

2015 NEW JERSEY CRAFT ARTS ANNUAL

ACCESSORIZE:
THE PERSON AND THE PLACE



Morris Museum



Funding for this exhibition has been made possible in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State.

The *New Jersey Arts Annual* is a unique series of exhibitions highlighting the works of visual artists and craftspeople in the state in the areas of fine arts and crafts. One exhibition takes place each year in either fine arts or crafts, in altering sequence. This exhibition series is open to any artist currently living or working in New Jersey.

The Arts Annual series is cosponsored by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts in partnership with major museums around the state including the Montclair Art Museum, the Morris Museum, The Newark Museum, The Noyes Museum of Art, and the New Jersey State Museum.

Upcoming Arts Annuals:

2016: Fine Arts Annual—The Noyes Museum of Stockton College

2017: Craft Arts Annual—New Jersey State Museum

Founded in 1913, the Morris Museum is a vibrant cultural center connecting people to the arts and sciences, to new ideas, and to each other. Education is central to the Museum's mission, which is advanced by its extensive collection of more than 40,000 objects ranging from fine art to fossils. Its Guinness Collection of mechanical musical instruments and automata is one of the finest collections of its kind. The only museum in New Jersey with a professional theatre program, the Museum presents musicals, dramas, comedies, and mysteries; year-round children's theatre; a jazz series; and special performances in our Bickford Theatre. Through artistic excellence and innovation, the Morris Museum strives to create a more interactive, relevant and dynamic museum experience in a welcoming environment that inspires cultural engagement, lifelong learning and artistic expression.

A dynamic, community-focused cultural organization the mission of the Morris Museum is:

To elevate the cultural consciousness, excite the mind and enhance the quality of life by advancing the understanding and enjoyment of the visual and performing arts, natural and physical sciences and humanities through exhibitions, performances and educational programs in a welcoming, inclusive and creative environment that responsibly uses all museum resources, including stewardship of a permanent collection.

The Morris Museum, a not-for-profit museum receives operating support from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State—a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts, The Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the F.M. Kirby Foundation, the New Jersey Cultural Trust, Novartis Pharmaceuticals, and other corporations, foundations, and individuals.



New Jersey
Cultural Trust



Catalog Design by Angela Sergonis-Melchionne
Catalog Printed Courtesy of Novartis Pharmaceuticals

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February 12—April 19, 2015

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STATEMENT FROM THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

It is my pleasure to extend congratulations and best wishes to the artists represented in this year's New Jersey Arts Annual exhibition "Accessorize: The Person and The Place," and to all of the sponsoring organizations that have come together to make this event such a success. New Jersey Arts Annual exhibitions illustrate the extraordinary vitality of New Jersey's artists and reinforce the value of art in our lives. Programs such as this exhibition create a wonderful relationship between artists and the public. Our most talented artists showcase their work in some of the most important museums in the state, and the people of New Jersey share in and connect to the quality and diversity of that marvelous creative experience, which is uniquely our own.

The Department of State and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts are proud to help make this program possible. Thank you to all the participating museums for celebrating New Jersey's artistic community and to the artists who share their best with us. A special thanks to Morris Museum for hosting such an exciting exhibit. You have all ensured its success.

With the on-going commitment of the State Arts Council and its museum cosponsors, the Arts Annual series will continue to stand as a testament to artistic excellence and a celebration of New Jersey at its best.

Kim Guadagno, *Lieutenant Governor*

STATEMENT FROM THE NEW JERSEY STATE COUNCIL ON THE ARTS

On behalf of the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, we congratulate the artists represented in the 2015 New Jersey Arts Annual exhibition in crafts, “Accessorize: The Person and The Place.” We are all enriched by the work of artists who help us to see the world and its possibilities in new ways, and we are fortunate to have so many outstanding artists call New Jersey home. The New Jersey Arts Annual exhibition series continues to serve as an important forum for artists in both fine arts and crafts, and the State Arts Council is proud to cosponsor this exhibition with Morris Museum.

The State Arts Council is committed to serving New Jersey artists in many ways. In addition to the Arts Annual series, the Arts Council supports the work and advancement of New Jersey artists through fellowships, professional development, technical assistance, networking and showcase opportunities, a virtual gallery on www.jerseyarts.com, and grants and incentives to arts organizations to showcase and better serve New Jersey artists. The Council also manages the Arts Inclusion Program, through which works of public art are commissioned for State buildings. Our programs and services for individual artists represent some of our most important and rewarding work.

The Council applauds the boards and staff of the five museums that participate in the Arts Annual series: the Montclair Art Museum, New Jersey State Museum, the Noyes Museum of Stockton College, The Newark Museum and most especially Morris Museum. These museums are driven by true commitment to New Jersey artists and to making New Jersey a better place through the arts. Special thanks this year to Morris Museum Executive Director Linda Moore and Associate Curator Angela Sergonis-Melchionne, as well as juror Ronald T. Labaco, the Marcia Docter Curator at the Museum of Arts and Design in New York City for making such a substantial investment in the success of this program and for mounting this beautiful exhibition.

Elizabeth Mattson, *Chair*

Nick Paleologos, *Executive Director*

Don Ehman, *Director of Arts Inclusion/Artists' Services*

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Irene Yew

DIRECTOR'S WELCOME

On behalf of the Morris Museum trustees and staff, I am delighted to host the 2015 New Jersey Craft Arts Annual exhibition, *Accessorize: The Person and The Place*. The Morris Museum is proud of our longstanding partnership with the New Jersey State Council on the Arts in presenting this exhibition, a partnership that we share with these outstanding New Jersey museums: the Montclair Art Museum, the Newark Museum, the New Jersey State Museum, and the Noyes Museum of Art.

I am excited by the broad participation of artists drawn from throughout the state and applaud their talent and inventiveness in working with new techniques and materials. The great variety of media and methods represented in this exhibition reflect the creativity that defines New Jersey and enriches our lives. This exhibition also continues the Morris Museum's commitment to showcasing contemporary crafts and the talents of New Jersey artists, in particular.

