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Cleftlands Internebbles

Baronial News Online During Quarantine Times - 5/17/2020

SCA News & Events

Baronial Meeting - This Wednesday, May 20, will be a virtual Baronial meeting at 8pm. Watch the Facebook event for details - <https://www.facebook.com/events/275321476938285/>

Armorers' Virtual Guild Meeting - This Thursday, May 21, at 8pm - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81619657717>

Sultana Madeleina's Ministers of Michief - Call for entries - <https://www.facebook.com/TRMoftheMiddle/videos/170834747658052/>

Join the Queen's Temper Tantrum May 17 at 5pm EST <https://www.facebook.com/TRMoftheMiddle/videos/170834747658052/>

Fun Videos - (We're down to THREE Kingdoms who have not submitted dance-off videos)

- Atlantia is all smiles dancing alone - https://youtu.be/FL_2mRQ1S6M
- College of Herald's asks that you don't stop them, now - <https://youtu.be/cJdn2oNtFaU>
- Gleann Abhann also can't stop this feeling - <https://www.facebook.com/KingdomOfGleannAbhann/videos/2925861710863044/>
- Lochac syncs up to dance just one more time - <https://youtu.be/j7vGJHWVT8Y>

News from Corporate

- Request for commentary on proposed Corpora change related to the Society Marshal - <https://www.sca.org/news/rfc-proposed-corpora-changes-related-to-the-office-of-the-society-marshal-09-01-2020>

10 Period Movies You May Not Have Seen

By THL Jolicia atte Northclyfe

While we're staying safe at home, we're warding off boredom with marathon movie-watching sessions. It's a perfect time to catch up on period movies you missed. Here's a selection of period-themed movies set in cultures around the world, all released in 2000 or after, to add to your streaming list. If you watch one – or a historically-based movie not listed here – share your opinion by writing a short review.

I leave it up to the viewer to decide how historically accurate these movies are.

Apocalypto (2006)

Rating: R; Rotten Tomatoes audience score: 79%

Stars: Native American and indigenous Mexican actors

Time period: Mayan civilization in 1500s Yucatan, Mexico

Plot: A young man and his friends, captured when their village is destroyed by invaders, are threatened with death by human sacrifice.

Ironclad (2011)

Rating: R; Rotten Tomatoes audience score: 59%

Stars: Paul Giamatti, James Purefoy

Time period: 13th century England

Plot: A Knights Templar and his supporters defend Rochester Castle against the tyrannical King John.

Black Death (2010)

Rating: R; Rotten Tomatoes audience score: 49%

Stars: Eddie Redmayne, Sean Bean

Time period: 14th century England

Plot: During an outbreak of bubonic plague, a young monk investigates reports of dead people being brought back to life in a small village.

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From the Minister of Arts & Sciences -

May Scroll Challenge Tips on Materials:

Basic Beginner's Kit (From the Midrealm New Scribe's Booklet)



- Gouache: Reeves Gouache Set [for Students] set of 12 – 10 mm tubes including white, black, lemon yellow, medium yellow, yellow ochre, brilliant red, crimson, leaf green, emerald, blue lake, ultramarine, and burnt sienna.
- Brushes: 3 round watercolor brushes sizes 000,0,2 any brand is OK, Dick Blick Scholastic Short Handle Red Sable Brushes or similar.
- Palette: 8-inch diameter plastic lid from a large can, white or clear is best.
- Pens: Farber-Castell Pitt Calligraphy Pens w/2 mm nib or Farber-Castell Pitt Artist Pen Set w/assorted nibs, black ink. When first starting to learn to write, modern calligraphy or artist pens are easier to use. Once you have learned to write you can upgrade to traditional dip pens or quills.
- Paper: Writing practice: computer paper or stationery designed for fountain pen ink. Painting practice: Hot Press Watercolor paper or stationery designed for ink. Making a scroll: Bristol, Smooth finish 9" x 12" or Hot Press Watercolor paper. HP Watercolor paper manufacturers: Arches, Fabriano, or Aquarello. Bristol paper: Strathmore 300 series or Fabriano.
Editor's note: Only use Hot Press Watercolor paper. Cold Press papers are more absorbent and can cause problems with inks and gouache bleeding together, ruining the design.

