The Largest Diffraction Pattern in the World" on the [Projects and Exhibitions](#) page. A tour of the facility together with a talk on the science and the art projects will take place on 16th, 17th or 19th June. Anyone may attend and although the event is free, you will need to [register here](#).

There is a small multi media exhibition "Good Sports" at [Vale and Downland Museum](#) in Wantage from June 12th – August 11th. This includes The Four Queens from my "Alice's House" exhibition as well a version of the 1904 Wantage Town football team kitted by the museum's 'Knit, Knot and Natter Group'.

Of the many exhibitions on in May, I visited Tate Modern and saw the Yayoi Kusama and Damien Hurst exhibitions. I must admit I am not a fan of Hurst's work, but the cow and calf cut in half, "Mother and Child Divided" were beautiful. His giant ashtray certainly made the point, although not as subtly as Sarah Lucas' "Christ You Know It Ain't Easy" (see right). I will try and make it to the Natural History Museum before the end of September to see the Gunther Von Hagen's exhibition and compare his plastinated shark with the Hurst shark.



I found the Kusama considerably more interesting, with a huge diversity of work and so much more than the spots for which she is so well known! Perhaps it was just the stuffing and stitching that influenced me, (see image right) but her use of mirrors and coloured lights was an experience not to be missed. You can clearly see the influence on modern artists such as Anish Kapoor. If you visit Tate Modern, I certainly recommend seeing her exhibition first.



The Whitechapel Gallery is showing the work of Gillian Wearing which explores what is real and what is artifice. A perfect size exhibition for me as I find some of the bigger ones just too much to take in during one visit. There were both fascinating and disconcerting short videos where a voice and "confession" of a child was paired with the image of an adult.

In June I will be going to Margate for the Tracey Emin exhibition so will be further afield than London and I am sure there will be plenty to say about that in next month's newsletter.

Anyway, that's all for now, hope the weather is good in June and there will be plenty of things to write about.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne". The letters are cursive and connected, with a prominent loop at the end of the word.



Best,

Anne