I am very grateful to Angela Sergonis-Melchionne, the Morris Museum's Associate Curator, whose commitment to fine design and technique is evident in this exhibition and its installation. I also want to thank Co-Juror Ronald T. Labaco, Marcia Docter Curator at the Museum of Arts and Design, whose participation in the selection process was thoughtful and discerning. Likewise, I thank the staff of the Morris Museum, particularly Kelli Cheval, who oversaw the submission process, and Maria Ribaud, Collections Manager, who handled all registrar details. In addition, Don Ehman, Director, Arts Inclusion, Artist Services, Access Coordinator, for the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, has been an invaluable resource.

Accessorize would not have been possible without the generous support of our many private and public funders. On behalf of the Morris Museum, I extend sincere appreciation to the New Jersey State Council on the Arts for its historic commitment to funding this exhibition of New Jersey craft artists. We are also most grateful for our steadfast funders: the Geraldine R. Dodge Foundation, the F.M. Kirby Foundation, the Park Avenue Foundation, Bank of America, and our many members and individual donors.

I commend the artists featured in the 2015 New Jersey Craft Arts Annual and invite you to Meet the Artists at the panel programs that the Morris Museum will be hosting on March 19, 6:00-8:00pm and April 10, 2:00-4:00pm.

I hope you are inspired by the works in this exhibition and experience a renewed appreciation for the incredible creativity that thrives in New Jersey.

Linda Moore

Executive Director and CEO

Morris Museum

JUROR'S STATEMENT

Accessorizing is about individual choice. Accessories afford personalization. They offer the opportunity for individual expression, visual communication, and a means of social engagement, drawing people together into conversation on who made the piece, how did they make it, using what materials.

Many of the works in this year's New Jersey Craft Arts Annual defy easy categorization. Whether in form, subject matter, material, or function, the diversity of media, scale, purpose, and intent embraced multiple aspects of contemporary life and visual culture.

Most directly addressing the theme of "accessorize" were the jewelry makers who create adornments for the body, sometimes using unusual combinations of materials. This section includes Judy Beck's jewelry-like scarf in multiple fibers and vintage beads; Joan Cumming's rusted steel, silver, and cubic zirconia ring; Jill Baker Gower's silver, silicone rubber, and mirror necklace; Kenneth MacBain's mixed metal and cubic zirconia engagement ring in the form of a bear trap; Randy Sheer's brooches in natural and found materials; and Wendy Yothers' silver skeleton-hand necklace.

Mid-scale works to accessorize the home interior were represented by fiber arts and Pamela Becker's colorfully patterned baskets, Ellen Weisbord's earth-toned and mixed media basketry, and Bern Yates' wonderfully-crafted wedding broom. The textile arts were represented by a high proportion of figurative or narrative works, including Marilyn Belford's intricately-pieced quilts with mythical imagery, Linda Rae Coughlin's rugs that address uneasy social issues, Liz Kuny's hand-painted and appliquéd quilts, Elizabeth Mackie's sculptural fiber installation, Liz Mitchell's ethereal butterfly kimono, and Linda Friedman Schmidt's powerful narrative portraits created from discarded clothing.

A few works referenced the continuation of the studio tradition with a contemporary twist included Tom Biron's contemplative driftwood and ceramic sculptures, Veronica Byun's colorful ceramic aggregations, Buren Gilpin's turned wood vessel, Susan Holford's paper and mixed media creations, and Thomas Ryder's sculpted glass portraits. The machine aesthetic could be seen in Clifford Blanchards's imaginative stainless steel sculptures, Gary DiBenedetto's kinetic and aural installations, and Kevin Kurie's wood and steel furniture.

As the works in this exhibition demonstrate, the boundary between the fine arts and craft arts grows ever faint, as interest in how and where things were made and who made them grows in significance, and skilled-making gains greater cultural capital.

Ronald T. Labaco

Marcia Docter Curator
Museum of Arts and Design

CURATOR'S STATEMENT

The goal of the 2015 New Jersey Craft Arts Annual is to present an exhibition that highlights the creativity and vitality of New Jersey artists, fusing traditional craft mediums with innovative materials and techniques. The theme for this year's Arts Annual in Crafts, "Accessorize: The Person and The Place," explores trends taking place in contemporary crafts as artists cross boundaries in process and materials. The concept of accessorizing offers an "accessible" avenue for inviting the public to explore the great variety of textures, materials, and techniques that are being embraced by New Jersey craft artisans in ways that adorn the person or enliven one's space.

Of the over 550 works of art submitted by 84 artists, 60 works by 27 artists were selected for this exhibition. Though many more submissions were worthy of consideration, the jurors considered these sixty works as having the highest artistic merit and the clearest fulfillment of the thematic criteria of "Accessorize." These artists demonstrate skill, as well as a true passion for their craft. These craft artisans epitomize both innovative design and a mastery of technique through expressions that range from the inventive exploration of contemporary materials to hand-crafted processes that utilize traditional mediums, such as clay, glass, wood, fiber, and metal.

This exhibition explores a range of artistic talent and inventiveness in design, the creative use of new and traditional materials, and a mastery of technique. It is hoped that by experiencing contemporary crafts visitors will gain a deeper understanding and appreciation for the contribution of New Jersey artists to contemporary studio art crafts.

I greatly appreciate the opportunity to work with Ronald T. Labaco and thank him for selecting the works in this beautiful exhibition. Congratulations to the artists selected for the 2015 New Jersey Craft Arts Annual at the Morris Museum.

