

Dagmar Binder workshop: Fascinating Small Hollow Forms (2 days)

27-28 October 2025. Clare, South Australia

Organised by Evocative Arts Workshops. www.evocativearts.com.au

For inquiries, contact Moira Simpson: moira@evocativearts.com.au



Workshop description from Dagmar Binder

In nature we can find a variety of interesting shapes, such as shells, anemones, pods and capsules, which provide a rich source of inspiration for making hollow felted forms. We can learn a lot from them in terms of architecture and stability, important features in feltmaking, too.

In making a series of small-scale seed pods, we will practise a very fine and precise layout of fibres. By altering little details in the composition or the placement of thick and thin amounts of wool in different sections, we can cause considerable changes in shape and achieve a variety of interesting forms and characteristics, even starting with the same, relatively simple resist.

With small objects, the felting process does not require much physical strength, but sensitivity and precision. You can look forward to a playful and experimental class that will sharpen your eye for the essential details of a delicate felt project.

Materials:

- About. 150 g fine merino tops (19 mic or finer); also merino/silk blends will be perfect. Best bring min. two different colours for inner and outer layer, so you can tell them apart easily.
- Some silk fibres or hankies, chiffon silk or the very lightweight Margilan silk gauze can provide extra stability for delicate objects and create smooth and elegant surfaces.
- A handful of soft batts or needlefelt. (Commercial prefelt can be useful, but is not strictly necessary).

Felting equipment:

- One piece of bubble wrap 120 x 80 cm
- Roller stick, 80 cm (foam roller, pipe insulation, pool noodle or plastic pipe ...)
- Approx. 50 x 50 cm piece of plastic gauze, fly screen or old PE curtain
- Olive oil or other plant-based soap (Moira has some to sell).
- Sprinkler bottle
- Plastic bowl
- Scissors
- Tape measures
- Towels
- 1 large garbage bag (120 L) as resist material.
- For emergency repairs: sewing thread and needle or felting needles and sponge. (Moira will have these available, if you do not have any).
- Pen and paper to take notes