



Anita Peters - Contemporary Basket Maker - Multi Media Artist - Writer - Tutor

I have always had an ability and passion for art and have spent my life being involved in as many different creative processes as I have had time to learn. These have included drawing and painting, ceramics, applied design for fabric, fibre art, screen printing, small sculpture, costume and wearable art and more recently writing. I graduated from Elam School of Fine Arts in Auckland in 1979 with a degree in photography, later switching from fine art to basket making and helped set up the weaving studio 'Able Cane' in Waihi, designing, manufacturing and teaching traditional English basket making using Palembang jungle cane from Indonesia, and have been weaving using this traditional method for 35 years. Over the past several years I have been adapting basic construction techniques to accommodate raw and natural materials as well as inorganic materials, the outcomes of which are 'wild' baskets. Any material that can be bent, plied or twisted can become a basket, presenting new challenges in construction, shape, purpose and intent and some forms go beyond vessels into the realm of small sculpture. Materials such as bull kelp, vines, grasses and other natural fibres and inorganic materials make up my range of 'wild baskets'.