Angela Sergonis-Melchionne

Associate Curator

Morris Museum



WORKS IN THE EXHIBITION



Jill Baker Gower

Fleshgem Triplet Necklace, 2013

argentium sterling silver, silicone rubber, mirrors

12.5x3x1"



Judy Beck

More is More: A Pearl Fantasy, 2014
wool and acrylic with vintage beads
9x20"



Pamela Becker
By the Sea, 2013
closed coil basketry fiber
12x21.8x21.8"



Marilyn Belford
Medea Escaping, 2009
Fabric
81.5x102.5"



Tom Biron

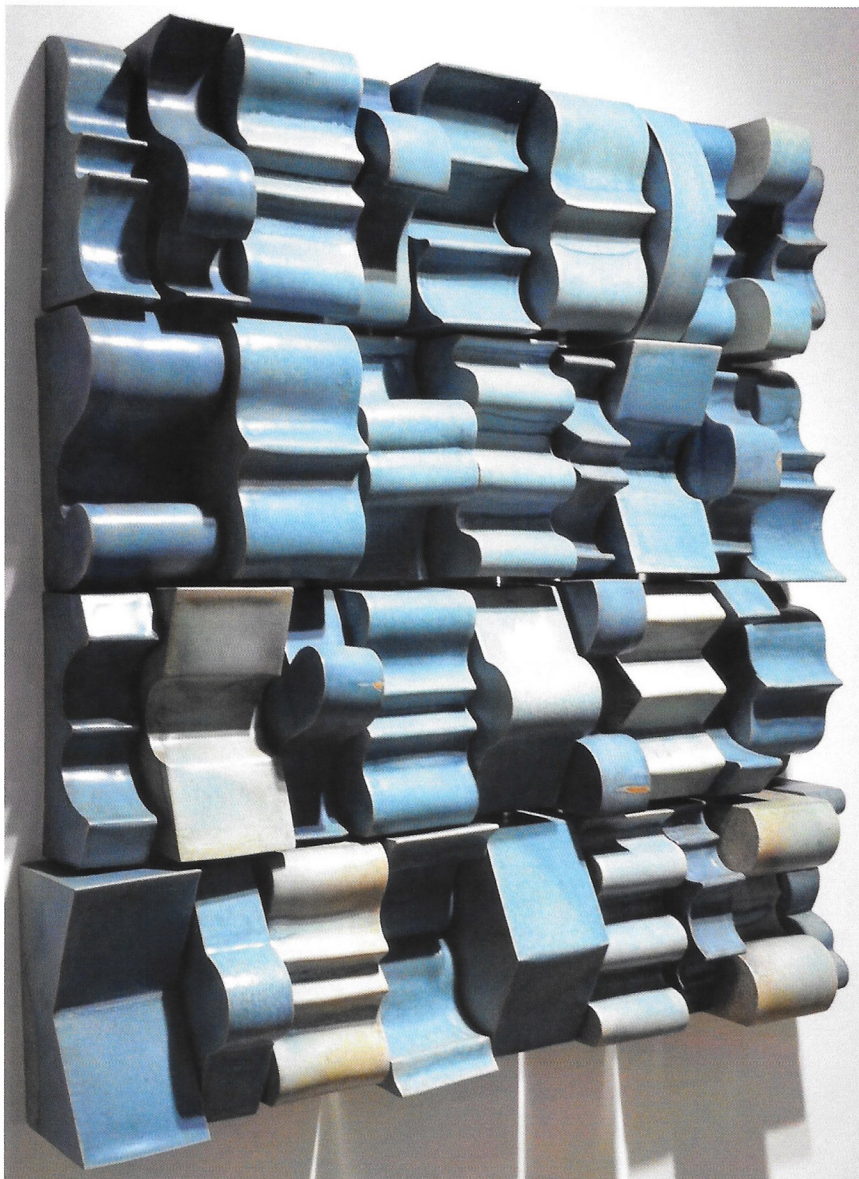
Driftwood with Saggar 2, 2014

ceramic and wood

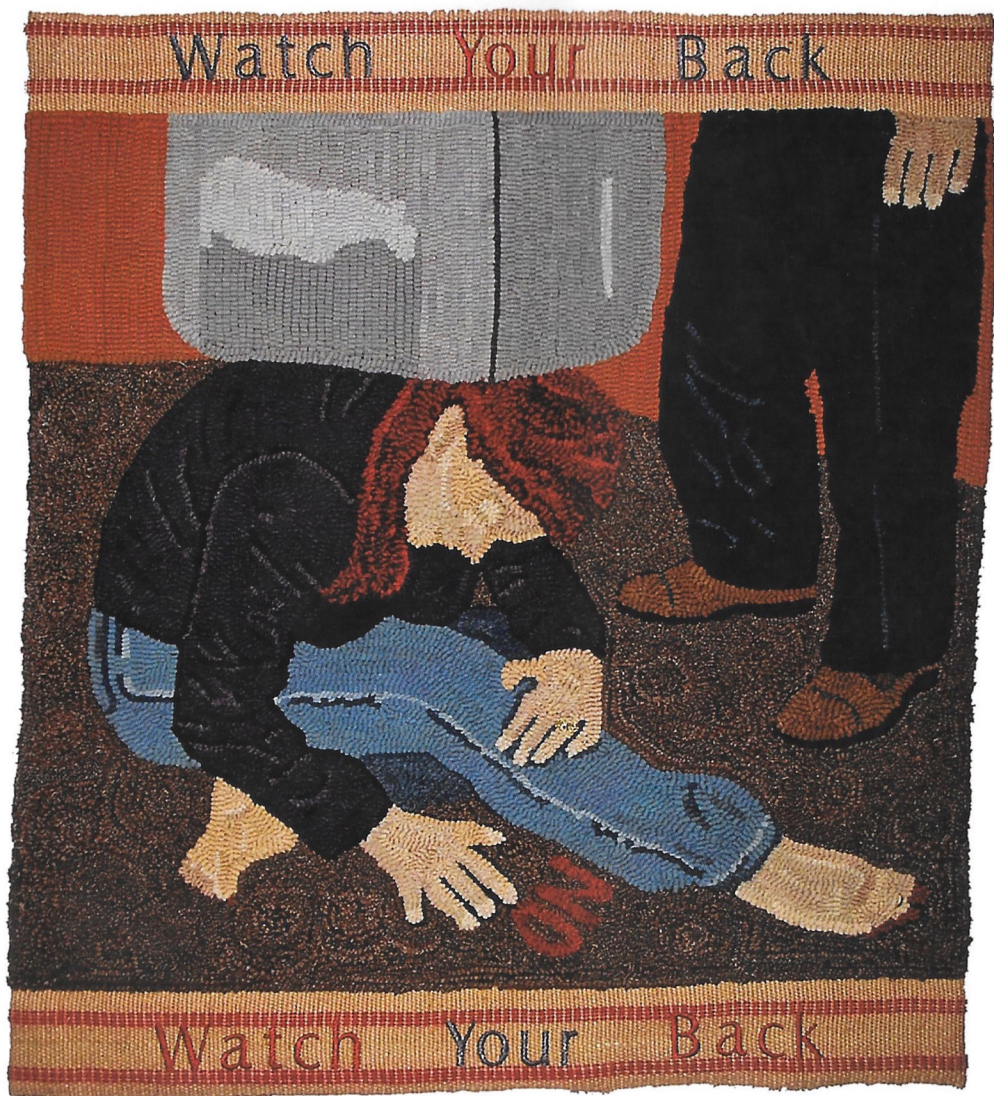
12x72x20"



