

## Tessellating Lace By Sandy Hutton

One of the study groups I participate in played the Design Game outlined by Ann Sutton in her book *Ideas in Weaving*. The purpose of the game is to encourage a designer to work with elements, principles, and components of design he or she might not have worked with before. Each of the participants in this instance was assigned three weaving components to combine in one design. My assignment consisted of: (1) some or all Bronson lace, (2) regular spots (which I interpreted to mean regularly repeating spots), and (3) more than two kinds of fibers (interpreted as 3 or more fibers).

On the same day this assignment arrived, I also received the e-newsletter called Damask Network News. On the front cover was a design which had interested me for a long time called trisecting hexagons. Trisecting hexagons tessellate (meaning the motif covers a 2-dimensional space when repeated—it leaves no gaps and it does not overlap itself when repeated). I concluded it must be time for me to finally work out this motif.

I'm not particularly fond of Bronson lace, so I chose to work with the 4 end, 4 pick version which is a little lacier and when units are repeated, do not take up as much space as the more popular 6 thread version. I placed the "spots" in the plain weave boxes which outlined the hexagons. I needed a fine thread in order to keep within the sample size limitations, so used some white 54/2 mercerized cotton in the warp and a similar size of off-white 80% Tencel/20% silk I bought in Tampa at Convergence. The sett was 40 epi, sleyed 3,1,3,1 etc. in a 20 dent reed as recommended by Donna Muller in *Handwoven Laces*. Shrinkage was 5% in width and 6% in length. I think the fabric would work well as a summer shawl or scarf or in a blouse.

## 2011 Major Workshop with Michael Rohde

We are indeed fortunate to have Michael Rohde, internationally known rug weaver and basket maker, as our workshop leader April 5, 6, and 7 of 2011. The workshop is titled "Rug Weaving, from the Easy to the Complex" and is designed to provide challenging educational opportunities for all levels of weavers. Michael will provide participants with several threading drafts. Each participant will select and thread one of them and work on his or her own loom throughout the workshop. Suitable materials, structures, color use, designs and finishing of rugs will be included. The workshop will be held at the Carriage House at Julie Penrose House. Floor or table looms are acceptable.

Members may sign up for the workshop at the May guild meeting. Price of the workshop is expected to be similar to other recent major workshops and a deposit will be due in September.

Rohde will provide the regular guild program discussing his development as a rug weaver and an artist on Friday, April 8.

For more information please contact the workshop coordinators, Sandy Hutton or Sally Kuhn.