

Textile Techniques in Metal—One day workshop Krumm

Tracy

This objective of this workshop is to introduce the use of metal wire as a material in the basic construction methods of fiber processes such as coiling, twining, braiding, knotting, knit, and crochet. Basic demonstrations of a number of these processes will be given, with help to students in sampling.

We will focus on creating textile structures using non-precious metals such as brass and copper, alone, or in combination with other fibers. You are encouraged to bring yarns, threads, and other flexible fiber-ish materials to the class, as it is often easiest to begin to work with the unforgiving nature of wire if you mix it with another material. Mixing wire with what you already use can open many new options for working, without completely abandoning what you already love. Warning!! Don't anticipate walking away from the workshop as a master of a new material! Rather, you will make discoveries that you can decide whether or not you want to pursue and master with practice!!

Patinas and other finishing techniques will be discussed as well as the preservation of metal surfaces from oxidation. The workshop will be fast paced and filled with numerous problem-solving scenarios based on everyone's questions that arise from the learning through making process. Come prepared for a great day of studio work and idea generation!

MATERIALS LIST

Instructor will bring plenty of wire for everyone, and an assortment of hooks, needles, and hand tools for students to use.

- Crochet hooks- if you have and know how to use them. Sizes E-J are probably best for testing out the process.
- Knitting needles- if you have and know how to use them. Sizes 7-12 are probably best for starting.
- Spool knitters or any other textile tools you might have that you usually use with yarn or fiber. We can test them with metal. Wire does not stretch or give like fibers do, so things like tatting can be very tedious unless the wire is really thin (30-32 gauge or finer—at which point breakage easily occurs until you get the hang of it...)
- Scissors (not for fabric!!)
- Ruler or tape measure
- Darning or tapestry needles
- Misc. wire of any kind that you have a desire to try to use.
- Wire cutters—small for fine wire, larger for heavier 6-18 gauge wires
- Small needle nose pliers
- Round nose jewelry size pliers, if you have them
- Clips for helping hold work—these can be helpful
- Found objects to work from—materials that can be covered, surrounded, or worked into (with holes, openings, etc.)
- Objects for embellishment and structure (ie: beads, etc.)
- Sketchbook
- Pens/pencils
- Ideas to develop