Clifford Blanchard
Oculi, 2013
stainless steel
25x16x12"



Veronica Byun
Misty Dawn, 2010
ceramics
58x48x8"



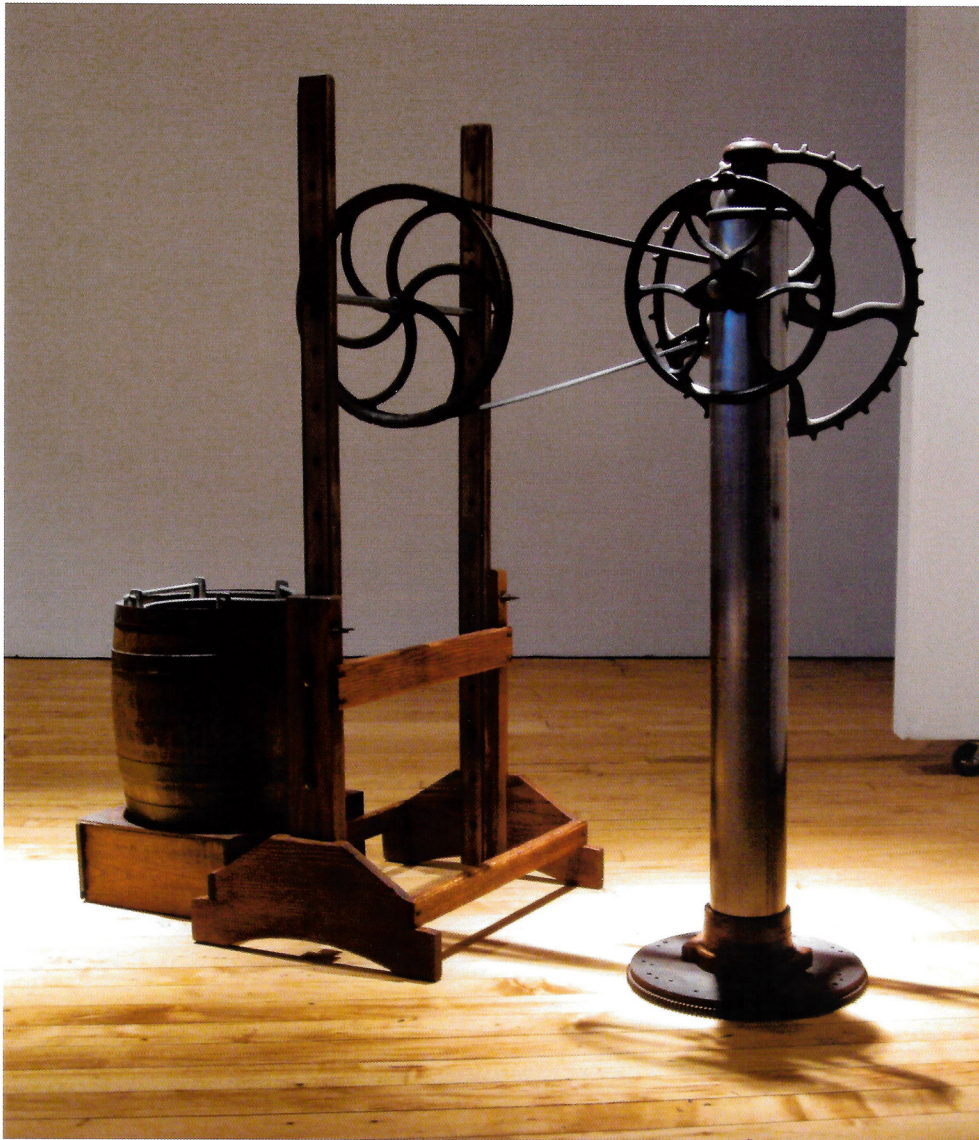
Linda Rae Coughlin
No Watch Your Back, 2010
fiber
33x30x1"



Joan Cummings

Ring, 2013

found rusted nut hardware, silver, cubic zirconia
2x2"



Gary DiBenedetto

Coin Delivery System, 2011

found objects, wood, copper, steel, audio technology

66x60x23"



Buren Gilpin
Holly Flame, 2013
wood
10x5"



