



New Designers

R O W A N

Free Spirit 

WESTMINSTER
FIBERS
Lifestyle Fabrics

2010



Dan Bennett

"The patterns in my designs are inspired by the ancient geometric symbols carved onto stone by our prehistoric ancestors. The dots, spirals, zigzags, meandering lines, arcs and grids are a primal pan-global language which I have adapted to describe flora and fauna in my paintings. Before becoming a full-time artist, I previously ran a gardening company. By handling and nurturing plants and garden wildlife, I gained an insight into the underlying structures of life. These combined interests have led me to create these fabric designs." - Dan



Dan Bennett has been fascinated by color and pattern since childhood. Through his exploration of nature, art and pop science, he has captured fleeting insights on canvases. Dan has lived and worked as a professional artist for the past five years.

Based in Brighton in the UK, Dan sells his paintings throughout Europe and the US, and also has a range of stationery that has been released dedicated to his work. His desire to further share his world view has led to his collaboration with Westminster Lifestyle Fabrics, and has made available this collection of vibrant and original designs.

ROWAN



Rosanna Bowles

"I love the beautiful colors from Indian textiles. I was inspired by my love for travel and Indian silks." - Rosanna



Rosanna is synonymous with design. She has gathered every design prize there is, both nationally and internationally including the "O" List, April 2009; "Outstanding Designer: Seattle 100"; and Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the year 2006 Nominee, to name a few.

Rosanna truly excels in her international presence, having her designs found in many countries and retailers like Nordstrom, Bloomingdales, Crate and Barrel, Sur La Table, Anthropologie and the National Gallery of Art in Washington D.C.

She has been featured in such well-known magazines as Bon Appetite, Country Living, Elle Décor and Real Simple. A star presence in design circles around the world, Rosanna is an ambitious, hard working and creative entrepreneur.

FreeFair

Mark Cesarik



"Calypso Swing is a collection that I had a great deal of fun designing. I think that is well reflected in the collections name. Each design creates its own motion and its own mood. I thought it only appropriate then that it be best represented in the context of music and dance. Violets, pinks, grey and black provide a playful sensibility and enable the viewer to get a sense of direction and purpose." - Mark



Mark Cesarik is an artist, designer and illustrator living in Chicago. A graduate of the School of The Art Institute of Chicago, Mark studied painting, drawing and graphic design.

He started Sew Bettie in 2007, falling in love with the process of designing his own original fabrics. Sew Bettie has been featured in One Yard Wonders, the New York Times and Design Sponge.

He works by day as a graphic designer and a multi-faceted artist by night combining oil painting, screen printing, and drawing. His first line of fabric for Free Spirit was released in Fall, 2010. He also does licensing work for various companies in the home decor and fashion industries.



Kathy Davis



"Blossoming...it is that moment in time when you realize your true potential and are ready to take the steps to fulfill your destiny. It is about seizing your personal power and purpose and discovering the joy of living the life you were meant to live. The Blossoming Collection expresses this joy through vibrant color, inspiring words and hand-painted patterns." - Kathy



Twenty years later as chief executive and visionary officer of Kathy Davis Studios, the company that bears her name, Kathy is poised to celebrate the 20th anniversary of her dream – a business started in the corner of her bedroom where her creations have grown and flourished, today touching more than 50 million consumers annually. In fact, Kathy now manages a comprehensive portfolio of more than 15,000 designs where her company operates under four brand names -- Kathy Davis®, The Studio at Kathy Davis®, Portofolio – Kathy Davis Studios™, and Fred and Lorraine™. Most recently, Kathy marked the one-year anniversary of a successful partnership with American Greetings where her creations are exclusively distributed across a broad range of product lines and released her latest title: Scatter Joy: Living, Giving and Creating A Life You Love. www.kathydavis.com www.scatterjoy.com





Eleanor Grosch

"What's more fun than a day at the Zoo? The idea behind Zoo Menagerie is a simple childhood memory that continues to delight. I still love going on a sunny day to look at the lovely animals from all around the world! The look of the Zoo Menagerie collection is inspired by the modernist approach to graphic art. I love mid-century design and illustration, and this collection is a nod to that simple and bold look." - Eleanor



Eleanor loves animals! You name it, she's probably drawn it! Eleanor's unique graphic perspective aims to simplify line and playfully arrange form to capture the essence of each animal she draws. She's well-known for her graphic take on our feathered, furry, and fuzzy friends, and her illustration career has grown from its rock poster roots with jobs for clients such as Keds, Giro, Urban Outfitters, and Wilco.

