



## The Wellington Embroiderers' Guild Inc

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### May 2019, Issue 481

#### AGM and May Meeting – Wednesday 8 May 2019

The Loaves and Fishes Hall, St Paul's Cathedral, Hill Street. Hall opens at 7.00pm; meeting begins at 7.30pm. Tea and coffee will be available soon after the hall opens at 7:00pm.

**The May meeting is the AGM.** Please think about joining the committee. There are no restrictions on who can be a committee member and we are always open to new ideas for speakers, events etc. Nomination forms will be available at the meeting and accompany this newsletter.

We are also lucky enough to have Mexican embroiderer, Victoria Villasana, who will be in Wellington for the Splice Heartfelt Art project. She will be teaching a free stitching session at the meeting and you're invited to bring along your daughter, granddaughter, friend or anyone who wants to join in. More information on the flyer on page 4 and have a look at [www.splice.org.nz/heartfeltart](http://www.splice.org.nz/heartfeltart) and [www.victoriavillasana.com](http://www.victoriavillasana.com)

Please bring along

- A photo – a real photo on photographic paper. Time to get diving into your old photos. And if you don't have any take one on your phone of someone or something you love and print it out on photographic paper at Warehouse Stationery or on a home printer.
- Embroidery threads
- Sharp needles

#### Johnsonville Stitch-in 18 May

The May Johnsonville Stitch-in will be held in the Johnsonville Community Centre Hall from 1:00pm to 4:30pm to accommodate a short Vision 2020 AGM. This is a chance to catch up with people from other guilds who will be attending the AGM and staying for the stitch-in.

We will be having a small sales table and those planning to attend the meeting are asked to collect a box or two of items for the table at the AGM on 8 May to bring on Saturday.

Afternoon tea will be provided. Entry is by Gold Coin as usual.

#### Solstice 2019 June 15 & 16

We have a full programme of tutors with some classes being taught over more than one session. Please see the March newsletter for the list of tutors. There are still spaces left with all tutors, though some are filling up rather fast.

The booking sheets will be available again at the May meeting. However the classes have been opened up to other guilds.

#### March Meeting – Alice Alva

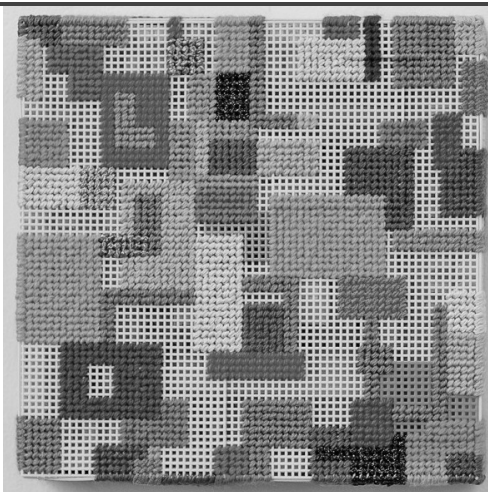
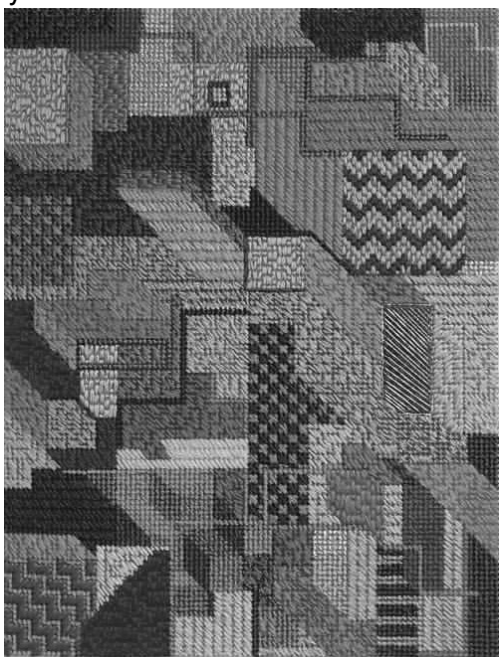
Research for this report began some days prior to the meeting, using Google to investigate just who is Alice Alva and what does she do. The internet can be either a frustrating or a wonderful thing. In this instance it was the former. There was a lot about Alice but nothing truly insightful. Most web sites showed the same dialogue, almost to the letter what was published in the April newsletter. So with a few brief notes I decided to wait until the meeting, to see if the person, Alice Alva, would reveal more than the internet. I will not delve into her education or exhibit achievements, these are there for all to see on-line.

This is written from a personal point of view not a collective one as I did not ask other members what they thought of the presentation. I do not think anyone there that night was disappointed.

Alice gave a verbal and visual presentation. The first thing I noticed was plastic canvas, I had not

seen that particular material for many years. Very practical for the work Alice does, a firm base for larger art works, no stretching frame required, and she has sourced it in colours. Rather envious. Although it would appear she has to use friends travelling to America to bring supplies back, or on a trip she did herself. The freight costs if using post/courier are too prohibitive.

Her worked examples on a table were a visual feast, colour! lots of it used with abandon and without fear. A wide range of materials were used to stitch onto the canvas, wool, vinyl lacing, nylon, metallic, natural threads and only one experiment ever done with acrylic knitting yarn.