Dick Blick's in Cleveland Heights is open for curbside pickup, or you can order for delivery. Michaels stores around the area are also open.

On the back of your blank scroll please note your name and contact information. If the work was inspired by a period work, please include a citation and link if you have one. Information on matting the scroll may also be included.

Virtual Classes for the Week of May 17 Through May 24 - <https://www.facebook.com/royaluniversityofthemidrealm/>

- **May 17 2pm EST - Making Commedia dell'Arte Performances Happen in the SCA - <https://www.facebook.com/events/2947910308626189/>**
- **May 17 7pm EST - Taking the Teeth Out of Stage Fright - <https://www.facebook.com/events/2609796902629942/>**
- **May 18 7pm EST - Monday with Mathildis: Raised Gilding - <https://www.facebook.com/events/170956437632255/>**
- **May 19 7pm EST - Performance Prep and Basic Concert Gear - <https://www.facebook.com/events/250535579336718/>**
- **May 20 7pm EST - Skully Bits: Skulls and Skeletons in Prayer Beads - <https://www.facebook.com/events/276906280008232/>**
- **May 21 7pm EST - Women in the Crusades - <https://www.facebook.com/events/449075529271622/>**
- **May 22 7pm EST - DEI Definitions & Concepts - <https://www.facebook.com/events/2897849570328223/>**
- **May 23 2pm EST - Shakespeare's Fools - <https://www.facebook.com/events/565418257687608/>**
- **May 23 7pm EST - Experiencing the Baths at Home - <https://www.facebook.com/events/874434339719558/>**
- **May 24 2pm EST - The Courtier: Application to the SCA - <https://www.facebook.com/events/893959857736038/>**
- **May 24 7pm EST - Demystifying Safavid Women's Headwear - <https://www.facebook.com/events/2259768944331226/>**

Tips for the Combat & Ranged Arts

Armored: Duke Eik's Florentine 3 Fundamental Cutting Kata:

<https://youtu.be/xHRqR884tBY>

Duke Eik's Polearm #10 Hand Change Cutting Kata:

https://youtu.be/tz_C2MCYHyg

Duke Eik's Polearm #11 Extended Range:

<https://youtu.be/0XUCOPZoNV4>

Cut & Thrust: Calibrating Your Feints to Your Opponent

<https://youtu.be/gzQxtPrvJOI>

5 Questions for Cleftlanders -

Sergeant Tariq Al Sanna Af Fjall (TAR-rick ALL Sah-NAH OFF Fee-YALL) (mka Clarence D. Meriweather)

What are your two main activities in the SCA?

Only two? I am both heavy fighter and an artisan (calligraphy and illumination).

Who introduced you to the SCA?

My co-worker/Squire brother Segan Gilla Patraic, mundanely known Sean Shapiro. Segan often teased me at work saying, "You are just the right amount of nerd to want to play this game." He was right.

What famous historical figure from period would you most like to have dinner with?

Richard I of England (Richard the Lion Heart) and Saladin.

What SCA-related projects are you doing during the coronavirus hiatus?

Pell-work, building and trying to acquire all of the pieces for my 14th Century fighting kit for the Road to Rouen heroic deed, working on my backlog of scrolls, practicing some new calligraphic hands.

What is the most important quality a peer should have?

As I am not a peer, I can only offer my opinion. I think the most important quality is Honesty/Truth. I try to be the same person in the SCA that I am mundanely, with both good and bad qualities. Humble about the good, while working to improve the bad. Service is a close second.



