



**Canadian Embroiderers' Guild London**  
**SUMMER WORKSHOP 2026**  
**Alice Vander Vennen**

***Stitch, Stones and Colour Tones***  
**Mixed Media Textile Assemblage**

**Monday, June 1 - Wednesday, June 3, 2026**

**9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. John Labatt Visual Arts Centre, Western University.**

***Stitch, Stones and Colour Tones***  
**Mixed Media Assemblage with Alice Vander Vennen**

Create an evocative and exciting art piece that combines the work of our hands with those of Mother Nature's. Juxtapose fibre art with natural materials to create a framed, stitched, three-dimensional textile assemblage. Allow the rich textures, brilliant colours and nuanced lines of stitched textiles to interact with the mysterious beauty of the imprinted stone, the gentle branch or a fragile leaf. Incorporate glowing copper and wire, found objects, fabric transfers of precious photos, or tell a story with the remnants of unfinished handwork or an heirloom quilt. Work with a variety of textiles, including remnants of your own stitched, embroidered and embellished work, new fabrics, and found pieces of textiles that catch your eye.



In this course participants will juxtapose, combine, create and complete a composition that they will then mount in a shadow box frame. Ideally everyone leaves the workshop with two art pieces beautifully framed.

**Skill level:** all experience levels welcome. You can work to your comfort level.

## SUPPLY LIST

### Workshop Kit:

**Kit fee:** \$15 payable to the teacher

The kit fee will include a frame, all framing materials, copper, copper threads and any fabrics that one might need.

### Supply List:

Following is a list of some of the things that we'll be exploring, and some of the things that you can bring, related to that activity.



#### 1. Found objects and things from nature

We will experiment with working with things from nature found objects. Bring random things — little stones, a leaf, a stick, ceramic shards, or found objects of any sort, like an old key, a piece of jewelry, rusted metal, anything that catches your eye and your interest. Remember it's going to fit in a shadow box frame, so not too large.

#### 2. Colour

We will also be exploring with coloured threads, wire and fabrics (and papers if you choose), so if you can, bring a variety different colours and textures. I will bring spools of wire, metallic threads and metallic embroidery threads. Each person will also need approximately half metre of black felt. I will have extra if you are not able to get this.

#### 3. Sewing Machine and Materials

This class is set up so that you may work with a sewing machine or not. If you are comfortable working with a sewing machine, and have one that's easy to transport, I encourage you to bring it along.

Also please bring anything that you need for sewing and stitching— pins, needles, threads, scissors. And needle-nosed pliers, as well.

#### 4. Framing

The final element of my workshop will be teaching the process of finishing and framing a piece I will provide all related framing supplies such as acid free foam core and adhesives. I will also have some frames of different sizes for purchase at cost for participants

#### Miscellaneous:

\*Coffee mug      \*Name tag if you are a guild member

**\*MEMBERS' FEE: \$375**

**\*NON-MEMBERS' FEE: \$400**

**\*KIT FEE: \$15**

**Cancellation/Refund Policy:**

For cancellation or refund information, please refer to our website's Home Page to access the General Information document.



**About Workshop Leader Alice Vander Vennen:**

**Artist Statement**

Alice Vander Vennen, born in 1957, in Canada, has worked as a professional artist since 1980. A child of immigrant parents who left war-torn Holland, Alice has used her art to capture stories of loss and hope; courage and strength. First trained as a sculptor at Calvin College, USA, with further training at the Ontario College of Art and Design, Alice now works in three-dimensional assemblage, participating in numerous exhibitions throughout North America. Her work is in public, private and corporate collections both in Canada and abroad.

Website: <https://alicevandervennen.ca/>

Instagram:@alicevandervennen/



## Artist's Biography: Teaching Experience

As a registered Ontario College of Teachers educator, Alice has spent over 3 decades teaching art in primary and secondary schools. Since 2016, Alice has taught textile art as a sessional instructor at both Fleming and Loyalist colleges, Ontario. Since 2009 Alice has also taught textile art workshops for numerous private and public groups in Ontario and the United States. Since 2009 Alice has hosted annual workshops in Toronto and Cobourg, Ontario.

