

Dear Readers,

We have finally had a chance to catch our breath after a surprisingly busy October and November. With the recent Creative Sewing Show, the start of workshops, and the Christmas rush beginning early, we've had to double up our efforts to keep our day-to-day and mail order customers happy.

This year, I think we've done a great job sourcing and developing exciting new products. Among other accomplishments, we have upgraded our pigment and acid dye lines, introduced more colours to our Liquid Colours paints and blended a new and well received, G&S Waterbased Resist. We hope all of the new products are well understood through our newsletters, web site and workshops. Look in the coming months for new information sheets, new labeling, improved workshops and improved colour charts.

Meanwhile, our focus for new products in 2005 will be on the continued expansion of our natural fabric lines. The recent introductions of Chinese cottons, silk knit, rayon and the lightweight linen were very well received. We hope to add some exciting new blends and textures to our growing selection.

Another exciting development in 2004/2005 will be the implementation of "G&S Dye – Textile Design Awards" at all major teaching institutions in Canada. This is our chance to reward and recognize the future artists in our field. We've already established two Awards at the Ontario College of Art and Design and are working on the final touches on two awards at Ryerson University (Theatre & Fashion departments), The Living Arts Centre in Mississauga, Fleming College, Seneca College, Sheridan and many more.

All the best this Holidays

Regards,

Dixon Chan

STORE HOURS

MARKHAM OUTLET: Given the nature of our staffing, we shall only open by appointment from now on. There usually are staff here daily but given the sporadic nature of the openings of late due to emergencies, we've decided to change to appointment only. Please give us a call beforehand to make sure we can provide you with the best service. We're also forwarding calls to our Toronto Store when we are away to assure continual support. Our phone number at Markham is: 866-596-0550

TORONTO STORE: We're still opened Monday to Friday from 10am to 6pm and Saturdays 10am to 3pm. Closed on Sundays.

HOLIDAY HOURS: Both offices will be closed starting on December 24th and reopen on Tuesday, January 4th @ 10am

Last days to place an order by mail order with a chance to get it before Christmas is December 21st-22nd.

2005 WORKSHOPS

The fall workshops we offered were a real hit and we would like to thank all who attended. We will offer nine workshops in the coming year; some new and some are returning favorites. So clear your schedules and come on out for a fun, educational and rewarding experience!

All classes are still one or two days and held at our Markham location on Saturdays and/or Sunday between 10-4. Free shuttle pick up and drop off at public transit areas can be arranged for those who don't drive. Most materials are included (no extra kit fees). Prepayment is required and we recommend enrolling at least a month in advance to ensure a spot. Please call our Toronto store for registration. Taxes are included in the prices.

phone: 1-800-596-0550

email: dixon@gsdye.com

Transfer Prints + Photo Printing onto Fabric: March 19

This new workshop, taught by Margaret Sadler and Dixon Chan, will focus on using transfers (paint, crayons and specialty papers) to create one-of-a-kind prints on fabrics. Transfer mediums open up many possibilities that can't be achieved using paints or dyes such as photographic printing. Students will learn 3 different methods to transfer their photos and drawings to fabric. Price is \$107.40, materials included.

Basic Silk Painting –February 5, April 16

This course covers all the basics of silk painting. We learn about setting up a painting area, dyes, the 'new' paints, resist/guttas and different types of silk. Techniques that will be covered are salt, resist/gutta, free form painting and blending. Students will leave with numerous completed pieces and, most importantly, the confidence to explore silk painting further. Price is \$59.25, materials included.

Advanced Silk Painting w/ Rita Lange. May 21

Rita is one of the most sought after teachers we've ever had for silk painting. She has been silk painting professionally for years and has a wealth of information to share. The focus on this one-day workshop will be on layering with wax, using thickeners, polychromatic printing and watermarking. Besides the formal lesson, Rita can help answer your questions one-on-one on colour mixing, gutta control, and blending. Her open and positive attitude will help progress and strengthen your silk painting skills. Rita's work varies from free form painting to fashion accessories or fine art framed pieces. Price is \$118.10, materials included.