Call for Content

We want to make sure there's a central place to get information and see posts that might get buried, or resources that might not be shared.

If you have info to share - an upcoming virtual gathering, activity ideas, or a great website, please contact me: clariciadlm@gmail.com.

Thank you and stay well!

Crafting in Quarantine - REALLY Basic Blackwork

By Lady Nadyezhda the Simple, OW

If you can tell the difference between a vertical, horizontal, and diagonal line, you TOO can do blackwork. It's just that easy. Oh, and all that nonsense about blackwork needing to be totally reversible is just that - nonsense. To quote The Compleat Anachronist - An Introduction to Blackwork #31, "Blackwork is reversible, except when it isn't." More on that later.

Blackwork as we know it in extant pieces probably goes back to the 8th or 9th century Islamic geometric designs. If you think of the Alhambra Palace and its intricate patterns, they all transfer into needlework. The Islamic influence made it popular in Spain during the reign of Queen Isabella, whose daughter, Katherine of Aragon, brought blackwork to England. At that point the designs evolved from pure geometric shapes into representations of plants, animals, and people. This is when blackwork changed from being reversible to, well... you get the idea.

Supplies

Period blackwork was done on linen with black silk thread for the greatest contrast, although eventually dark blue, red, and gold were used either as the main color or as accents. Until you are comfortable with stitching over threads, using contemporary cotton Aida cloth as you would for cross stitch is a good way to start. DMC embroidery floss will be easier to start with until you graduate to silk.

Continued on page 5.

10 Period Movies You May Not Have Seen - continued

Baahubali: The Beginning (2015)

Rating: Not rated

Stars: Prabhas, Rana Daggubati, Ramya Krishnan, Sathyaraj

Time Period: Ancient India

Rotten Tomatoes audience score: 86%

Plot: An adventurous man becomes involved in a decade-old feud between two warring peoples.

The Last Legion (2007)

Rating: PG-13

Stars: Colin Firth, Ben Kingsley

Time Period: 5th century Rome and Britain

Rotten Tomatoes audience score: 34%

Plot: As the Roman empire crumbles, young Romulus Augustus flees the city and travels to Britain to find a legion of supporters.

Mongol: The Rise of Genghis Khan (2008)

Rating: R

Stars: Tadanobu Asano, Sun Honglei, Chuluuny Khulan

Time period: 13th century Asia

Rotten Tomatoes audience score: 76%

Plot: A retelling of the early life of Temüjin, better known as Genghis Khan.

Padmaavat (2018)

Rating: Not rated

Stars: Deepika Padukone, Shahid Kapoor, Ranveer Singh

Time period: 13th century Afghanistan

Rotten Tomatoes audience score: None

Plot: This Hindi-language period drama is loosely based on an epic poem in which a sultan attacks a kingdom in order to claim a beautiful woman.

Outlaw King (2018)

Rating: R

Stars: Chris "Captain Kirk" Pine

Time period: 14th century Scotland

Rotten Tomatoes audience score: 67%

Plot: Robert the Bruce defeats a larger and better equipped occupying English army using cunning and courage.

Tristan and Isolde (2006)

Rating: PG-13

Stars: James Franco, Sophia Myles

Time period: Ancient England

Rotten Tomatoes audience score: 71%

Plot: An affair between the second in line to Britain's throne and an Irish princess does not go well.

Viking (2016)

Rating: Not rated

Stars: Danila Kozlovsky, Svetlana Khodchenkova, Maksim Sukhanov

Time period: 10th century Rus

Rotten Tomatoes audience score: Not available

Plot: This Russia film was inspired by the Icelandic Kings' sagas. After the death of his father, who was ruler of Kievan Rus, a young prince goes into exile in Sweden to escape his treacherous half-brother.

