

WORKSHOP #1

Natural Dyeing and Surface Design with Rachel Miller

July 10th Times: 10 am-4:30 pm

Course Description:

During this course, students will learn about the ancient art and various techniques of natural dyeing with fabric and yarn. Students will gain sound fundamentals of natural dyes, traditional dye methods, color extraction from plants and dyestuff, resist dyeing techniques, and how to set up an environmentally friendly dye studio. This course will comprise of lecture, discussion, demonstration, and a hands-on component. Students will be encouraged to experiment with dye and resist techniques, will learn various dye processes, as well as a broad approach to working with natural dyes. (Class is limited to 25 participants on a first come first serve basis)

About the Workshop Leader:



Rachel Miller is an artist, educator, and researcher from New York. She teaches and lectures at various institutions and universities, which includes coursework in Textiles and Sustainability in the Fashion Department at Pratt Institute, NY; the Sustainable Enterprise and Entrepreneurs Program at FIT in New York, and the Fiber Department at University of the Arts in Philadelphia. She has also worked in India, where she has done extensive research and collaborations in weaving and natural dyes, in addition to teaching textiles and fibers to university design students. Additional

experience includes teaching coursework at the Penland School of Crafts, Tyler School of Art, PA; Museum of Arts and Design, NYC; Cooper Hewitt National Design Museum, Weaving Hand, Japan Society, and the Philadelphia Museum of Art. She has also written for Hand/ Eye Magazine and the Museum of Arts and Designs' educational resource publications.

Rachel Miller's artwork focuses on environmental patterns and how they interconnect with our own patterns of growth, departure, and rejuvenation. Using both the body and landscape as cynosure and subject, she coalesces topics from ritual, archeology, architecture, travel, and nature. Her works, which include sculpture, textiles, installation, performance and costume, examine the constant resurfacing of the past, and its integration with the present. She has curated various lectures and exhibitions, and her work has been featured nationally and internationally, is published, commissioned, and included in both public and private collections. She received her MFA in Fiber from the Cranbrook Academy of Art and her BFA in Fiber/ Crafts from the University of the Arts.