

THE BATIKGUILD



Views expressed in this magazine are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Batik Guild.

Editor - Fiona Stanley

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Exciting times in the batik world and in this edition of the magazine we have a fascinating look back at some of the pivotal events and people in the Batik Guild's 39 year history, but also a focus on the future and the plans to really capitalise on the International Year of Batik and drive forward how international and inclusive the guild is as we start to plan for events that celebrate our 40th anniversary year in 2026. Jenn Adamson is starting to compile images from the Guild's history – see her article and call for photographs and memories in this edition – and we are planning an extra edition of the magazine next year dedicated to the Batik Guild's roots and its growth. There are also plans afoot for a gathering and exhibition in France in 2026. In his article our chair, Jonathan Evans, describes some of the plans to develop the website and encourage new people to join the Guild and develop the art form. Our direction going forward must reflect the diverse nature of our membership and our international reach. If you feel strongly about our direction, do get in touch to have your say.

I hope you enjoy this edition of the magazine - the amount of ongoing activity is impressive. I love hearing about people's travels to centres of batik excellence or how people came to batik and what it means to them and there are some inspiring examples in this edition. I'm also keen we include articles on batik techniques and in this edition, we have a lovely piece on indigo dying by Alison Wilson.

Submitting articles

The email address for magazine articles and correspondence is **editorbatikguild@gmail.com**. We get a lot of great content so try and keep articles to 100-200 words if they are short intimations, and longer articles to about 500-600 words. Please send as word documents or simply as text embedded in your email, as links and other file types can prove tricky to open and/or get caught in spam filters. To be suitable for printing, images must be 1MB or larger. All images remain copyright of the author/artist. Where images or artwork are the work of a third party, you must obtain their permission to publish before submitting.

To ensure the best quality publication, the editor reserves the right to shorten, alter, omit or keep submissions for possible future use. But please get in touch if you have any questions – every article is different and I'm always happy to work with you to see what works best.

Deadlines - Articles, images and other items for the magazine should reach the editor not later than 1 February for the March issue, 1 June for the July issue and 1 October for the November issue.

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FRONT COVER:

Christina Szabo
'Macaw Parrots'
Primissima cotton using fibre reactive dyes with paraffin wax

BACK COVER:

Celia Hume (UK)
'Yellow Poppies'
Silk with wax and dyes



For information about the Batik Guild, and for contact details, please visit our website at

www.batikguild.org.uk/about



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Batik Guild and also Batik Guild Members Group

Advertising rates - £50 full page, £25 half page, £12.50 quarter page. 20% reduction for three issues. Guild members may advertise free of charge **where space permits** up to a maximum of half a page.

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Treasurer: heather.koumi@btinternet.com

Sweden: Brigitte Gustafsson (Strangnäs, Sweden) had 3 batiks approved for a large, juried art exhibition this summer in Eskiltunas Art Museum and she sold two. In another juried art exhibition in Strängnäs Gallery, the municipality bought one of her paintings for their art collection. She is now represented under textiles at konst.se/brigus. In the past it has been difficult to sell batik as art but more and more people are discovering the technique - she held an open house and sold three batiks!

Hungary: Christina Szabo held a month long exhibition 'Viva Batik' with her Christinabatikart students from the middle of April to 15 May at the Art Gallery of Sarospatak. The exhibition was opened by the Indonesian Ambassador who came all the way from Budapest - a three hour journey each way! A wonderful way to celebrate the Year of Batik 2024-25. 'Parrot' one of the batiks at the exhibition is on the



cover of this month's magazine and Christina was presented with a special cake in the picture here.

Netherlands: Ria van Dijk had a well-attended exhibition of batiks by students of her batik studio in Zoetermeer. There was an exhibition afterwards and 8 participants showed their work with the theme: Water and Fire. You could tell who made the work from the appearance of their works. One of her students Marij Adriaens (who has just joined the Batik Guild) exhibited this batik - 'Fire'.



Germany: From 19 January to 23 March, three artists Magdalena Hentze, Lidia Epshtein and Odile Schlechtriemen exhibited their pictures in various painting media at an exhibition in Museum Haus Martfeld - Schwelm, Germany. Lidia Epshtein's works are on silk in batik and mixed media. The works are part of the series themed to the epic 14th Century poem 'Divine Comedy' by Dante Alighieri. The batik cloths show motifs from Inferno, Purgatory and Paradise as well as portraits of Dante, surrounded by his visions or with his birthplace Florence in the background.

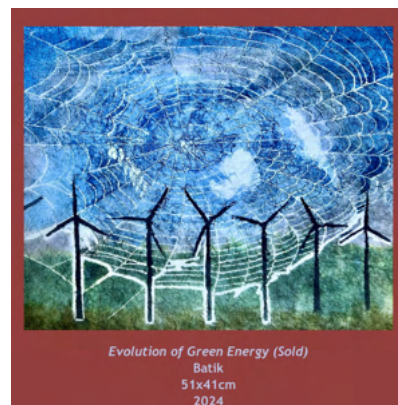


Malahit by Lidia Epshtein

Area 9: NORTH & SOUTH AMERICA

There are 51 North & South America members. Welcome to new members since 1 March 2025. Biddy Theodougherty (Michigan, USA); Laura Daughtry (North Carolina, USA).

Canada: Congratulations to Jan Creelman (British Columbia), who has had her batik 'Evolution of Green Energy' chosen to be on the front cover of the book titled 'Constructive Conflict Pedagogies for Building Democratic Peace'. Jan said that the batik was meant to be sarcastic in that the cobweb indicates slow change.



Kirsten T.O. Sheffield (British Columbia, Canada) is just trying to create batiks for a studio tour this September. Getting back into the swing of painting, after a long 2-year hiatus when they built a house for her parents, a studio for herself and then renovated their own house, has left her feeling out of the loop in the art world here, something she is also focusing on fixing. They just bought a puppy and have an acre of gardens to resurrect after all the construction... phew!

Janette Fecteau (Nova Scotia) has finally got back in the studio thanks to the Batik Guild's International Year of Batik and the collaboration of two artist friends, Jessica Mensch and Antoinette Karuna. Their three-person show featuring batik and other forms of resist