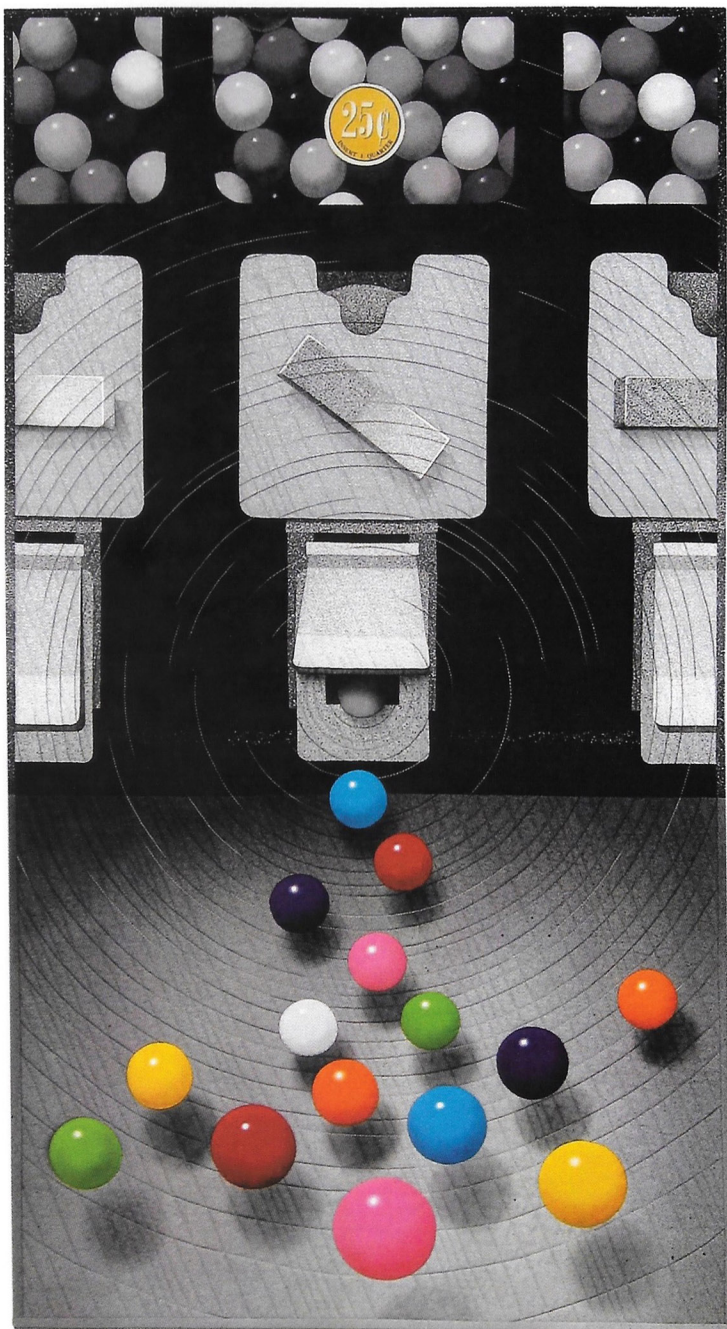
Susan Holford

Atmospheric Fragment, 2012

handmade paper, mixed media

40x32x17"

Liz Kuny
Flight of Fancy, 2010
fabric, textile paint, oil paint sticks
39x21"





Kevin Kurie
Hall Table, 2014
wood, steel, dyed epoxy
29.5x72x16"



Maria Lupo
Tiger Lilly, 2012
topsoil, faux leaves
8x14x8"

