



The **NATIONAL MUSEUM** of the **AMERICAN COVERLET**, Inc.

322 South Juliana Street  
Bedford, Pennsylvania 15522

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www.coverletmuseum.org

**Coverlet College 2020**

**Friday Afternoon - September 25**

- 1:00 – 3:30                      **Workshop 091: Deerfield Blues (optional)**                      Cassie Dickson & Edward Maeder  
*A workshop about Deerfield Embroidery. The Deerfield Society of Blue and White Needlework (1896-1926) revived patterns and embroidery stitches of the prior century and created original designs on linen. Many of their pieces replicated Jacobean designs of ornate plants, flowers, and birds--a style embraced by the Arts and Crafts Movement. We will delve into this history and reproduce a small sample project on linen.*  
Number of students: Minimum: 4, Maximum: 12
- about 2:10    Short Break
- 1:00 – 3:30                      **Workshop 092: Jude Fera Coverlets not in Exhibition (optional)**                      Gay McGeary & Melinda Zongor  
*Get a hands-on preview of recently donated coverlets from the Jude Fera Collection not in the current Signature Works exhibition.*  
Number of students: Minimum: 4, Maximum: 12
- about 2:10    Short Break

**Friday Evening - September 25**

**Coverlets 109 – Keynote Address and Day 1 Sessions**

Hand-Outs of Summary Information and a Bibliography will be provided.

- 6:30 – 7:00    **Registration**  
***New-to-Coverlets Attendees Register Coverlets for the Discovery Session***
- 7:00 – 7:45    Keynote Address  
**Archibald Davidson: Celebrated Coverlet Weaver of the Year**                      Ron Walter  
*Learn about Archibald Davidson, who wove fancy coverlets in Ithaca, NY, from 1831 to 1848. In his newspaper ad dated November 9, 1831 he states he "has purchased a patent right for the town of Ithaca, superior to any patent heretofore in the United States, for weaving ... Carpet Coverlets in any pattern or figure ..."*
- 7:45 – 8:30    **Reception**  
*Meet our presenters and other attendees.*

**Saturday Morning - September 26**

- 8:30                      Registration and Continental Breakfast (fruit, Danish, coffee and juices)
- 9:00    **Opening Remarks and Introduction of Attendees**                      Melinda Zongor
- 9:20    **#1 – A Brief History of Fibers Used in Coverlet Weaving**                      Edward Maeder  
*An explanation of the uses of wool, cotton, and linen in early textiles that later were used in weaving American coverlets.*
- 9:40    Short Break
- 9:50    **#2 – The Overshot Coverlet – Looking for the Pattern**                      Cassie Dickson  
*The four block overshot coverlet has a limitless number of ways to create patterns. By understanding the individual parts you can train your eye to see the motifs that combine to make the overall design.*
- 10:30    Long Break (fruit, yogurt, granola and juices)
- 10:50    **#3 – Interesting Geometric Coverlets in the Signature Works Exhibition**                      Gay McGeary  
*Gay will present some of her favorite geometric coverlets in the Signature Works exhibition.*
- 11:30    Short Break
- 11:40    **#4 – Signature Works Exhibition Highlights Part 1**                      Ron Walter  
*Highlights of coverlets in Part 1 of the Signature Works exhibition will be presented. This part includes the coverlets displayed in the Red Room, Room 1 and Room 2.*

12:10	Catered Lunch	
1:00	<b>#5 – Attendees Tour Part 1 of the Exhibition “SIGNATURE WORKS”</b>	self-guided
1:30	Short Break	
1:40	<b>#6 – Tribute to Jude Fera</b> <i>Jude Fera was not only an accomplished coverlet collector but also a Charter NMAC Member and a Charter NMAC Board Member.</i>	Melinda Zongor
2:20	Long Break (fruit, cookies and drinks)	
2:40	<b>#7 – 19th Century Coverlet Drafts</b> <i>19th century drafts provide a context for geometric coverlets. Background information is provided when a coverlet analysis is supported with a matching early draft. Gay will share details about the early manuscripts in the Museum’s collections. She will also examine other manuscripts and explain her research in deciphering these early drafts.</i>	Gay McGeary
3:20	Short Break	
3:30	<b>#8 – Discovery Session for Coverlets brought by Attendees New to Coverlets</b> <i>Learn information about coverlets brought in by attendees new to coverlets.</i>	all
4:10	<b>Closing Remarks and Graduation</b>	Melinda Zongor
4:30	Break	
5:30	<b>Dinner with Other Attendees (optional)</b>	Melinda & Laszlo Zongor

**Saturday Evening - September 26**

7:00 – 9:00	<b>Combined Coverlet Show and Tell for Day 1 and Day 2</b> <i>Bring one or two of your favorite coverlets to show and discuss.</i>	all
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**Coverlets 209 – Day 2 Sessions**

Hand-Outs of Summary Information and a Bibliography will be provided.