So who is Alice Alva and what does she do? Her move into the world of creative arts began as learning to draw, this was replaced by painting due to a non-harmonious relationship with pens, pencils etc. Alice discovered that painting gave her a much more fluid outlet, this then led to her enjoyment of repetitive shapes/patterns, nothing in her art work could be recognised as anything from the everyday visual world. Not true abstract as the art world recognised but definitely Alice Abstract.

Then the thought, where to from here? It seemed a natural progression to adapt paintings to fabric. From fabric to the plastic canvas. Some very unusual examples were layered canvas pieces, each layer with stitching on and one spaced above the other in a frame. Visually these were what intrigued me the most.

One point that Alice was not hesitant in saying about herself, she does not like negative spaces, you know, those bits between a design, they can often look like something

but you can never quite figure out what. And what to do with them? Over time Alice has almost eliminated these irksome negative spaces by placing more patterns on her work and stitching between the actual work designs. This elimination was evident when viewing the time frame art works from oldest to latest. But did she notice all those little spare holes in the plastic canvas?

There was one slide shown with Alice's strengths and weaknesses', Embroiders Neck was on top of her weakness list. At least she was not afraid to admit to this.

Thank you Anna for arranging this very interesting and uninhibited speaker. *Anne Bruce*

Photos by Alice Alva

## 2019 Exhibitions, Events and Workdays

**14 – 16 June 2019** Solstice at Karori Arts & Crafts

**29 & 30 June 2019** Manawatu Embroiderers' Guild will be hosting Shirley Pygott for a two day class in Canvaswork entitled 'PERSIAN TILE'. Skill level all, Cost \$80 plus a kit fee of either \$5 for a partial kit or \$30 for a full kit. For more information email [manawatueg@gmail.com](mailto:manawatueg@gmail.com)

**26 July 2019 Final Entry Date for ANZEG Postbag Colour Challenge Outside The Square.**

These will be displayed at the Hamilton Craft and Quilt Fair in September. Entry form available through [ANZEG website](#), [Education](#). Please note there are two entry dates to meet one in June the other in July

**14 - 29 September 2019 Cook Strait Regional Exhibition** in Masterton in conjunction with Wairarapa Guild's biennial embroidery exhibition at Aratoi. Theme is 'environment'.

## Guild Groups

You and your friends are always welcome at these Guild groups

<b>Johnsonville Stitch-in</b> Contact: Marie Trethowen 237-6344	<b>1.30-4.30pm</b> at Johnsonville Community Centre (third Saturday of the month). Gold coin koha for afternoon tea. Please bring a piece of work for show and tell.
<b>Lower Hutt Stitch-in</b> Contact: Lynn Newman 566-1561	<b>1.00pm-4.00pm</b> (second Saturday of the month) at the Hutt Art Centre, cnr Huia and Myrtle Sts. Cost \$6.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> TEG</b> <b>First Thursday Exhibition Group</b> Contact: Louise Day 568-8088	On the first Thursday of the month we visit an exhibition and meet for lunch beforehand at a nearby cafe. An email is sent out to members the weekend before the first Thursday of the month.

## Committee

**Anne Whitehead** Ph. 476 7227 (President)

**Sara Keppel** (Treasurer)

**Anne Bruce** (Committee member)

**Anna Hicks** (Speaker Coordinator)

**Almoner: Joan Adam** [hjadam@xtra.co.nz](mailto:hjadam@xtra.co.nz) If you know of anyone needing congratulations or a kind word

**Rhiannon McKinstry** (Secretary)

**Mary Trounson** (Newsletter Editor)

**Judy Johnson** (Committee member)

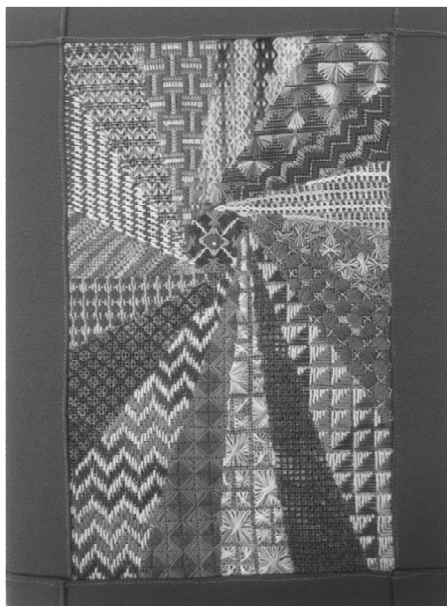
## 2019 Meetings

Meeting Date	Theme Display	Newsletter Deadline
8 May	AGM	<b>26 April</b>
12 June	Winter	<b>31 May</b>
10 July	Fantasy	<b>28 June</b>
14 August		<b>2 August</b>

## New Work April



Lyn D Patched Bag – Japanese  
Memories Own Photos



Rhiannon McK Canvas work  
Sampler, Crocheted Prize  
winners  
Hat and booties (3<sup>rd</sup>)  
Dino (2<sup>nd</sup>) and Octopus (3<sup>rd</sup>)  
Own Photos





**Splice**  
Courage Compassion Community

# STITCH BOMB WORKSHOP

WITH VICTORIA VILLASANA

Lead by globally-recognised artist Victoria Villasana, take your favourite image one step further by customising it to create your very own work of art using embroidery to create a textile masterpiece.

Suitable for all levels.

8TH MAY 2019

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM, MEETING 7.30- 9PM  
EMBROIDERS GUILD, LOAVES AND FISHES HALL  
ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, HILL STREET, WELLINGTON.

**Splice**  
Courage Compassion Community

