
DEFLECTED DOUBLEWEAVE

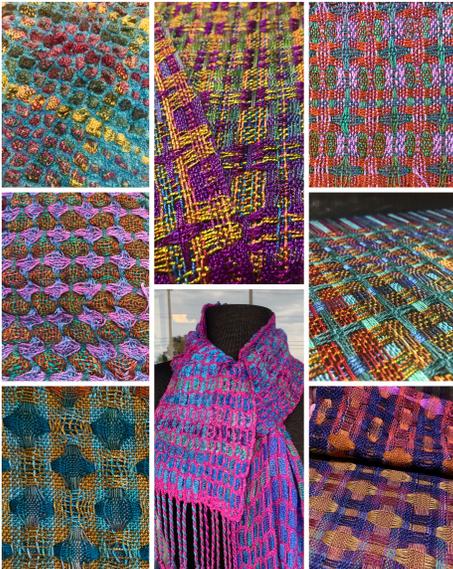
Natalie Drummond

MAFA 2019 Fellow Award

It was a pleasure to be awarded a MAFA Fellowship as I was a first-time attendee with the Fredericksburg Spinners and Weavers Guild. Although I was intrigued by so many class offerings, I was drawn to learn more about The 3D's of Doubleweave taught by Ruby Leslie. Ruby had excellent preparation for the workshop. She began preparing by asking each participant a series of questions about our weaving and equipment via e-mail. Our warps and instructions arrived well ahead of the workshop allowing for ample time to dress the loom. Day 1 of the workshop included a lecture by Ruby about the structures we would be weaving in a round-robin format: Integrated Cell - Symmetrical and Assymetrical, Stairstep, Extended Rosepath, and Differential Shrinkage with Plain Weave and Huck Lace to create Poufs, Ruffles and Ridges. By the afternoon, we were weaving samples! On Day 2, we continued weaving samples with a beautiful selection of color and fiber. Day 3 finished up with cutting our samples off the loom with instructions for washing.

The class not only taught me about the structure, but about the different fibers that can be incorporated into the design of your weave structure. I had not woven with zephyr prior to the workshop. Upon returning home, I hand-washed all my round-robin samples. I found

that the hand agitation aspect, producing differential shrinkage, was an area that would need further exploration. Samples containing wool shrank as much as 30-45%. In addition, I began researching and reading various works related to Deflected Doubleweave. I was particularly interested to find that the setts used for zephyr in Deflected Doubleweave works ranged from 16-30 epi! My goal was to weave samples and play with fibers prior to meeting with the Fredericksburg Spinners and Weavers so I began to sample. Since MAFA I have woven eight samples and seven scarves. The PhotoGrid images to the left portray samples and scarves both on and off the loom.



After receiving feedback from guild members and coordinating with the program chair, I made plans to share the samples from the workshop as well as the additional samples I had woven for their guild program on November 9, 2019. So we gathered at Libertytown Arts in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Over 20 attendees were present and what a fun group! There was a first time attendee in the group! I shared a PowerPoint presentation (Cover Image included) and 19 woven samples with various fibers including: zephyr, tencel, silk, bamboo, and cotton. I also brought three completed Deflected Doubleweave scarves so participants could examine finished pieces. Key learnings presented:

- Sampling is important when combining different yarns and setts
- Sett from plain weave and go from there
- When weaving with zephyr, think cheesecloth
- Consider how the back of the cloth will weave
- Wet-finished and agitated cloth are both desirable



Following the program I met with 8 members who wished to further explore this weave structure. The format was an open discussion and members were encouraged to bring



Caption: Natalie Drummond presenting a handwoven Deflected Doubleweave sample to the attendees of the Fredericksburg Spinners and Weavers meeting and program November 9, 2019.

yarns they might like to weave Deflected Doubleweave with for sett recommendation. I provided handouts for the discussion that included drafts with weaving notes on my findings from weaving Deflected Doubleweave from Carol Strickler's book titled The Weaver's Book of Eight-Shaft Patterns as well as works modified from Best of Handwoven Deflected Doubleweave Technique Series. The PowerPoint and handouts are available to the guild members on the program share drive. As for myself, I plan to continue weaving Deflected Doubleweave to experiment with fiber, pattern, and color! I hope to continue learning about this structure and share my knowledge with others.



Photo Caption: Deflected Doubleweave scarves shown as part of the program to the Fredericksburg Spinners and Weavers Guild. Photo on left is woven with silk, tencel, and zephyr. Photo on right is woven with tencel.