Last year we had to cancel Rita's class, not due lack of demand but unexpected motherhood. Register early for this one!

Screen Printing – Basics – Jan 22, April 2

This one-day workshop will take you through the process of printing t-shirts or piece goods. At the end of the workshop, students will finish printing an original design and will know enough to start their own t-shirt printing business or apply techniques to printing yard goods. We will cover stencil preparation and provide helpful hints on printing and shooting your own screens at home. Students will leave with a strong technical understanding of the process. There is some prep work before the workshop, please enquire. Price is \$118.10, materials included.

Screen Printing – yardage printing – April 9-10

This workshop will focus on yardage screen printing. We will expand on the basics of shooting and printing and apply them to yard goods. Learn about the principles of repeat patterns, registration and multi-colour prints as well as printing with different inks and dyes. We will also discuss how to set up your own home print facilities. Although we will cover the basics again, it is recommended that students have taken the Screen Printing Basics course or have screen printing experience. There is some prep work before the workshop, please enquire. Price is \$134.15, materials included

Silk Painting for Fashion with Regan, former head painter at Ms. Emma Designs - March 5

This approach to silk painting has become more and more popular as silk painters and dyers realize the possibilities of garment design. Focusing on free form painting and dyeing, Regan will guide you through the process of painting larger pieces for clothing. Learn about using fashionable colours effectively, techniques on painting pattern pieces as well as tips for creating designs that sell. Price is \$107.40, materials included.

To see two examples of Regan's work, click the following links

<http://www.gsdye.com/Canada/Gallery/ms-emma.jpg>

<http://www.gsdye.com/Canada/Gallery/ms-emma2.jpg>

Note: The Fall offering was the fastest sell out we've ever had. Register early for this one

Fabric Dyeing with Regan – May 7

This is a continuation of the skills learned in the Silk Painting workshop. Instead of free form painting, this time we will focus on free form dyeing. Learn how to create custom dyed fabrics through tie-dye, dip dye, ombré effects, low level immersion and solid colour dyeing on silks and cottons. We will use both Acid Dyes and Reactive MX dyes. \$107.40, materials included.

Marbling on Fabrics – Feb 19

This class appeals to absolute beginners and seasoned marblers. Marbling is messy, so what better way to enjoy this process than at our place. Students will finish many samples along with a silk scarf. The opportunity to use our tray to marble larger pieces of fabric is also available for a nominal additional fabric cost. Price is \$64.60, materials included.

Shibori Dyeing with Erin Hickey: March 12-13:

Erin Hickey will guide students through an exploration into the ancient art of Japanese 'tie-dye'. Specific techniques shown will be arashi (pole binding), stitching, knotting, pleating and texturing. We will use a combination of Procion H/MX and indigo dyes. Be prepared for a lot of patient work that will reward you with extremely unique and one of a kind fabrics. Our price is \$195.00.

NEW PRODUCT NEWS

New G&S PIGMENT pigment colours: ORANGE and RUBINE RED

We've now sold out of our old Warm red #210. It is now replaced by the new ORANGE #210. Also we've now upgraded the RUBINE RED #240 to the new line also. As has been the case with the other new pigments, this is a solvent free organic based pigment. The existing colours are still in clearance mode (20% off).

#210 Orange

30mL \$4.50
120mL \$11.50
250mL \$19.95
1.0L \$53.65

#240 RUBINE
30mL \$5.00
120mL \$14.95
250mL \$23.95
1.0L \$69.95

Books:

We have really added to our book selection. Our most recent addition is Silk Painting New Ideas & Textures by J. Kennedy & J. Varrall \$31.95.

All our books can be found at:

<http://www.gsdye.com/Canada/books.html>

DYLON Multi-purpose Dye

We have in stock a full stock and selection of the Dylon Multi-Purpose Line of dyes (we do not have the Dylon cold water line. We prefer our Reactive MX dyes instead). Dylon Multi-Purpose dyes are easy to use to use for natural fabrics and for staining synthetics. Although not as wash fast and intense as our Acid Dyes or Reactive MX dyes on natural fabrics, they have very consistent and repeatable colour lots. I love their pastels, beiges and greys, and their results with staining synthetics. Available in 40 colours!