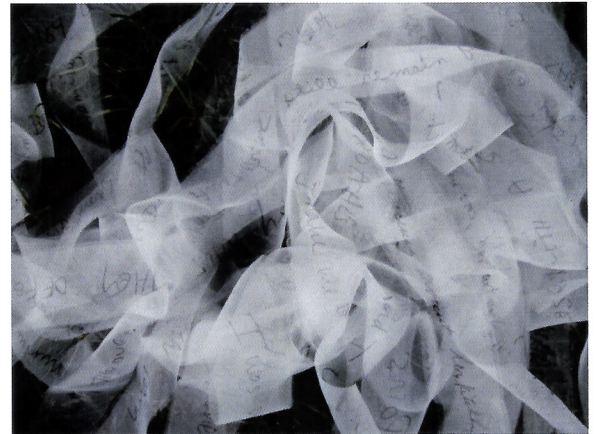


Kenneth MacBain

Wedding Anniversary Ring, 2011

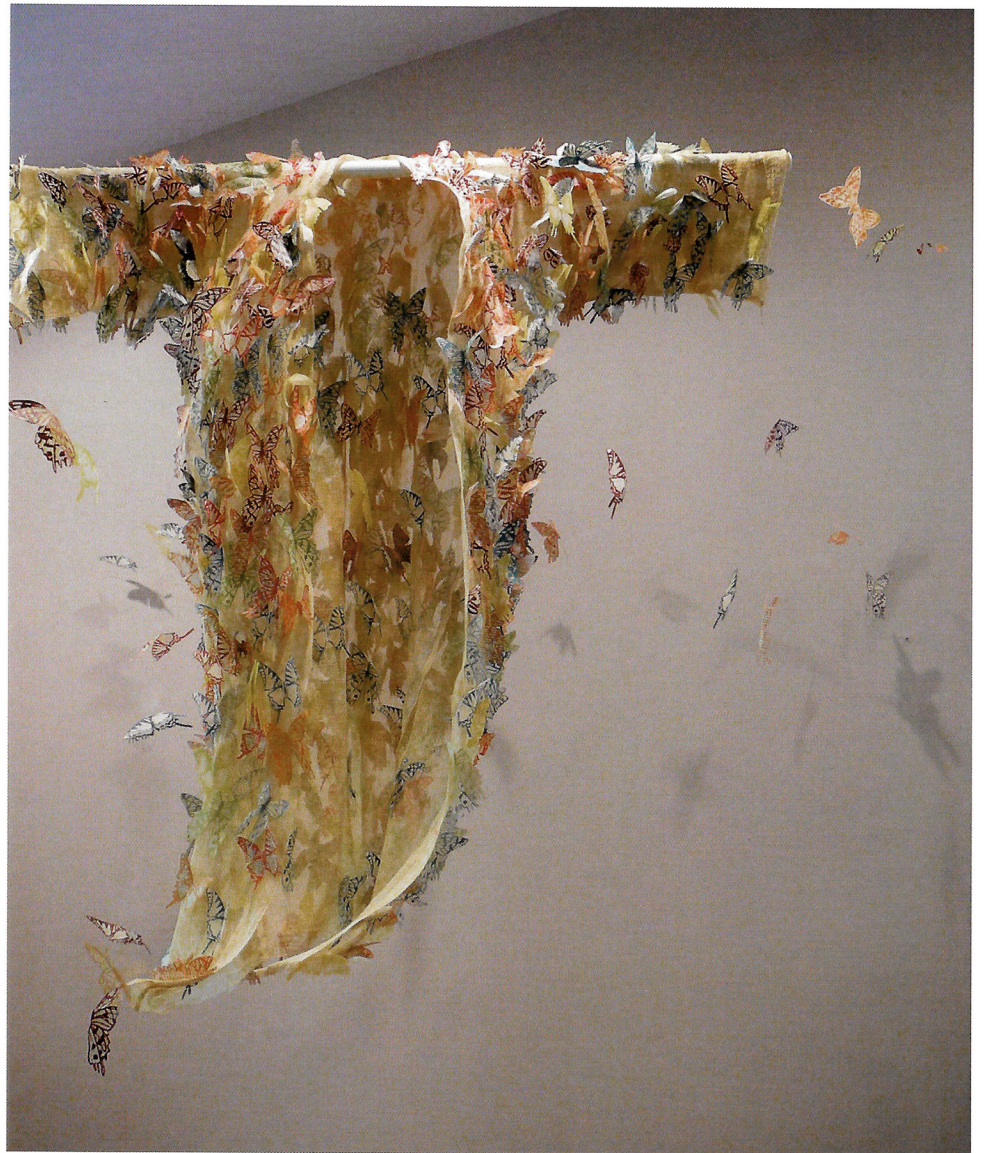
brass, copper, cubic zirconia

1.5x6x1"



Elizabeth Mackie
A String of little stories, 2011
 fiber
 11x8x8'

(detail)



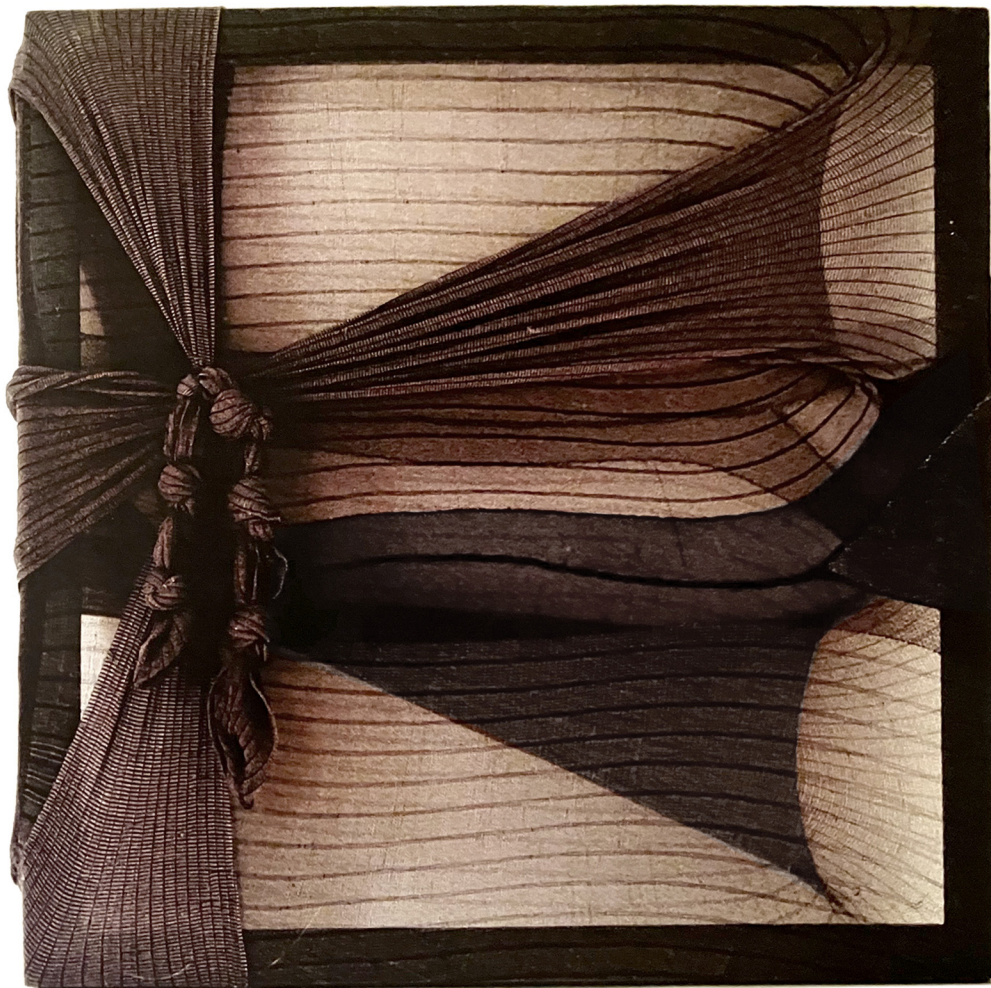
Liz Mitchell

Butterfly Kimono, 2009

cotton gauze, relief printed Japanese silk paper, encaustic wax, monofilament
5x5' (variable)

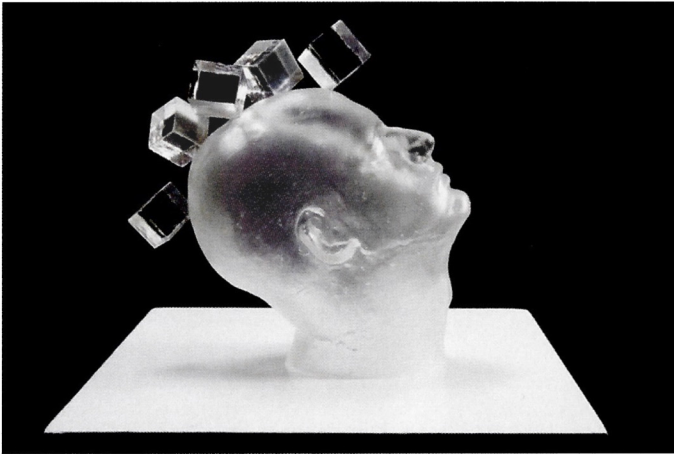


Andrew Pawlan
Joy, 2009
beaded found object
7x4x9"



