

Michelle Griffiths is World Shibori Network Representative for UK/Ireland, living and working in Wales since 1985. She exhibits and teaches widely on a national and international level. Her work draws on both traditional shibori (tie-dye) techniques in combination with woad/indigo plant dyes, and with new technologies; translating shibori patterns and textures into heat-set 3D reliefs or more recently into laser-etched sculptural installations. Her work records the actions found within shibori; stitching, binding, gathering, manipulating and folding - not through the expected dye process, but predominantly as texture and form. She has recently established a new textile gallery and studio, "Resist" Gallery/Studio, based in the old museum space in Model House Craft & Design Centre, Llantrisant. Work featured includes that of contemporary artists living and working in Wales as well as vintage Japanese textiles. Strong links are being forged with local colleges and schools, as well as a broad adult education programme featuring masterclasses as well as work-shops and exhibitions aimed at benefitting the local community, in addition to drawing a new audience to South Wales from further afield. Michelle is a member of the steering committee for the pilot apprenticeship scheme run by Creative Skillset and Coleg Sir Gar, with two apprentices working with Michelle at the gallery throughout the next year.

## Current Positions

- 2001 - current      Freelance national/international tutor/lecturer/writer - embroidery/surface design with special reference to shibori related methods and techniques.
- 2002 - current      **World Shibori Network** UK/Ireland representative
- 2001 - current      **Fibre Art Wales**

## Education/Qualifications/Teaching experience (selected)

- 1988                  University College Cardiff      **B.Mus(hons), David Lloyd Prize** (Music recital)
- 1989                  University College Cardiff      **PGCE** Secondary Education (Music),  
**Dame Oliver Wheeler Award for Education**
- 2013 -16              Studying for a part time Foundation Degree in Textile Technology Production – Coleg Sir Gar
- 2012                  START education project Ruthin Craft/Applied Art Centre Guest tutor in conjunction with the Reiko Sudo/Nuno textile exhibition
- 2012                  Shibori workshop **Sainsbury Centre for the Visual Arts**, University of East Anglia. In conjunction with The First Moderns: Art Nouveau, from Nature To Abstraction Exhibition and the Manga/Kabuki/Japanese cultural exhibitions.
- 2008                  Guest lecturer/artist University of Wales Institute Cardiff, Contemporary Textile Practice Degree "Live - 2<sup>nd</sup> year project"
- 2006                  UK Workshop Facilitator/co-ordinator for Aranya Natural Dyes of India, and Hiroshi Murase of Japan
- 2001-7                  Part time tutor Visual Arts Department, International Baccalaureate College Atlantic College S.Wales,
- 2001-                  Visiting tutor/lecturer to a variety of educational organisations including: - Coleg Sir Gar, Swansea Metropolitan University, Embroiderer's Guild HQ - Hampton Court Palace, Embroiderer's Guild & Guild of Weavers Spinners & Dyers Summer Schools
- 1999 -                  Extensive studies - embroidery/textiles/shibori with Yoshiko Wada (Jpn/USA) Kaei Hayakawa (Jpn) Sian Martin (UK)
- 1989-1996              Head of Music Department within secondary education

## Awards/Research Grants (selected)

- 2012                  National Eisteddfod - "Highly Commended" Y Lle Celf
- 2011                  Shortlisted/Runner-up **Association of Contemporary Jewellery Award @ Origin** with the **Crafts Council** for Cross Pollination Series Brooches
- 2010                  **Arts Council of Wales** individual artist grant to exhibit at **Origin** with the **Crafts Council**
- 2010                  **Textile technologies project CIRIC/Swansea Metropolitan University/Coleg SirGar** laser etched shibori patterns on slate and bamboo for **Exposed** Exhibition, National Botanic Gardens, Wales
- 2005                  **Wales Arts International** grant to support study/exhibition tour of Japan (May/June)
- 2001-2                  **Embroiderers' Guild Mature Scholar** funding study tour of Japan (May/June 2002)
- 1989                  **Dame Oliver Wheeler Award for Education**, University College Cardiff
- 1988                  **David Lloyd Prize** for Music Recital, University College Cardiff

## Solo Exhibitions (selected)

- 2011                  **Mantra** solo exhibition hosted by **Lesley Craze Gallery**, London
- 2010/11                **Made By Hand**, Tredegar House, Newport (Demonstrator 2011)
- 2010/11                **Origin**, Crafts Council, TENT London, London Design Festival,
- 2006-8                **Cross pollination** Aberglasney House, Carmarthenshire, Model House Craft & Design Centre Gallery
- 2003-4                **Shibori Rhythm** Voirrey Embroidery Centre, Liverpool / Oriol Makers Gallery, Cardiff

