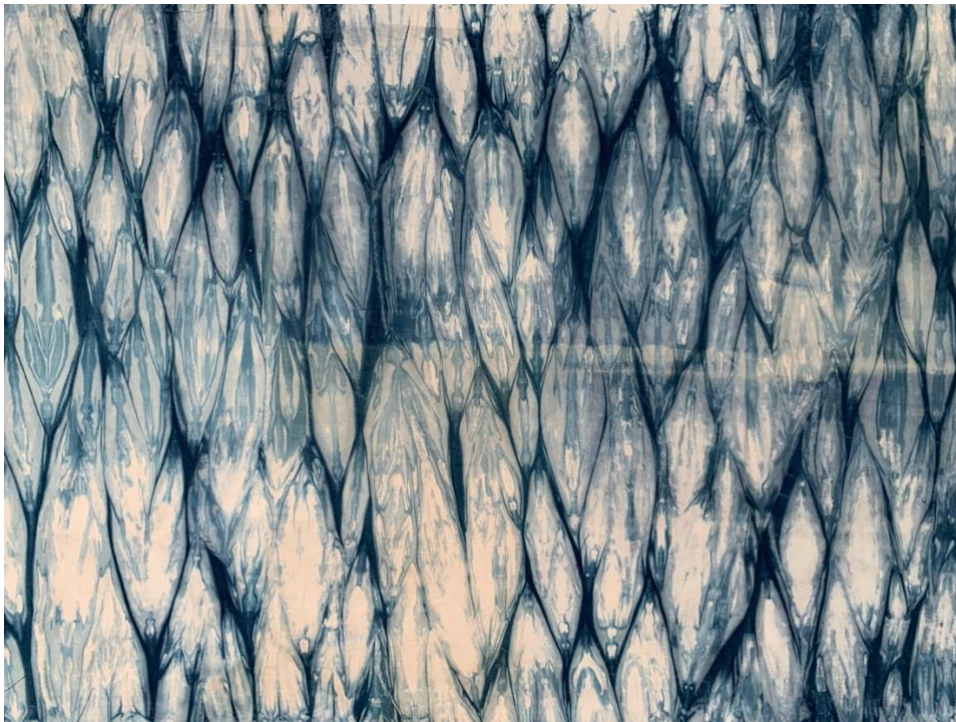
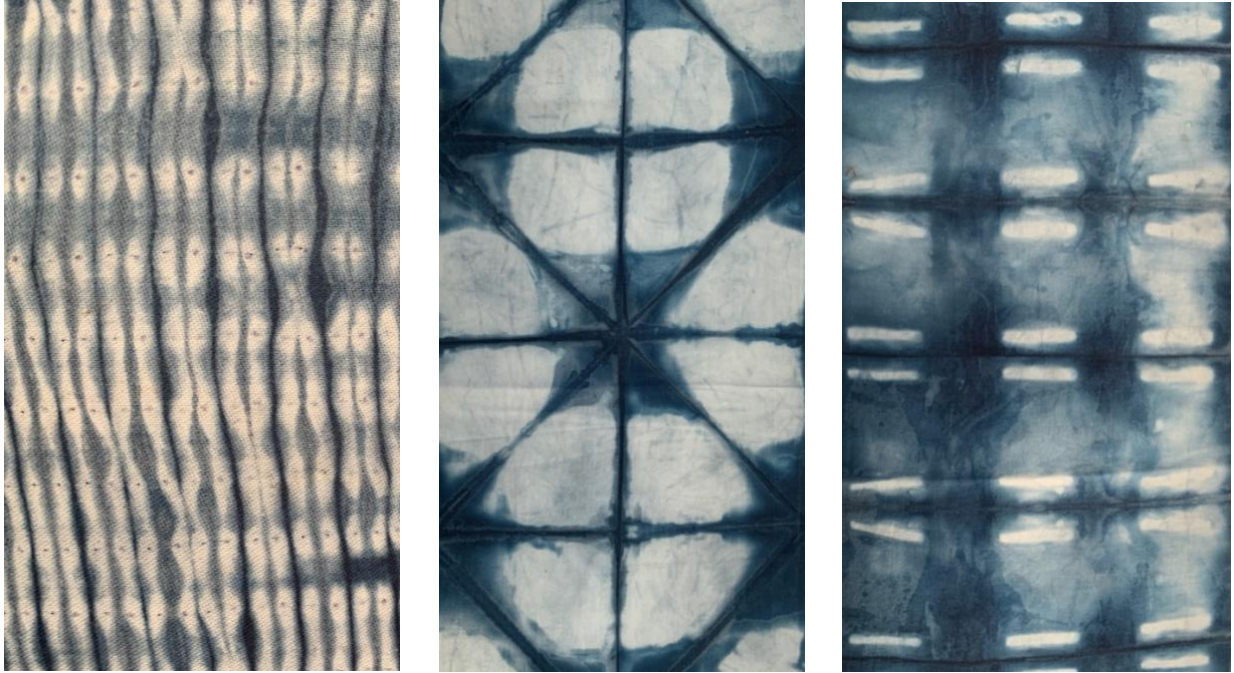


## Indigo dye and Shibori technique workshop with Paula Rafferty



All images by Paula Rafferty

Indigo is the name given to the blue colour that comes from an organic dye derived from *Indigofera* plants. Indigo dyeing has a long history and indigo can dye all natural fibres both cellulose (cotton and linen) and protein (silk and wool). It gives beautiful shades of blue — from the palest summer sky to an almost purple black. The colour achieved depends on the type of vat, the concentration of indigo, and the number of dips.

Shibori comes from the Japanese word *Shiboru*, meaning to “wring, squeeze or press” and it refers to a variety of ways of embellishing textiles by shaping cloth and securing it before dyeing. We will be stitching, folding, clamping and wrapping fabric to achieve different patterns and effects.

We will be using a synthetic indigo dye and dyeing cotton and linen only for this workshop as protein fibres need a different vat recipe.

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# Indigo dye and Shibori technique workshop with Paula Rafferty

## Requirements list:

1. selection of 100% cotton or linen pre-washed and cut into various sizes, size options can vary, but small pieces are better and easier to manage, 1-2 yds is plenty
2. safety pins with coloured beads (to mark and easily identify your fabric once it is dyed)
3. large hand sewing needles and strong thread (12 weight cotton is good)
4. Scissors
5. plastic basin to take home fabric
6. wear old clothes and wear apron
7. disposable gloves, mask as fumes are toxic

## I suggest the group get together to purchase supplies listed below:

8. variety of clamps (discount stores are perfect for picking up packets of clamps)
9. twine and plastic poles for wrapping
10. lollypop sticks (available from art shops)
11. heavy acetate cut into small shapes or small wooden blocks (squares, circles, triangles, etc.) 2 of each shape
12. strong elastic bands
13. large sheet of builders plastic to cover floor and work surfaces

Examples of types of equipment needed for