Also worth a look:

Robin Hood (2010, with Russell Crowe, Cate Blanchett)

King Arthur (2004, with Clive Owen, Keira Knightley, Ioan Gruffudd)

Kingdom of Heaven (2005, with Orlando Bloom, Eva Green, Liam Neeson)

Macbeth (2015, with Michael Fassbender, Marion Cotillard)

REALLY Basic Blackwork - continued

Note: As linen is not an even weave fabric, blackwork done on it may look a little less regular than on Aida. The linen used in period was probably 60 or 80 threads per inch which would make the lines smoother.

Whether or not you use a hoop or frame is up to you. Use tapestry needles either size 26 or 28 (a bit smaller) for the best results, as you don't want to piece the fabric as you would with embroidery.

Prepare to Stitch

If you are planning to frame your piece, it is usually suggested that you cut your fabric with an extra 3 inches on each side just to be safe. Otherwise, 2 inches on each side should be enough.

Start in the center. Mark the center of your chart, fold your fabric in quarters, and pinch the center. If you start there, you won't have to worry about running out of fabric on the edges. Once you look at a pattern, you will know exactly what to do! Just focus on one stitch at a time and not the whole pattern as you go. That's all it is – a series of straight lines!

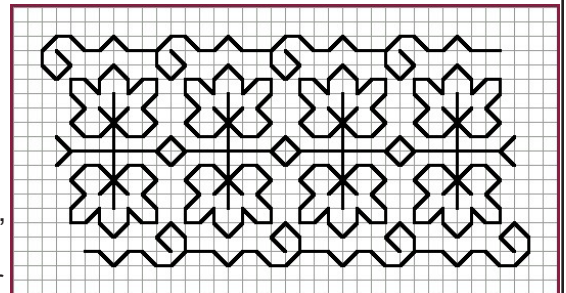
NEVER use Fray check or tape on the edges of your fabric. Both methods leave a residue on the fabric that will eventually damage your piece. Or, cut the edges off the fabric when you are done.

While knots are indeed period, when you start to stitch, leave a tail of thread in the back to catch in your stitches as you go along. Be careful as you stitch not to cross over too much open fabric, which will appear as shadows on the back. Hold your work up to the light from time to time to check if anything shows through.

Wash your piece in warm water with a squirt of Dawn dish liquid, or quilt soap if you have it. NEVER use Woolite on needlework. Again the residues are bluing agents don't play well with stitching.

Resources

- <http://www.blackworkarchives.com/>
What I love about this site is that there is a series of patterns that start simply and become more embellished. You can see the progression of a design and get ideas for creating one of your own.
- <http://www.blackworkjourney.co.uk>
Anything done by Elizabeth Almond is amazing. She offers enough free patterns to keep you challenged as you get better at blackwork, yet offers support to stitchers who just want to take one element of her designs and make variations on it. She has Facebook pages for each of her design collections and personally answers questions that are posted.
- The Compleat Anachronist – An Introduction to Blackwork #31 – SCA Marketplace.
- Lesley Wilkins, *Beginner's Guild to Blackwork*, Search Press, Kent, UK, 2010.
- Lesley Wilkins, *Traditional Blackwork Samplers*, Search Press, Kent, UK, 2004.



This Week in History

May 18 1291 – Fall of Acre, the end of Crusader presence in the Holy Land.

May 19 1536 – Anne Boleyn, the second wife of Henry VIII of England, is beheaded

May 20 325 – The First Council of Nicaea is formally opened by Emperor Constantine.

May 21 427 – Plato, Greek philosopher, is born.

May 22 1455 – Wars of the Roses Begins: 1st Battle of St Albans where the Duke of York defeats King Henry VI.

May 23 1430 – Joan of Arc captured by the Burgundians while leading an army to raise the Siege of Compiègne.

May 24 1276 – Magnus Ladulås is crowned King of Sweden in Uppsala Cathedral.

This is an unofficial publication of the Barony of the Cleftlands of the Society for Creative Anachronism, Inc.. It is not a publication of the SCA, Inc., and does not delineate SCA policy.