**Sunday Morning - September 27**

8:30	Registration and Continental Breakfast (fruit, Danish, coffee and juices)	
9:00	<b>Opening Remarks and Introduction of Attendees</b>	Melinda Zongor
9:15	<b>#1 – Authorship &amp; Identification</b> <i>‘Authorship’ has been a source of scholarly interest since Ancient Egypt. Much of our judgement of creative works of art as well as decorative art, is based on “who” made it. This will be an exploration into the history of this subject.</i>	Edward Maeder
9:55	Short Break	
10:05	<b>#2 – Tour of 2009 Coverlet Exhibition Jude Fera Arranged in Lebanon, CT</b> <i>A tour of an exhibition of some coverlets from Jude Fera’s collection held July 11 to August 23, 2009 at the Jonathan Trumbull, Jr., House in Lebanon, Connecticut will be presented.</i>	Ron Walter
10:45	Long Break (fruit, yogurt, granola and juices)	
11:05	<b>#3 – Coverlets in the Index of American Design</b> <i>The Index of American Design was a WPA project. The images of watercolor paintings, online at the National Gallery of Art, will be discussed and matched to coverlet images.</i>	Sheryl De Jong
11:45	Short Break	

11:55	<b>#4 - Signature Works Exhibition Highlights Part 2</b> <i>Highlights of coverlets in Part 2 of the Signature Works exhibition will be presented. This part includes the coverlets displayed in the Room 3 and the Hallway from Room 3 to the Gift Shop.</i>	Ron Walter
12:25	Catered Lunch	
1:15	<b>#5 – Attendees Tour Part 2 of the Exhibition “SIGNATURE WORKS</b>	self-guided
1:45	Short Break	
1:55	<b>#6 – Fancy Weaving for the 21st Century</b> <i>Justin Squizzero of The Burroughs Garret, VT, will talk about the process and technical considerations of hand weaving figured coverlets using his ca. 1860 Jacquard head and an 18th-century handloom.</i>	Justin Squizzero
3:00	<b>Closing Remarks and Graduation</b> <b><i>Class Schedule Subject To Change.</i></b>	Melinda Zongor

**Cassie Dickson** of Whittier, NC, is a member of the Southern Highland Craft Guild and a traditional pattern weaver who specializes in the weaving of coverlets and the processing of the flax plant to linen cloth. She has been spinning, weaving, and natural dyeing for over 40 years. She has raised silk worms for the past 28 years and processes silk cocoons to silk fabric. Cassie presents to museums, colleges, guilds, and regional fiber events.

**Edward Maeder** of Greenfield, MA, is NMAC Board of Directors President, and enjoys a long career as a textile historian and museum professional. Since his retirement 9 years ago he continues to lecture on a variety of subjects across the country. His most recent books include ***American Style and Spirit***, on a multi-generational family collection of clothing and ***Walk This Way***, on footwear from the Stuart Weitzman collection of historic shoes (most of which Edward personally restored).

**Gay McGeary** of Carlisle, PA, has been weaving, collecting, and researching early coverlet patterns, weave structures and fringe techniques for over twenty five years. While her weaving is inspired by her research, her research is enhanced by her weaving explorations of the early craftsmen.

**Melinda Zongor** of Bedford PA, NMAC Director/Curator, has been “hanging around” coverlets for nearly 40 years. As a former collector, weaver and antiques dealer specializing in coverlets, she has authored books on the subject and has worked with collectors, the antiques trade, the feature film industry, print media and a variety of groups, large and small. She and her husband Laszlo are co-founders of the Museum.

**Ron Walter** of Hilltown, PA, is a respected coverlet historian with broad experience in early textile tools and techniques. He researches American textiles and textile related tools used in the home and on the farm from about 1750 to 1875. His special interests are fiber processing tools including decorated and dated hetchels and their makers, spinning wheels and their makers, and coverlets both geometric and fancy as well as the weavers who produced them. He is also an NMAC Board member, president of the CCGA (Colonial Coverlet Guild of America) and editor of the CCGA Newsletter.