\$3.75 each 5gm pellet (dyes 1/2 lb of fabric) and \$3.00 each when buying 10 or more pellets.

DYLON pre-dye.

Removes colour from fabrics so that it can be dyed a lighter colour. Just imagine that little black dress can become a sexy red number in no time at all. Even last season's yellow hot pants need not be thrown away. Take

the colour out with Fabric Colour Stripper and you can dye them this season's hottest shade. \$3.75 each pellet.

Crayola fabric transfer crayons:

Draw onto paper, iron to fabric (synthetic or synthetic blends only). Similar to our Transfer Paints but in a convenient crayon form. \$4.50 each pack of 8 colours

G&S Pigment System Kit

We now carry a pre-packed G&S Pigment System kit for a bargain price of \$35.00. The kit contains:

- 30mL pigments colours: process yellow, process blue, process magenta, rubine red, black + white
 - 30mL auxiliaries: anti-bleed + resfix
 - 900mL (1 quart) Transparent
 - Basic instructions
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CORRECTION: New Acid names and colours:

There has been some confusion about our new Acid Dyes. To simplify the new names and colours, the following colours have been changed to our new high intensity acid dyes. The rest of the colours in the line will be remaining the same (name and color number).

601 New Yellow
618 New Red
620 New Fuchsia
623 New Blue
624 New Turquoise
626 New Navy
635 New Brown
639 New Black

COTTONS:

We have finally expanded and rounded out our cotton line. We will carry two types of Chinese Cotton and two types of Egyptian Cottons. The

newer T1010 has been very well received. All the cottons dye exceptionally well with our Reactive MX dyes.

Chinese Cotton

T1009: 60" width, 120 weave count (60x60), pre wash required for dyeing \$6.50/yd

T1010: 60" width, 230 weave count (120x110), pre wash required for dyeing \$8.00/yd

Egyptian Cottons

T1001: 45" width 200 weave count (100x100) and 2 ply. Mercerized and ready to dye – discontinuing soon \$12.00/yd

T1006: 45" width 200 weave count (100x100) and 1 ply. Mercerized and ready to dye –\$10.00/yd

TC1006-C: BLACK 45" width 200 weave count (100x100) and 1 ply

T1007: 45" width 240 weave count (120x120) and 2 ply. Mercerized and ready to dye – \$12.00/yd new lower price

SALES

From November 13th – December 22nd. Lots of gift ideas.

* BOOK SALE!!!!!! – 15% off all titles.

* 8mm Habotai 36x36 reg. \$7.75, now \$5.95 - only 20¢ more than the 5mm weight

* Canvas Tote Bag + 7 colour pack of Pentel Pastels is \$6.95 reg. \$9.90

* G&S gift certificates are always a great gift idea for that fabric and dyeing friend, family and/or associate. This year, we shall be offering a 10% premium for all gift certificates over \$100 (valid for use from January 1st-december 31st, 2005). Buy a \$120 certificate and it will be valued for \$132.00. It's like giving your self a 10% discount on next year's purchases.

* MX Dye Kit + 3 T-shirts \$39.95 regularly \$45.50

RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

It's holiday times so I'm going to be a little more generous this time. The two winners of our Random Kindness are:

Yvonne Roberts
And
Helen Parker

They have won a \$50 gift certificate. To claim your prize, please email reply to dixon@gsdye.com with your name, address and phone number and I'll send off your prize.

CLOSING NOTES

If you are still receiving duplicates, please reply with the subject #'s of all the duplicates and I'll correct it. We have corrected many of the duplicate emails after last few months, but if you are still receiving duplicates email me personally at dixon@gsdye.com

Also if you do not wish to continue to receiving our email newsletters, please email us at newsletter@gsdye.com and we'll take your name off the mailing.

As always we respect you identity and privacy. We shall never sell our mailing list or release mailing list information with out your prior consent.
