Canberra Spinners and Weavers

Design Canberra Exhibition 2026

Dissent

	ARTIST	DESCRIPTION
1	Cathy Parmigiani	Knitted tea cosy using donated granny squares recycled, repurposed and redesigned into a functional everyday item. Our grandparents knew tea is always better from a pot. We went back to using tea leaves after I found the tea bag strings did not break down in the compost.
2	Necia Agnew	Recycled rug wool weaving inspired by a weaving course I did in Greece and the rug I sat on to do my weaving project looking out at the view. For the 'Dissent' theme I have explored colours and combinations that are not my natural palette.
3	Jeanie McLellan	Two skeins spun and plied in dissent - one S and Z which is common and one Z and S which is uncommon. Wool and silk fibre sourced from CSW recycle shop saving resources.
4	Jeanie McLellan	Sleeveless tunic, handspun and knitted wool and silk. Own design - dissenting from knitting to someone else's design. Wool sourced from CSW recycle shop saving resources, and silk hand dyed by Waratah Fibres.
5	Alison Leonard	Instead of 'dissent' I heard 'descent', so I created a series of steps leading down the length of a scarf. Handwoven twill inlay, merino, silk and mohair.
6	Alison Leonard	So the next step was to dissent from descent. Instead of steps this time the inlay morphs into a flow expanding and contracting down the length of the scarf. Handwoven twill inlay, commercial possum/merino and handspun silk by Jill Hopkins.
7	Monique van Nieuwland	'The Emperor's New Scarf - A Weaver's Dissent' Fishing line, huck lace.
8	Monique van Nieuwland	'The Emperor's New Handkerchief - A Fading Monarchy' Invisible thread, perspex, embroidery.

9	Liz Perry	Four Layer Weave I dissent from the view that weaving must be functional. The perspex weft (a material not generally found in weaving) is used to allow visibility the warp and to highlight the structure of the four layer weave. The perspex is recycled from a previous unloved artwork and the raffia and nylon are drawn from my stash.
10	Hannah Mattner	Work/life balance has fallen short for me as someone who needs significant leave for medical treatment. I'm dissenting to the tightrope walk between employment and my health, preparing to drop to the fragile safety net of self-employment. Cotton padding from medicine bottles spun on a tahkli and woven on a pin loom.
11	Alison Cone	Gamcheon 감천 Handspun yarns and fine commercial tresses on seine twine warp. The colourful buildings of Gamcheon culture village (감천문화마을) in Busan in Korea's south creep up a steep hillside within sight of one of Asia's busiest ports and contrast sharply with the pale concrete structures at the foot of the hill. Gamcheon was built during the 1920s and 1930s when the working poor were removed to homes away from the port, but still close enough to provide labour. Its population expanded in the 1950s when refugee families moved in - Busan was one of only two southern cities to hold out against the initial North Korean offensive in the 1950s war. The village, which has reinvented itself as an arts and culture hub, reflected South Korea's determination to refuse oppression, and of a shared outlook that greets the future with optimism while deeply honouring the past.
12	Alison Cone	Dissent Handspun yarns and fine commercial tresses on seine twine warp. Each element of this tapestry responded to craft+design Canberra prompts during the July 2026 creative challenge where 'dissent' was the overarching theme. In addition to the responses to the prompts, the work incorporates a unifying theme witha hand raised in defiance holding black and yellow knitting needles, referencing climate activist group the Knitting Nannas. Alison was selected as a finalist for the craft+ design canberra challenge prizes for this work. Top row: glitch, spark, static, unbound; 2nd row: ferment, misfit, gather; 3rd row: freedom, emerge, noise, mend; bottom row: artificial, provoke, grace, quack.

13	Lynne Johnson	Crocheted rug incorporating ‘found’ granny squares embedded into corner to corner crochet squares of mainly found random random yarns with some handspun among them.
14	Kathy Binns	‘Defiant Homily’ 2026 is my response to emotions that arose in the aftermath of the funerals of much loved family members. Cottolin four shaft woven sampler. Blanket stitch hem and amateur linen embroidery, macrame and twisted ends.
15	Dorothy Kass	Leno lace runner in cottolin and cotton. Hand manipulated leno, plain and twill weaves. Unlike traditional single colour leno it combines several colours of crochet cotton to dissent from the background.
16	Teresa Morey	Plant fibres from dianella, raffia, Norfolk pine and Mexican weeping pine, linen thread, coiled basketry and cordage. Challenge consumerism with slow making using home grown, gifted and foraged materials, sustainably harvested.
17	Fiona Tito Wheatland	I designed and knitted a jumper, gloves and hat in commercial 4 ply sock yarn and baby yarn and 8 ply in the colour work. I made them for peace marches and rallies held in cooler weather. While peace is not always about dissent, at the moment and in history women used crafts to participate in political dissent with the aim of political change and peace. I have worn these garments in a couple of rallies and people always notice the peace signs. I feel part of the long chain of women dissenters expressing through their craft.
18	Maree Ohlin	Hand carded, dyed, spun and knitted merino and border leicester wool. Instead of striving for symmetry and uniformity I choose to embrace harmony in difference.
19	Kathy Binns	‘Not Straight Black and White’ Uncle Peter and I made this 1983 - 2026. When Peter moved to residential aged care his ‘stash’ came to me including a tapestry frame and the start of a black and white design. His spinning samples from 1983 let me explore varied techniques and forms.
20	Kathryn Dan	‘Ceci n’est pas une chausette’ / ‘This is not a sock’ Small lined bag in merino/nylon self-striping sock yarn and plain sock yarn. Referencing the structured dissent of the Surrealists the self-striping sock yarn is used to create faux ikat and to play with colour. The bag can carry a sock project.

21	Cathy Parmigiani	‘Knitters fighting facism’ Handknitted hat using handspun from hand dyed merino/ alpaca tops in the colourway ‘Love’. Inspired by WWII Norwegian ‘nisselue’ protest hats. During the war citizens wore red pointed hats with tassels as a silent symbol of unity and resistance. The hat was again used to protest ICE actions in Michigan USA, and as a fund raiser. The pattern raised over $650,000 for immigrant aid agencies.
22	Teresa Morey	Handspun wool crocheted granny square. I disagree that art is better than craft. I disagree that beginners’ work is less valuable. I disagree that craft has to be a ‘side hustle’. Do you like it? Then it’s good, it’s worthwhile.