## International Exhibitions (Selected)

- 2013 SPECIAL – Invited exhibition, Lesley Craze Gallery, London  
2012 **COLLECT**, Craft Council, Saatchi Gallery, London, featured artist represented by the Lesley Craze Gallery  
2012 **Engaging The Senses**, Devon Guild of Craftsmen, Bovey Tracey  
2008 **Shibori Yesterday & Today** Paris, International Shibori Symposium, invited featured artist  
2006 **Scholar**, by invitation in conjunction with **Art of the Stitch**, Embroiderer's Guild  
Royal West of England Academy, Bristol/The Hub, National Centre for Craft & Design, Sleaford/Williamson Art Gallery,  
Birkenhead  
2005 **Visions in Textiles From Tradition to Textile Art/Design of Tomorrow** European Textile Network juried exhibition, Izmir  
Turkey  
2005 **Shibori - Textile Catalysts** Installation - International juried exhibition Tama Arts University Museum, Tokyo, Japan.  
2003-4 **Art Of The Stitch** International juried exhibition- Williamson Art Gallery/Dutch Textile Museum, Tilburg/Hall Place, Bexley, London  
2002 **International Shibori Symposium – Europe - Shibori in the UK** Invited exhibitor, International Halls Harrogate  
2002 **Shibori Now** - International guest exhibitor with *Shibori Community* Gallery Renga-kan, Yokohama, Japan

## Fibre Art Wales Group Exhibitions (selected)

- 2012 **National Eisteddfod** – Exhibition Hall, Location N08  
2011 **Fibre Voices II**, Newport Museum & Art Gallery  
2010 **Exposed** National Botanic Gardens, Wales – laser etched shibori patterns on slate and bamboo - installation in conjunction with CIRIC/textile technologies project Swansea Metropolitan University,  
2009-11 **Fibre Voices** (Touring Exhibition)  
2009 **Homelands** The Feick, Fine Arts Centre, Vermont  
2008-10 **Journeys** (Touring exhibition)  
2007 **Designer Crafts @ Chelsea**, Chelsea Town Hall, London assisted by funding from Arts Council of Wales  
2005 **Origins** Crafts Council of Ireland Kilkenny S.Ireland  
2001-3 **Fibre Visions** (Inaugural touring exhibition)

## Publications (selected)

- 2009 **Dathlu deng mlynedd/Celebrating Ten Years** Fibre Art Wales 1999-09  
Published with Arts Council of Wales funding (MG pp28-31)  
2009 **GCSE Design & Technology – Textiles Technology** Lonsdale Essentials Revision Guide (MG pp58,94)  
2008 **Arimatsu Shibori**, Kozo Takeda and Yoshiko Wada (publ. Graphic-sha, Japan) Featured artist p.149  
2008 **Chemins de couleurs** teintures et motifs du monde. Musee du quai Branly – Françoise Cousin curator of textiles (p172)  
2005 **Shibori - Textile Catalysts** Tama Arts University, Tokyo Japan  
2005 **“Visions in Textiles” From Tradition to Textile Art/Design of Tomorrow** (front/back covers, pp 5, 56, 151)  
2004 Sept/Oct **Selvedge** Magazine Issue 2 “Endogenous V” used to illustrate *Returning To The Fold* by Bradley Quinn (p61)  
2004 Sept **Artists Newsletter (AN)** Image of “Endogenous V” by MG used to illustrate article on *Fibre Art Wales*  
2003 Aug **Senshoku Alpha** Magazine (Japan) 4 page **Feature article** on MG and her work  
2002 Nov **Embroidery** Magazine review by MG of *Memory On Cloth* (Yoshiko Wada) and *Arimatsu Shibori* - Article by MG  
2001 Sept **World Of Embroidery** Magazine Article featuring MG & Embroiderers’ Guild Scholarship 2001

## Curatorial Responsibilities

- 2012 Founder/manager Resist Gallery Studio, Model House Craft & Design Centre, Llantrisant, CF72 8EB  
2008 **Chief juror** (UK) and co-ordinator for the juried graduate/undergraduate international “Design Shibori” competition hosted by Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Arts Décoratifs, Paris and Takeda Company exhibition facilities Arimatsu, Nagoya  
2005-7 **Instigator/co-ordinator/curator** of “**Shibori Road**” - National Festival of Quilts, Birmingham NEC for World Shibori Network  
2002-7 **Curator** for World Shibori Network exhibitions, Knitting & Stitching Show Alexandra Palace London, International Halls Harrogate, RDS Dublin  
2002 **Assistant curator** to Yoshiko Wada (International Chair of World Shibori Network, Shibori academic, author and practitioner).  
MG Responsible for three major exhibitions integral to the International Shibori Symposium Europe

## Public Art/Community Art Projects

- 2005 **Children's International Shibori/Indigo Project**, Wales/Japan Student work exhibited/represented at three venues:-  
World Exposition, Nagoya. Tsoyoshi Kuno Gallery, Arimatsu, (Kuno's exhibition/artworks developed in conjunction with Issey Miyake).  
International Shibori Symposium, Tama Arts University, Tokyo. Supported by Wales Arts International grant.  
2004 **Indigo Shibori Installation**, Arimatsu Shibori Festival, Nagoya, Japan Children's International Shibori Project: A major collaboration between Japanese artisan Hiroshi Murase working with over 700 Japanese school children, and MG with over 200 Welsh school children.

## Textile Tours

Michelle Griffiths \*Resist Gallery & Studio, Model House Craft & Design Centre, Llantrisant, CF72 8EB

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