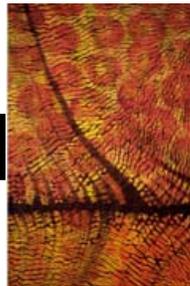


Convergence 2008 Tampa Bay

HGA



February 25, 2008 — Convergence is an outstanding conference for everyone who works or is interested in sewing, dyeing, beading, knitting, weaving, spinning and the fiber arts. It is a biennial, international conference sponsored by HGA, since 1972.

Over 5,000 fiber enthusiasts are expected to converge on the Tampa Bay area for HGA's Convergence from June 22-28, 2008, at the Tampa Bay Convention Center in Tampa, Florida. Convergence 2008 will be host to three featured speakers, thirty workshops, forty studio classes, over 100 seminars and over twenty-five exhibits throughout the community of Tampa Bay. In addition, several special events are offered including a professionally produced fashion runway show, and hundreds of booths filled with fibers, beads, books and fiber-related equipment from around the world in the Vendor Hall.

Convergence 2008 featured speakers:

Master dyer **Joan Morris**, who has worked for the Theater Department at Dartmouth College for over twenty years, is a teacher and designer known internationally for her work with shibori, a textile technique of shaped-resist dyeing. She has been creating shibori fabric for Julie Taymor's award winning Broadway production of *The Lion King*, as well as its international venues and road productions.

Victoria Z. Rivers earned her B.F.A. and two masters' degrees at Murray State University in Kentucky. A professor at the University of California-Davis in the Design Department since 1980, she is an artist, a researcher, a writer, and a lecturer of textiles and design. For more than ten years, Rivers researched historical cultures and their uses of shimmering embellishments of textiles for her book *The Shining Cloth: Dress and Adornment that Glitter*.

Willa Shalit is an artist, producer, photographer, author/editor, philanthropist, and entrepreneur. Her book, *Lifecast: Behind the Mask*, resulted from the plaster lifecast sculptures she began to create in the 1980s, such as those of Bill Gates, the Dalai Lama, and five American presidents. Shalit and these masks were featured in an Emmy Award-winning documentary for television, *Willa: Behind the Mask*.

Registration for Convergence 2008 Tampa Bay is available now at www.weavespindye.org or by calling the HGA office at 678-730-0010. Day Admission will be available onsite and includes shopping in the incredible Vendor Hall and admission to Convergence fiber art exhibits. For additional information on Convergence 2008 and press passes please contact Amy Holland at hgaamyh@weavespindye.org or call 678.730.0010.