**Sheryl De Jong** of Reston, VA, does volunteer work for the Textile Collection at the Smithsonian Institution since 1998. She has written articles about the textile collection for The National Museum of American History.

**Justin Squizzero** of Newbury, VT, challenges modern definitions of progress by hand weaving functional textiles that celebrate the natural world and the dignity of human labor. At The Burroughs Garret, on his 19th-century farm, he weaves using 200-year-old hand looms. He recently added a c.1860 Jacquard head to one of his early looms to learn the hand weaving tradition of figured and fancy weaving prevalent from 1820 to 1870. Using natural dyes and fibers he produces authentic traditional textiles.

SCROLL DOWN FOR REGISTRATION FORM

**The National Museum of the American Coverlet  
Coverlet College 2020**

**Sign-Up Sheet – Print / Complete and Mail To**  
The National Museum of the American Coverlet  
322 South Juliana Street, Bedford, PA 15522  
(814) 623-1588

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone home / work /cell (*circle one*): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Dietary Restriction: \_\_\_\_\_

**Experience with Coverlets:**

**New to Coverlets:** \_\_\_ and **Yes / No** (*circle one*) I have a coverlet to learn more about in the Day 1 Special Coverlet Discovery Session. Note: The first 16 qualified applicants based on order of registration date must bring their coverlet to the Museum before the Friday Night Keynote Address and their coverlets will be returned to them during the Saturday Discovery Session.

**Collector of Coverlets:** \_\_\_ for \_\_\_ years

**Other Coverlet Interest:** \_\_\_ identify \_\_\_\_\_

**Fees**

Course	Museum Member	Museum Non-Member	Number Attending	Total Fee
<b>Friday September 25, 2020 Workshops (optional)</b> <b>Concurrent Workshop 091</b> <b>Deerfield Blues</b> <b>with Cassie Dickson &amp; Edward Maeder</b>	\$35	\$40	___	_____
<b>Concurrent Workshop 092</b> <b>Jude Fera Coverlets not in Exhibition</b> <b>with Gay McGeary &amp; Melinda Zongor</b>	\$35	\$40	___	_____
<b>Friday Keynote Address &amp; Reception plus</b> <b>Saturday Presentations September 25 &amp; 26, 2020</b> <b>Coverlets 109*</b>	\$120	\$145	___	_____
<b>Saturday September 26, 2020</b> <b>Saturday Dinner (optional)</b>	\$20	\$20	___	_____
<b>Sunday September 27, 2020</b> <b>Coverlets 209*</b>	\$80	\$95	___	_____
<b>Friday, Saturday &amp; Sunday Sept 25-26-27, 2020</b> <b>Coverlets 109* &amp; 209*</b>	\$175	\$215	___	_____
<b>NMAC Dues (circle one)</b> <b>Individual</b> <b>Family</b>	New / Renewal \$40 \$50		___ ___	_____
<b>Donation to NMAC Scholarship Fund</b>				_____
<b>Donation to NMAC General Fund</b>				_____
* Coverlets 109 and 209 fees include lunch and snacks.			<b>Total =</b>	_____

Please find my check payable to **NMAC** in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ registrations.

To use your credit card, please call the Museum at (814) 623-1588.

For PayPal, send to [info@coverletmuseum.org](mailto:info@coverletmuseum.org).

### Covid Disclaimer

--It is our full intention to hold Coverlet College 2020 with all appropriate precautions that may be in effect at that time. However, in the event that Coverlet College 2020 must be cancelled, registrants will be notified at least one week in advance of the date, and registration monies will be refunded.

### Safety Policy and Waiver of Liability

NMAC will make every effort to comply with safety requirements and recommended best practices during this challenging time of Covid-19. This will include frequent cleaning of tables, restrooms, door handles and other areas of frequent contact. We encourage shop purchases to be paid by credit card to reduce handling of cash. Plastic gloves will be available for those who wish to use them.

Registrants agree to comply with all safety requirements as may be in force at the time of the event, including but not limited to wearing face masks, safe social distancing, etc.

Registrants agree to hold NMAC harmless in the event of any exposure or infection by COVID-19 that may result from the actions, omissions or negligence of registrant, other attendees and/or presenters, or NMAC staff, volunteers or board members.

I have read and agree to follow this policy and waiver. Initials\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_