

Dear Colleagues

I hope that you are enjoying/surviving the hot weather.

The committee had a very productive meeting on Zoom Thursday 15 July. Below is an update. Please note that there is a change of date for the Changing Earth exhibition. This brings the two exhibitions quite close together so will involve a heavy workload for the Committee but hopefully will provide you with lots of exhibition opportunities.

8 February – 5 March 2022. A Sense of Place, Courtyard Arts, Hertford.

- I have contacted all exhibitors to explain the change in the hanging system the new venue requires and that we will not be charging a hanging fee due to the change in circumstances. We should have c.35 pieces although I am still awaiting paperwork from a small number of exhibitors.
- The Private View is scheduled for February 9 2022 tbc.
- Further details will follow. These will include the procedure for selling cards or items in the shop, 30% commission, plus delivery of work and collection of unsold work.

Parndon Mill, Flower Power, is still on hold but we are actively looking for other venues to hold an exhibition in in 2023. Any suggestions welcome. We are submitting an application for St Albans Museum & Gallery for 2024, the earliest we are able to return.

Carole sent a message about Joy in Bloom, Parndon Mill's next Online Exhibition. Several members' work has been included in this exhibition. It is just about ready to go off to the publishers and hopefully will be online in about a week. www.parndonmill.co.uk.

Changing Earth – our collaborative exhibition with RHS Hyde Hall, Chelmsford Essex 6 – 19 May 2022

- Because of the recently-announced **Queen's Jubilee** celebrations next year, we have been asked to bring forward the date of our Hyde Hall exhibition. This will now be held from **6 – 19 May 2022**. If you haven't yet viewed it, please watch the launch video on our website which explains the theme and shows photos of the exhibition space <https://ertf.org.uk/ertf-members-exhibition/>
- Because the Hyde Hall exhibition space is so large, we are encouraging members to book to visit Hyde Hall on **Monday 11 October 2021**. This visit will coincide with an East textile exhibition- including pieces by ERTF member Margaret Talbot - and will provide us with a valuable opportunity to see the exhibition space. More details will be added to our website nearer the time but it will be nice to catch up with each other. If you can't make this date and are not familiar with the space, please do take the opportunity to visit at another convenient time.
- We will be loading the 'Intent to Submit' form for this exhibition sometime in November this year and will start work on the stewarding rota for the exhibition as we move into early spring 2022. It is asked, please, that all exhibiting members make themselves available for stewarding unless it is really difficult to do so. Alternatively, ask someone to substitute for you. Frances is also asking members now whether anyone would like to make a **BIG statement contribution for this exhibition** – a quilt, say, or a large 1 metre x 1 metre piece. If these appeals, please let Frances know.
- We are not working on the basis that this will be a formally selected exhibition, but it *is* collaborative with the RHS and we shall need to ensure pieces fulfil the brief and are mounted/framed etc to a rigorous standard. We know that the presentation of work can sometimes pose challenges and so Margaret Talbot, Carole Nicholls and Hannah Rae have kindly offered to provide support and mentoring in this area. Please do consult with any of them at an early a stage as possible if you would like to discuss how best to present your pieces.

In the meantime, now that much of the work for A Sense of Place is completed, please do press on with your work for this high-profile event which is to be held at a peak time of year for gardeners and therefore visitors to our exhibition.

Conference 16th October 2021 Workshop Title: Marking Time. Richard McVetis

We are delighted to welcome Richard McVetis as workshop leader for this conference which will be held at [Anstey Village Hall, Anstey, Buntingford SG9 0BY](#).

Richard is an artist based in London. He is a graduate of Royal College of art and was a finalist in the 2018 Loewe Craft Prize. He uses a range of media, including drawing, installation, and textiles, to explore our perception of space and time. There are lots of details on our website.

Future Conferences

- **April 23 2022 Vivienne Morpeth,**
- **October 15 2022 Debbie Lyddon.**
- **April 29 2023 Nikki Parmenter**

Details to follow.

We currently have **48 members**. We will be incurring costs soon regarding insurance and the website. Due to all Committee meetings being held on Zoom and no exhibitions or conferences, there have been few expenses. This was why we did not charge a membership fee this year. However, as we hopefully come out of the pandemic, costs incurred with exhibitions and conferences will rise. We are in a healthy position financially to deal with this.

The **Website, Facebook and Instagram** are all thriving thanks to those who organise them. Please do look at the website as Frances keeps the information current and it is very informative. Please do contact Hannah if you want advice on how to join Instagram. She personally has a lot of followers and sells a lot of work through Instagram.

We have decided that my updates will suffice for a bulletin at the moment. To increase opportunities for us to interact, we have decided to introduce **one Zoom talk per year**, probably in January. Also, it was felt that as we can start to attend exhibitions, it would be nice if occasionally someone flags up a day and time that they may be attending an exhibition of interest, so that others could join in if they wish. This is obviously dependent on how Covid numbers progress.

I would like to thank the Committee for all their hard work. It is much appreciated. We hope to see you soon.

Happy Creating
Sue Dunkerley
Chair of ERTF

20/07/2021