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Alfred Shaheen

"My father was a pioneer in textile and clothing manufacturing. He introduced aloha wear to the world and changed the global landscape of textiles, fashion, and design forever. My father's passion for ethnic authenticity in textile design and fashion originated a multi-cultural esthetic known as Fusion Fashion. He would be honored to know that his legacy lives on in the beautiful Hawaiian and Asian fabrics created by FreeSpirit Fabrics. I hope these fabrics inspire others to realize their esthetic dreams." Camille Shaheen-Tunberg



Alfred Shaheen began producing ready-to-wear aloha shirts and women's fashions in 1948, and continued for 40 years until retirement in 1988. Shaheen built the most comprehensive textile printing, garment manufacturing and retail company Hawaii would ever see. Today, Shaheen's Hawaiian shirts, sarongs and sundresses are some of the most prized pieces in vintage Hawaiian collections. He was the recipient of Hawaii's Lifetime Achievement Award and was named among the 150 most influential people, events and institutions to impact social, economic, political and cultural changes in Hawaii. He passed away in 2009 but his legacy lives on through his daughter Camille.

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Tula Pink

"Parisville is the collection that I have always wanted to design but didn't have the guts to do. This idea has been sitting in my brain trust for a few years but I had to wait for my skills to catch up with it. I drew my pants off for this one. For real, like 6 months of drawing to get it all right before I took it digital or even thought about color." - Tula



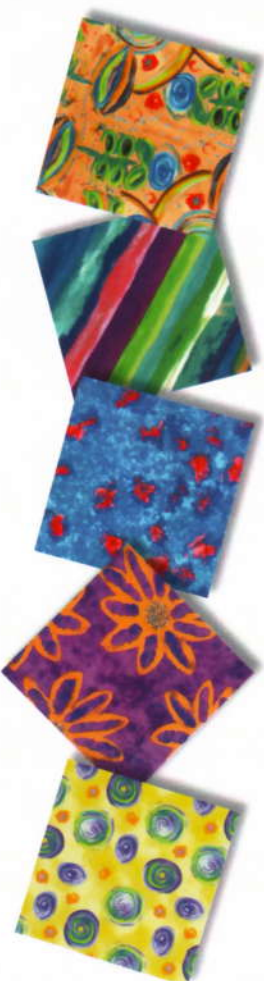
Tula Pink graduated from Otis College of Art and Design, with degrees in both Graphic Design and Illustration. Through various life stages including a six year stint in Hip Hop, she left California and now resides in a small mid-western town. The one constant in her life, through it all, has been fabric and sewing: designing her first fabric collection in her living room.

Today she works with Westminister Lifestyle Fabrics designing for a whole lifestyle of DIY-ers with a passion for saying things like "Hey! Look what I made!" Seeing her name on that selvedge was the only thing that had been missing from her professional life.



George Mendoza

"I've become a world famous artist because of the lucky break I got when Westminister Lifestyle Fabrics bought the rights to my artwork and people are making quilts, clothing, purses, aprons all over the world now. And it's my colors, designs. It's really cool." - George



An author, athlete, artist and motivational speaker, George Mendoza's work has touched millions of lives. As an energetic child, George showed promise as a budding athlete until at 15, a rare disorder left him without central vision and only 20% peripheral vision in both eyes.

George attended the New Mexico School for the Visually Handicapped and went onto New Mexico State University, receiving his BA, Education in 1978. He has written three books, has had two PBS documentaries produced about his life and his work has been part of significant fine art shows across the country for decades. In 2004, New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson declared August 4, 2004 "George Mendoza Day" in honor of his remarkable creative vision.



Nel Whitmore



"I love color and curves and shapes that flow and wanted to create a collection that echoed all that I feel when I paint." - Nel



Nel has specialized in painting pastels for many years. After leaving college, her work was published by the UK's foremost fine art publisher, Washington Green. Other companies, such as Royal Worcester and Pimpemel, soon began to use Nel's work on their products.

She has been nominated for Best Published Artist in the UK three times. Nel is best known for her vibrant florals and, three years ago, was invited to exhibit at the world famous Chelsea Flower Show in London. Nel also has received a grant from the Prince's Youth Business Trust.

This will be Nel's first collection with Westminster Lifestyle Fabrics and she is looking forward to a long and happy partnership with them.



Jill Gordon



"Nature has always been my main source of inspiration: I see so many beautiful creatures and plants while I'm out walking and as I start to draw and paint them, ideas for designs spring to life. This has been a wonderful year for dragonflies, birds and butterflies. I have always loved the jewelled brilliance of poison-dart frogs. Our native frogs are very beautiful but much more understated so the jungle frogs complement the other designs more dynamically!" Jill



Jill Gordon's career in Art and Design started when she met Kaffe Fassett in the early 1970s. Kaffe encouraged Jill to design and stitch needlepoint and later cross-stitch works and he has been a close friend and mentor ever since. Jill has designed for Ehrman tapestries, John Lewis and private collectors.

Jill was born in Sussex, England, but has spent much of her life moving around the UK and further afield. She spent a year working in Israel on a kibbutz and later lived for four years in the former Yugoslavia. These experiences have had a major impact on the way she works and uses color and her love and appreciation of nature is a major theme for all her work. Jill has written several books, the most well-known being 'The Tapestry Book and Tapestry Collection.'

