



Contact: Jaime Guthals
(502) 243-6834
Cell: (502) 387-2383
JaimeG@interweave.com

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Cloth Dolls for Textile Artists

Ray Slater

Contemporary and unique, handmade dolls provide textile artists with the perfect medium for exploring stitch and textile techniques that incorporate all kinds of materials. In ***Cloth Dolls for Textile Artists*** (Interweave, September 2008, \$28.95), renowned artist and teacher Ray Slater presents the basic principles and techniques of doll making so readers can release their creativity and create one-of-a-kind works in a three-dimensional format.

“Cloth dolls and figures appeal to artists from many different backgrounds,” says Slater. “Realism and abstraction, fantasy and fine art are often combined with hand- and machine-made textiles, printed and painted fabrics, to create wonderful figurative works of art. This has led to the cross-fertilization of different media and styles.”

The author provides patterns for different shapes of dolls, from the simplest stump doll to wired dolls to the more complicated jointed doll. Practical instruction on needle-sculpting expressive faces using needle and thread embroidery is described, as well as details on how to use the patterns to make the basic cloth doll. Artists can then really start to express themselves by using a range of textile techniques whether directly on to the body or on the clothes worn—from beading, hand embroidering, machine embroidering, stamping, dyeing, felting (ideal for hair!), and even quilting.

Cloth Dolls for Textile Artists includes full step-by-step instructions on all the techniques and patterns and stunning images of the creative cloth dolls from textile artists around the world. Doll makers and textile artists will be inspired by the techniques in this book and will explore and develop these to decorate and embellish their dolls.

CLOTH DOLLS FOR TEXTILE ARTISTS
by Ray Slater
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110 color photographs
ISBN 978-1-59668-087-6

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About the author:

Ray Slater trained as a textile artist at Goldsmiths, University of London. She also trained as a costume maker for theater and television. She curated an exhibition of cloth dolls from the United States, Australia, Canada, and the United Kingdom in 2003 and is now one of the leading teachers on the subject in the United Kingdom where she is based. She is also embarking on a teaching tour in the United States. Ray lives in London.

Upcoming Book Signings – Exact Times TBA

SEPTEMBER 11–14, 2008
The Knitting and Stitching Show (NEC, Birmingham, UK)

OCTOBER 9–12, 2008
The Knitting and Stitching Show (Alexandra Palace, London, UK)

NOVEMBER 20–23, 2008
The Knitting and Stitching Show (Harrogate International Centre, Harrogate, UK)

About Interweave:

Interweave, a unit of Aspire Media, is one of the nation's largest and most respected arts and craft media companies, with businesses in magazine and book publishing, online media, television and video programming, directories, and events. The Interweave Publishing Group features 18 subscription magazines and many more special interest newsstand publications sold on newsstands nationwide. Interweave has more than 250 books in print and annually publishes about 40 how-to books on the same subjects as the company's magazines. Additionally, Interweave produces several major events for fiber and bead, gem, and jewelry making enthusiasts and has an extensive Internet network of more than 30 websites and daily e-mail newsletters. Interweave is the proud sponsor of three craft television series airing on PBS: *Quilting Arts TV*, a fresh, contemporary quilting program, *Beads, Baubles, & Jewels*, public television's only how-to program for beading and jewelry making enthusiasts, and public television's newest show for knitting and crochet enthusiasts, *Knitting Daily TV*.

Linda Ligon founded the company in the 1970s when she began publishing *Handwoven* and *Spin-Off* magazines. Since then, the company has grown to employ more than 100 people throughout the country, with corporate headquarters located in Loveland, Colorado, and other offices in New York, New York; Malvern, Pennsylvania; Santa Fe, New Mexico; San Diego, California; and Stow, Massachusetts. For more information on Interweave, visit www.interweave.com or call (970) 669-7672.