

STURT
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WINTER 22
4 - 8 JULY

Weaving

Braided rugs from recycled materials
with **Ilka White**



LEVEL:
All levels

COST:
\$825 + 20 materials

Up-cycle your old clothes into fantastic rag rugs, vessels or sculptures using off-loom, no-sew, spiral braiding. The luxury of 5 days will allow you to push the boundaries of this terrific technique and apply spiral braiding to whatever you care to create.

You'll work from basic to advanced techniques including 3D, rectangular, cross-hatching and multiple working edges, weaving in as you go so there is no stitching up required afterward. A range of design possibilities open up as you play with tone, texture and contrast. Bring your own material to recycle and find out what riches can come from rags.

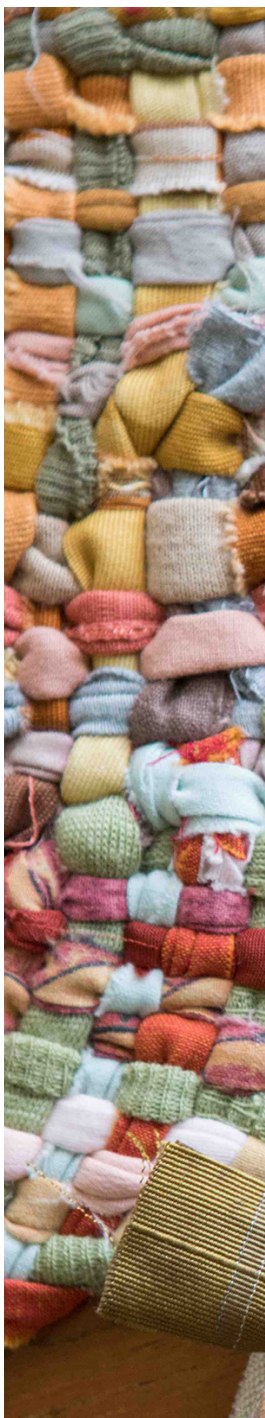
Ilka White's practice spans projects in textiles, drawing, sculpture and installation, community art plus cross-disciplinary collaboration. Direct engagement with the natural world and an interest in world textile traditions inform her making and teaching practice. Ilka has taught Contemporary art and design, weaving and textile history at RMIT for 12 years and now teaches throughout the country. She exhibits internationally and her work has appeared in many publications and public collections. Ilka's workshops reflect the principles of sustainability alongside a love of the handmade and contemporary use of traditional methods. She is a strong believer in the ability of beauty and creativity to lift the spirit!

- Winter School runs for 5 days, Monday 4th - Friday 8th July
- Classes are held from 9am to 4.30pm
- Classes finish at 2pm Friday followed by walkaround exhibiton 2-4pm
- Morning tea is provided
- Accommodation and Dining hall lunch packages available

STURT WINTER SCHOOL . Cnr Range Road & Waverley Parade, PO Box 34 Mittagong NSW 2575
Phone **02 4860 2083** . Email courses@sturt.nsw.edu.au . www.sturt.nsw.edu.au

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MATERIALS LIST

Please bring with you:

Essential

- fabric Scissors
- clipboard (or a magazine and large bulldog clip)
- crochet hook - slender, approx. size 3 - 4 ml
- handful of small safety pins
- note pad and pen
- clean, worn out cloth you would like to cut into rags for your rug samples

Optional

- any examples of recycled rag rugs in your possession or pictures, please bring them for show and tell!

About the Cloth

- Don't cut your rags beforehand. We'll talk about appropriate widths in relation to different fabrics etc as part of the workshop. Even small scraps are usable! Almost any cloth can be used besides terry towelling. It can be woven or knitted, natural or synthetic - or a mix of everything. Medium-weight cloth that won't fray excessively is recommended, such as worn out clothing, sheets, tablecloths or curtains. T-shirts are fine and other knits can be used. Extremely thick or stiff fabric such as canvas is tricky to work with but denim is ok. Rags that have reached the stage where they'd fall apart if you tugged on them may not be strong enough for rugs (but make great cleaning cloths)!

If in doubt, bring everything you have and we'll use what works.

- Colour - plays a large part in rug design. If the colours of your cast-offs don't inspire you, pop into the op-shop and collect a broader range/colour palette of rag cloth to work with (avoid buying new fabric as this defeats the purpose of upcycling!) One of the lovely things about learning in a group is there also tends to be a bit of rag swapping going on.

- Quantity - the equivalent of 3 or 4 double sheet's worth of cloth should be enough to bring, though if you'd like a wider range of colour bring whatever you require.

- Size of your completed work is up to you, and could range from a small mat or vessel to a room-sized rug. While you may not complete it in the week, you'll have all the skills you need to finish off the rug from this workshop.

For more information on Ilka and her work see:

website: ilkawhite.com.au

instagram: @ilkawhite