## Exhibitions

### Solo Exhibitions

2023	“Traversant”, Artist in Residence, LM Studio, Hyères, France
2018	“Matter and Matrix”, at Langdon Hall, Cambridge
2015	“Passages”, Gallery at the J, Miles Nadal Jewish Community Centre , Toronto
2014	Yorkminster Park Gallery, Toronto
2013	“Transforming”, The Al Green Gallery, Toronto
2011	“Stories Lost and Stories Found”, Crimson Feather Gallery, Alton
2011	“C Formations”, Permanent Sculpture Installation and Commission, Town of Cobourg
2009	Petroff Gallery South, Toronto
2007	“Sticks, Stones and Colour Tones”, Colborne Art Gallery, Colborne, Ontario
2002	“Alice Vander Vennen, Recent Works”, The Art Gallery of Northumberland

### Group Exhibitions (Selected)

2025	“Summer Show”, OENO Gallery, Prince Edward County, ON
2024	“Layers and Light”, OENO Gallery
2024	“Summering”, OENO Gallery
2023	“20 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration: Summer Group Show,” OENO Gallery
2022	“Summer Array, OENO Gallery
2015	“Colour Break”, OENO Gallery
2014	“Five Year Retrospective”, The Al Green Gallery, Toronto
	World of Threads, Oakville

“Convergence”, Tom Thomson Gallery, Owen Sound, ON  
“From the Ground”, OENO Gallery  
2013 “When the Bough Breaks: Re-imagining the Tree”, Oeno Gallery  
2012 “3<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary Exhibition”, OENO Gallery  
“Travel”, Pearson International Airport, Toronto  
2011 OENO Gallery group exhibition  
“Verona Tessile”, Verona, Italy  
“Catch the Weave”, Earls Court Gallery, Hamilton, Ontario  
2010 “Rock, Paper, Scissors”, OENO Gallery  
“Terrain”, Craft Ontario, Toronto  
2009 Opening Exhibition, OENO Gallery  
“Free Motion”, Art Gallery of Northumberland (with Melanie Brown)  
“Across Borders”, Redeemer University College, Ancaster, ON  
2008 “Common Thread”, Carriage House Gallery, Midland, ON  
2006 “Distant Voices”, traveling multi-media exhibition with La Jeunesse Girls  
Choir and Project Sing, University of Western Ontario  
1997-2006 Colborne Art Gallery, Annual Artissts Group Exhibition, Colborne, ON  
2005 “Festival of Fabrics”, Red Thread Gallery, Oakville, ON  
2004 Alumni Group Exhibition, Calvin College Art Gallery, Grand Rapids, MI  
2001 “Women’s Work—Celebration of Life”, Roy Bonisteel’s restored Johnston  
Church, Trenton, ON  
1986 Commission for “Silver Creek”, Animal Masks, Trinity Theatre Toronto  
theatre production  
1983 “Rural Visions”, Bowmanville Visual Arts Centre, Bowmanville, ON

2013 – present **International Invitational/Juried Exhibitions (Selected)**

Rittenhouse Square Fine Arts Show, Philadelphia  
Des Moines Arts Festival, Des Moines, Iowa  
Kimball Arts Festival, Park City, Utah  
Ann Arbor Street Fair, The Original, Ann Arbor, Michigan  
Art Fair on the Square, Madison, Wisconsin  
Gracie Square Art Show, Manhattan, New York City  
Utah Arts Festival, Salt Lake City, Utah  
Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival, Reston, Virginia  
Ruidoso Art Festival, Ruidoso, New Mexico  
Toronto Outdoor Show, Toronto  
Armonk Outdoor Show, Armonk, New York  
Cherry Creek Art Festival, Denver, Colorado  
One of a Kind Show, Chicago, Illinois  
Las Cruces Art Festival, New Mexico  
The Artist’s Project, Toronto  
Toronto Art Expo, Toronto  
Craft as Art Festival, Nassau County Museum of Art, Long Island, New York  
Wells Street Art Festival, Chicago, Illinois