Kathleen Rebek

Mrs. Bojagi's Pantyhose, 2014
recycled pantyhose, wooden frame
12x12"

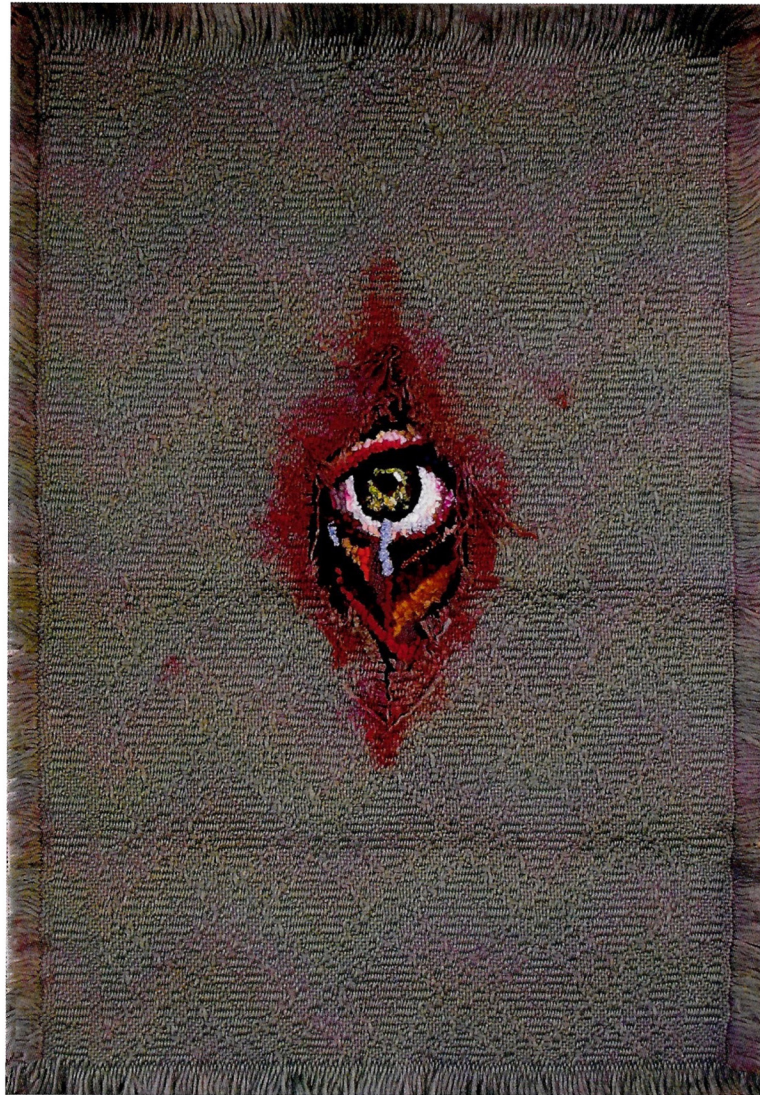


Thomas Ryder

Reflections (Natural Beauty), 2013
blown and sculpted glass
13.5x6.5x13"

Reflections (Man Made Beauty), 2013
blown and sculpted glass
13.5x6.5x14"

Reflections (Macroscopic Beauty), 2013
blown and sculpted glass
13.5x6.5x15"



Linda Friedman Schmidt

Tear, 2012

discarded clothing, placemat, acrylic

20x14x1"



Randy Sheer

"Blue-Black" Brooch, 2014

geode half, unknown stone, found ceramic, antique watch fob
2x5"



Ellen Weisbord

Pt. Reyes Triptych, 2013

hemp, miscellaneous fibers, wood, bones

11x32x10"(variable)



Jennifer Wroblewski
Ceremonial Necklace, 2013
knit wires, spray paint
12x10x3"

Bern Yates
Wedding Broom, 2012
fiber Art
8.5x79"





Wendy Yothers
Take My Hands, 2014
sterling silver
2x10"

EXHIBITION CHECKLIST

EXHIBITION CHECKLIST

Alphabetical checklist of all works in the exhibition, with contact information. All pieces are collection of the artist unless otherwise noted. Dimensions are listed as height x width x depth.

1. **Jill Baker Gower**
Fleshgem Triplet Necklace, 2013, argentium sterling silver, silicone rubber, mirrors
 12.5x3x1"
Fleshgem Brooch 1, 2013, argentium sterling silver, silicone rubber, mirror, garnets, pearls, stainless steel pin back
 2.5x4x.75"
Fleshgem Brooch 2, 2013, argentium sterling silver, rubber, stainless steel pin back
 5x2.25x1"
Fleshgem Brooch 3, 2014, argentium sterling silver, rubber, stainless steel pin back
 2.5x4x.75"
Fleshgem Collar, 2012, silicone rubber, freshwater pearls, monofilament, rare earth magnets
 9x9x1.5"
www.jillbakergower.com
2. **Judy Beck**
More is More: A Pearl Fantasy, 2014, wool and acrylic with vintage beads
 9x20"
judybeck1@verizon.net
3. **Pamela Becker**
Moss, 2012, closed coil basketry fiber
 20.25x18.5x18.5"
WP, 2013, closed coil basketry fiber
 9.6x13.6x13.6"
By the sea, 2013, closed coil basketry fiber
 12x21.8x21.8"
Effervescence, 2014, closed coil basketry fiber
 16.75x22.25x22.25"
pamelaebeker@comcast.net; pamelaebeker.com
4. **Marilyn Belford**
Medea Escaping, 2009, fabric
 81.5x102.5"
The Wrath of Poseidon, 2011, fabric
 53x59"
marilynelford@earthlink.net; marilynelford.com
5. **Tom Biron**
Driftwood with Saggar 2, 2014, ceramic and wood
 12x72x20"
tombiron1015@gmail.com
6. **Clifford Blanchard**
Oculi, 2013, stainless steel
 25x16x12"
Chalice, 2012, stainless steel
 33x39x39"
cblanchard@wmb Blanchard.com
7. **Veronica Juyoun Byun**
Misty Dawn, 2010, ceramics
 58x48x8"
Planer Attachment, 2012, ceramics
 12x22x24"
Shimmering Sea at Sunset, 2010, ceramics
 36x56x10"
veronicabyun@gmail.com; veronicabyun.com
8. **Linda Rae Coughlin**
No Watch Your Back, 2010, fiber
 33x30x1"
lindacoughlin@optonline.net
9. **Joan Cummings**
Ring, 2013, found rusted nut hardware, silver, cubic zirconia
 2x2"
joancummings1425@gmail.com
10. **Gary DiBenedetto**
Coin Delivery System, 2011, found objects, wood, copper, steel, audio technology
 66x60x23"
Spinning Wheel and Bells, 2009, found objects, wood, brass, steel, audio technology
 59x44x16"
multimedia@garydibenedetto.com; garydibenedetto.com

