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## The New Digital Textile Final Report

The Jacquard Weave File Design Workshop 1 was an intensive lesson in using Photoshop to design for the TC2 digital loom. I gained practical and theoretical knowledge in digital weaving for the TC2. I expanded my proficiency in Photoshop, learning how to adapt the software to design for complex woven structures for jacquard fabrics.

While I have extensive experience working with proprietary woven design software, my Photoshop skills have needed more development. By the end of the workshop, I not only gained an understanding of new tools and settings on the program but also felt more comfortable as a “user.” I solidified my base knowledge, built upon it with new skills, and felt faster and more agile while designing in the program. I created a set of core technical weave files that I will be able to use for years to come in developing jacquard designs. In addition, I gained insight into the best methods for quickly creating additional weave structures. I am excited to continue to build my library of weaves to draw from in the future.

I was surprised to gain more than technical skills in the workshop. My career in the upholstery industry has shaped my view of designing for jacquards. This workshop helped me see alternative ways of thinking about digital weaving, unbound by restrictions of costs, markets, testing requirements, and end customer. My mind was opened to see jacquard design through a new lens that will be a great benefit to me as I continue to create fiber art. I always understood that digital weaving could be more “experimental”. However, now my perspective shifted to understanding it in practice. This will be a great benefit to me as I continue to work on my own fiber art. My solid background in complex woven structure gives me the foundation to break the rules, while still creating structurally sound textiles. Some of the techniques we learned with this experimental viewpoint could potentially be unweavable at the loom.

By the end of the workshop I created three different files to weave on the TC2 loom. Each explored one of the methods I learned applying jacquard weave structures with Photoshop. I used themes from two different fiber art projects that I previously produced work for. In addition, I created a technical file to test colors, yarns, and additional weaves. The technical file will be a useful tool as I continue to design for the digital loom. I am looking forward to weaving these on campus and am in conversation with Patrice George to find a good time to weave on the TC2 loom this summer. I’m eager to contribute a new medium to the body of work I have already created.