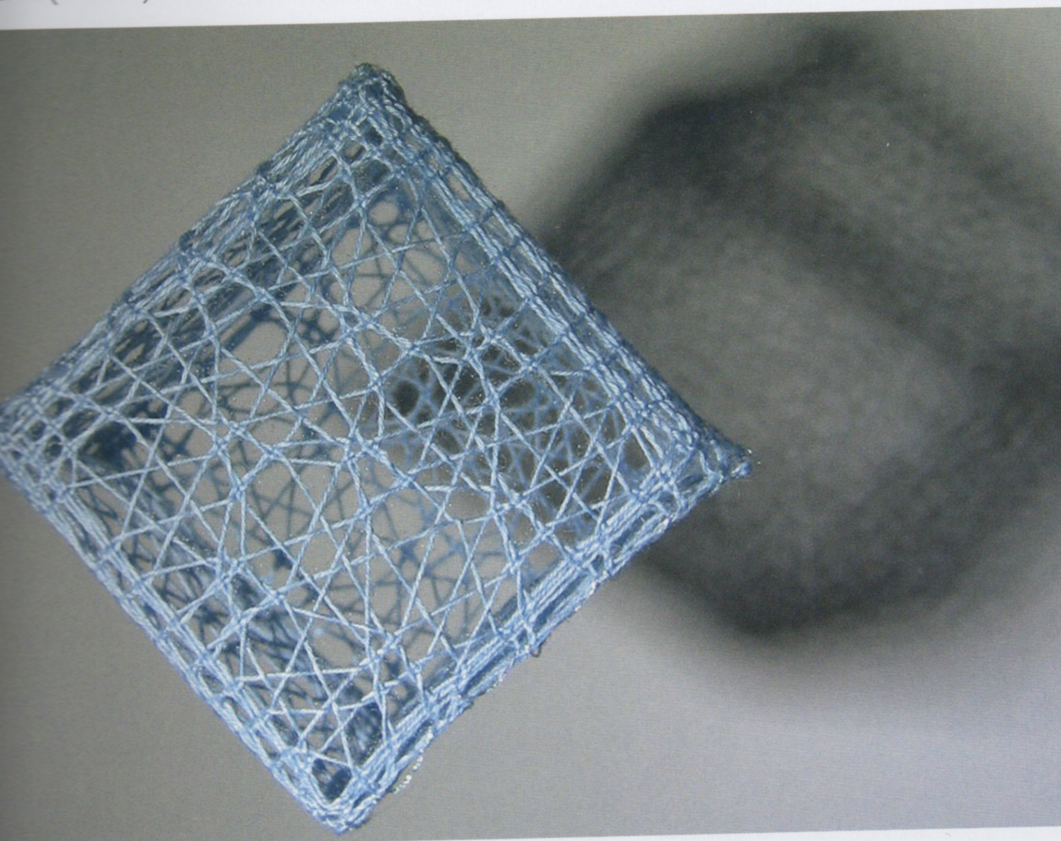


on the wall, Marleen Dewulf, teacher.  
Gemeentelijke Academie voor Beeldende Kunst (GABK),  
Liedekerke (Ninove).



**Liedekerke (Ninove),  
Gemeentelijke Academie  
voor Beeldende Kunst (GABK),  
Marleen Dewulf and Sofie De Ville**  
[www.liedekerke.be/GABK](http://www.liedekerke.be/GABK)

The Academie voor Beeldende Kunst was established on 1 September 1974. Over the years it has grown to cover another four different locations: Liedekerke, Ninove, Opwijk and Gooik. The GABK has steadily increased its artistic influence in the region and today has more than 1,200 students. The academy offers part-time art education (DKO).

The Lace Department at Ninove, a branch of the academy, came into existence in 1991. The department was restructured in 2012 and changed its name to *Lace & Tex-*

*tile*, clearly indicating the broader interpretation given to this senior level education.

The academy showcases lace and textile as a valid artistic medium. Traditional lace and textile techniques are interpreted artistically in a responsible way. The possibilities and combinations which the students are taught enable them to develop a visual language of their own and to realise personal works. Through contemporary design they learn to work with colour, form and composition. Guided by talented teachers, they research lace techniques and other textile fabrics and apply this expertise to their creations. The academy promotes visual creativity, self-expression and artistic engagement. This results in personal and topical textile objects.

Each academic year, the lace and textile department takes part in the end of year exhibition at the cc De Plombloem art centre and the old town hall in Ninove. Since the department was established in 1991, students have regularly taken part in many prestigious exhibitions and events at home and abroad.

**Marleen Dewulf**, born in Bruges, has taught lace making in the Lace and Textile department at Ninove since 2017. She started in the lace school of the Apostoline Sisters in Bruges in 1976. There, she mainly studied making the classic types of lace, gaining her higher secondary diploma in 1984. In 1989 she graduated as a historian and art historian at the University of Ghent. After that, she perfected many aspects of lace making during her teacher training at the Lace Centre in Bruges. She completed her three years of studies in 1993. In 2013 she started drawing at the Gemeentelijke Academie Beeldende Kunst in Ninove. As well as teaching at the academy, she is also the cultural policy coordinator in a rural but very artistically-aware Flemish-Brabant community.