

ABOUT Mary McFerran



Photo by Rich Volo

Mary McFerran is an artist based in New York's Hudson Valley.

McFerran studied merchandising at F.I.T, art education at Empire State College and printmaking at The University of NY at Albany. She received an MFA in Expanded Arts at Ohio State University and an MA in Educational Technology at NYU.

She has been a number of different things in her life including merchandiser, video artist, art teacher, mother, and educational technology coordinator.

She discovered her love of art making early in life, but her ability to pursue it full-time has been postponed until relatively late in life. In 2010, she was living in London and took a class in embroidery, which introduced her to the idea that stitching is another form of mark making. Since then, she has focused on working with textiles in her work.

McFerran has always been intrigued by the challenge of combining disparate elements in her compositions and the inclusion of textiles into that mix has opened up a world of discovery.

ARTIST STATEMENT Mary McFerran

I like to combine, re-contextualize and reconfigure disparate materials in my work as a way of making sense of the world around me. I think of all my work as drawing, no matter the media, because drawing is about composing relationships and mark making. I particularly love the physicality of textiles

For me, there is no predetermined idea of what the work will look like. I work from the center out and explore. This can present challenges when the work is complete, as I must sometimes imagine unique exhibition methods. Possibly for this reason, the format of installation often makes the most sense for me.

Inspiration arises from my life experiences and can come from anywhere, including social /political issues, reading, a scrap of fabric, or strong emotions.

CV Mary McFerran

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

2021

Westchester Community College Gallery: "Re-Emergence," curated by Peekskill Arts Association,

ODETTA Digital, "Refresh! " An Artsy exclusive on the SHIM Art Network, curated by Ellen Hackl Fagan, Amy Cheng and Alison Cuomo (online)

Wired Gallery: "Renewal" Hudson Valley Artists Group. Curated by Elisa Pritzker. High Falls, NY

Hammond Museum and Japanese Stroll Garden: "Broad Powers: Suffragists," In_Question. Curated by Bibiana Huang Matheis, North Salem, NY

ArtsWestchester Gallery: "Together APART Creating During COVID," White Plains, NY

Roxbury Art Group: "Who's Going to Stop Me," Roxbury, NY

Window on Hudson: "Suburban Wildlife," curated by Jeremy Bullis, Hudson, NY

Pro Arts: "The Empowering," curated by Danielle Scott, New Jersey

2020

Hammond Museum: "August Selections," virtual exhibition, curated by Bibiana Huang Matheis; North Salem, NY

Dorsky Museum: "Stay at Home," online gallery

Woman Made Gallery: "HOME," curated by Jennifer Weigel, Chicago, IL

Riverfront Gallery: "Hear Us Roar," curated by Haifa Bint-Kadi, Yonkers, NY

NoHo M55 Gallery: "(I) Witness," curated by Juliet Martin, NYC

BAU Gallery: "Time," Annual Juried Show, Beacon, NY

2019

Park St Windows: In_Question: "What are you thinking?" Peekskill, NY

Ottinger Room Gallery: "Fiber Drawings," Croton Free Library

Silvermine Gallery: "Paper 2019," curated by Jennifer Farrell, New Canaan, CT

2018

Garrison Art Center: "Small Works, 2 ½ D," curated by Christine Kee, Garrison, NY

Westchester Community College at Peekskill: "High Contrast". BeanRunner Café, Peekskill, NY

Woman Made Gallery: "Wordplay," curated by Vernita Nemec, Chicago, IL

Ceres Gallery: 13th National Juried Exhibition curated by Sara Softness, NY, NY

"Cloth and Memory," Howland Cultural Center, Beacon, NY

2017

Concepto Gallery: "SELECTIONS 17," Hudson, NY

Howland Cultural Center: "100!" curated by Bibianna Huang Matheis, Beacon, NY

2016

Steamer Gallery: "Wolves, Brides and Fairytales" solo exhibit, Ossining, NY

Korea Bojagi Forum: Textile Study Group of NYC, Suwon, South Korea.

2015

International Fiber Arts Exhibition Sebastopol Center for the Arts, CA

2014

Islington Museum, Local History Center, Finsbury Library, London, UK

2013

New Museum: "COLAB TV," NY

Creative Islington, VAI, UK

2012

St Pancreas Church Crypt Art Gallery : "Live In your Dreams," curated by Stéphane Verlet-Bottéro , London, UK

2011

Stone Space Gallery: "Drawing Crowds," curated by Carne Griffiths, London, UK

1984

Airing the Laundry-Art Video in the Laundromat, NYC (COLAB)

1985

Video Data Bank, Chicago

1986

Beauty and the TV-Art Video in the Beauty Salon (COLAB)

1986

Museum of Modern Art, Film/Video series

COLLECTIONS

Museum of Modern Art, Department of Film & Video, NYC Video Data Bank, Chicago, Ill Assorted Private Collections in London, UK and New York.

CURATOR

Croton Free Library Ottinger Room Gallery

Howland Cultural Center: "Cloth and Memory," Beacon, NY

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

NY Artist Circle, Art Through the Screen Critique Group, Textile Study Group, Co-founder of In_Question Artist Collective, Peekskill, NY, Croton Free Library Art Exhibition Coordinator

EDUCATION

Seminole Piecing workshop, Quilting on the Lake, Syracuse, NY

Study in Textile Arts, City Lit, London, England

M.A. Educational Communications and Technology, New York University

M.F.A. Fine Arts, Ohio State University

M.A. Studio Arts, State University of NY at Albany

B.S. Arts & Education, Empire State College

A.A.S. Fashion Institute of Technology, NYC