

Welcome to the Gondwana Textiles Indigo Shibori Masterclass.

A masterclass is usually a small group of experienced students working with a master in a particular field, and often has a public education element - filming, or demonstrations. It might be conducted over an extended period with an exhibition as one outcome.

This masterclass will be offered over 5 weeks, with the option to continue challenges, to meet as a group from time to time, or connect on line.

Each week is designed around specific challenges. This is to be more than an experimental time, or one in which you might be able to anticipate the result, or even repeat the familiar. It is not an introductory course. We will be pushing the boundaries a little, seeking challenges that stretch each technique, exploring particular elements of shibori and looking at inspirations selected from some of the world's most talented.



You will keep a journal and folio, take photographs and record your observations. I will prepare notes and suggest references and directions. You can expect to be given a set of challenges - each one with some restrictions, limitations and boundaries you might think will curd your wild creative enthusiasm, but in fact will stretch your technical ability.

Indigo challenge

Our first challenge is mixing a fructose vat and monitoring it.

When is it ready, you will try you hand at graduated colour - from baby blue to eggplant blue in even graduation



We will then try to achieve good Ombre. Ombre is defined as evenly controlled graduation of colour **Ombre** means "shaded" in French and is the gradual blending of one colour hue to another, usually moving tints and shades from light to dark. It has become a popular feature for hair coloring, nail art, and even baking, in addition to its uses in home decorating and graphic design.

In the indigo challenge, you will explore different fabrics - protein & cellulose in controlled tests

You will get an opportunity to use the synthetic indigo vat, so that you can make your own decision about preference for synthetic or natural indigo.

Shibori Masterclass challenges

Arashi challenge

This technique has many surprising and rewarding variations. You will explore different sized poles, different wrapping methods and, using different weight fabrics, arrive at exciting results. We will tackle this challenge over 2 weeks to enable good drying time before unwrapping, retaining memory, and allow for rewrapping for overdyeing.





Itajime challenge

Itajime is as varied as you can fold. Expect to make 5 or 6 samplers of different folds with same set of resists. You will be given a set of boards to clamp, and, using varied folds, repeating the same boards, develop intriguing patterns. You will also explore large blocks over dyeing small blocks of the same shape.

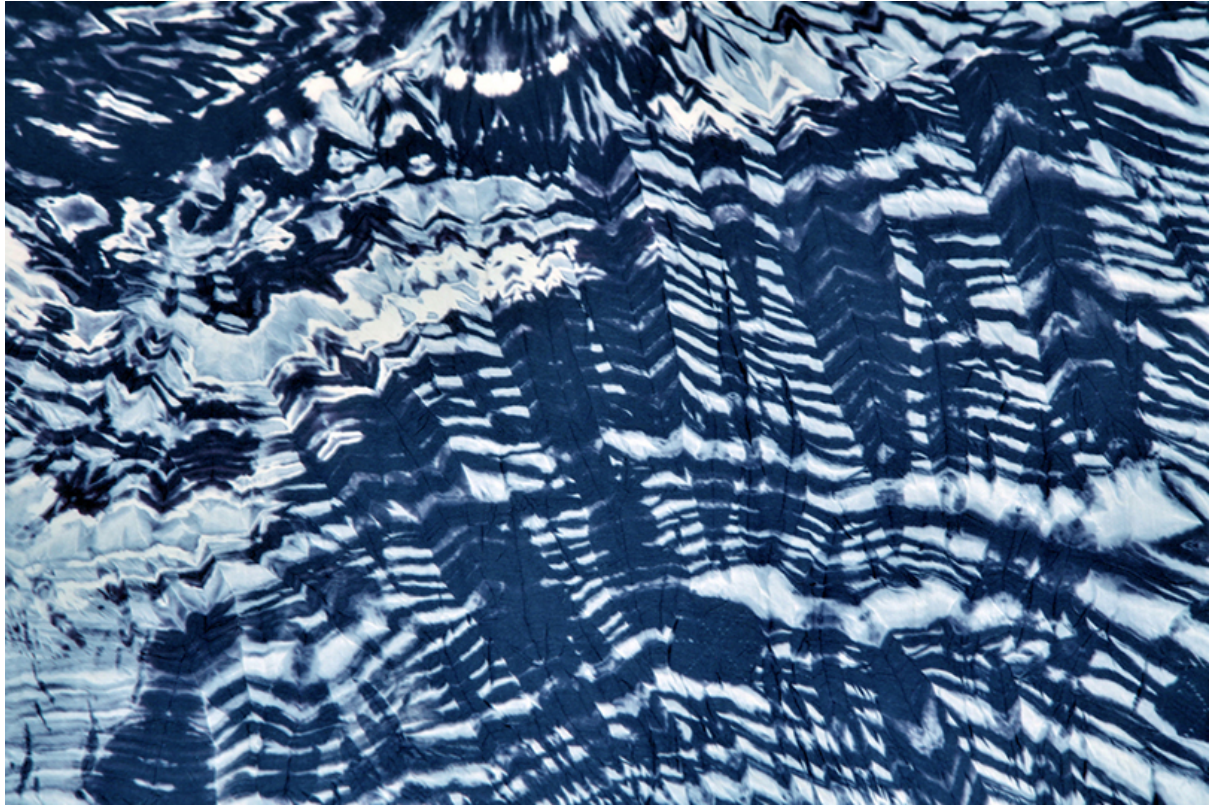
Stitch challenge

Stitching is time consuming - for this reason I have not allocated a full session for stitch, and most people have already done two or three stitched samples. We will however look at some quite intriguing designs by other artists, and you will set yourself a complex challenge to carefully stitch at home, ready to dye in the following weeks.

Eucalyptus challenge

This is an optional session in which you will dye several pieces with eucalyptus. Two different colour will be on the boil, with the option to overdye in the next indigo session. You might like to follow this link to see works I have created in the last couple of years that explore eucalyptus overdyed with indigo.

<http://www.gondwanatextiles.com/wp/wp-content/uploads/Scarves-and-Art-shawls-Jan-2018.pptx>



Consolidation challenge

The final session is all about finishing off dyeing and overdyeing. There will be time for experimentation within the challenges undertaken throughout previous sessions. It is also about photographing your work well, videoing and editing onto a special Indigo Shibori Masterclass website, some of which will be made public for others to see how and what you achieve. You might consider joining the World Shibori Network (Aust NZ) to keep up to date with what other artists are doing, and participate in regular exhibitions. We will also discuss future directions, perhaps towards a group exhibition.

Each day you will receive enough samples for the specific tasks set. You may wish to purchase extra fabric, blank scarves or shawls from me, to prepare for the last day of consolidation, but I suggest that this Masterclass is much more than a case of how many items can be produced, but how to be creative and master the techniques.