11. **Buren Gilpin**
Holly Flame, 2013, wood
10x5"

Nature's Lace, 2014, wood
9x4"

bcgilpin@msn.com; sunsetcoveartstudios.com
12. **Susan Holford**
Atmospheric Fragment, 2012, handmade paper, mixed media
40x32x17"

susanholford@verizon.net
13. **Liz Kuny**
Flight of Fancy, 2010, fabric, textile paint, oil paint sticks
39x21"

lizkuny@gmail.com; www.lizkuny.com
14. **Kevin Kurie**
Hall Table, 2014, wood, steel, dyed epoxy
29.5x72x16"

kevinkurie@gmail.com
15. **Maria Lupo**
Tiger Lilly, 2012, topsoil, faux leaves
8x14x8"

Duckbaby, 2013, topsoil, faux leaves
16x15x8"

lupothewolf@verizon.net; www.lupoart.com
16. **Kenneth MacBain**
Wedding Anniversary Ring, 2011, brass, copper, cubic zirconia
1.5"x 6"x 1"

Mine Forever (closed), 2011, steel, cubic zirconia, brass, nickel silver
.75x1x.75"

Gender Identity Ring, 2014, brass, silver, copper, repurposed level
1.75x1.25x1.25"

Untitled Wedding Ring, 2014, brass, cubic zirconia
1.5x1.75x1.75"

Diamond Necklace, 2013, brass, photograph, resin
12x14x.5"

Just Like Kate (Middleton), 2014, sterling silver, photograph, resin
1.625x1.625x1"

KMacBain@gmail.com
17. **Elizabeth Mackie**
A String of little stories, 2011, fiber
11x8x8"

mackie@tcnj.edu; elizabethmackie.com
18. **Liz Mitchell**
Butterfly Kimono, 2009, cotton gauze, relief printed Japanese silk paper, encaustic wax, monofilament
5'x5' (variable)

Hair Shirt, 2014, relief printed Japanese paper, horsehair, encaustic wax
37x45x2"

lizzez@comcast.net
19. **Andrew Pawlan**
Drop Dead Gorgeous, 2011, beaded found object
13x4x7"

Joy, 2009, beaded found object
7x4x9"

Trophy, 2012, beaded found object
18x14x7"

Western Religion, 2012, beaded found object
7x12x6"

pavlanka@hotmail.com; andrewpawlan.com
20. **Kathleen Rebek**
Mrs. Bojagi's Pantyhose, 2014, recycled pantyhose, wooden frame
12x12"

krebek@nj.rr.com
21. **Thomas Ryder**
Reflections (Natural Beauty), 2013, blown and sculpted glass
13.5x6.5x13"

Reflections (Man Made Beauty), 2013, blown and sculpted glass
13.5x6.5x14"

Reflections (Macroscopic Beauty), 2013, blown and sculpted glass
13.5x6.5x15"

tom@tomryderart.com
22. **Linda Friedman Schmidt**
Tear, 2012, discarded clothing, placemat, acrylic
20x14x1"

lindafriedmanschmidt@gmail.com;
lindafriedmanschmidt.com

23. **Randy Sheer**
"Blue-Black" Brooch, 2014, Geode half, unknown stone,
found ceramic, antique watch fob
2x5"

"Sedona" Brooch, 2014, Brown unknown stone, turquoise
pottery, 2 antique G.F. watch fobs
.875x3x.75"

"Reclaimed" Brooch, 2013, Concrete, glass, smoky topaz
stone, silver
3x3.5"

"Pearl Remembrance" Brooch, 2013, Abalone Shell, found
decoupage on shell, pearls, silver
3x3"

randy.sheer@gmail.com
24. **Ellen Weisbord**
Aurora Borealis, Yellowknife, 2014, dupioni silk knotted pile,
linen twining
62x39x1"

Pt. Reyes Triptych, 2013, hemp, miscellaneous fibers, wood,
bones
11x32x10" (variable)

ellenweisbord.com
25. **Jennifer Wroblewski**
Ceremonial Necklace, 2013, knit wires, spray paint
12x10x3"

Bauble, 2014, embroidered recycled saree silk
40x16"
On loan courtesy of Tracey Holderman

Treasure, 2013, Sony PSP, handmade chain maille, aerosol,
mirrors
6x12x20"

jennifercwroblewski@gmail.com
26. **Bern Yates**
Enchanted Broom, 2012, fiber art
12x51"

Wedding Broom, 2012, fiber art
8.5x79"

Honeyhorsestudio@comcast.net
27. **Wendy Yothers**
Gourd Skeleton, 2010, hand carved Norfolk Island pine
10x12x12"

Take My Hands, 2014, sterling silver
2x10"

wly52@earthlink.net



Morris Museum

6 Normandy Heights Road | Morristown, NJ 07960
morrismuseum.org