

Susan Borger
Artist Statement

My medium is fabric. I respond to fabric, the weave, the color, the texture—- “the hand”! In my recent abstract wall constructions, I’m referencing the quilt structure—- top fabric, batting, backing fabric and then hand- or machine-stitching through. My primary resources are commercial linen, silk and deconstructed, thrifted shirts... leaving clues to origins, machine-stitching shapes together improvisationally, looking for alignments, juxtapositions, and then using that composition as a ground for mark-making with contrasting fabrics and pieced inserts. These pieces are narrative to some, as the process can tell a story in itself.

The dimensional textiles require premeditation. Layers of yardage are stacked, stitched, slashed, washed, dried and stitched to a base. Limiting my palette to available commercial fabrics intentionally reflects the simplicity of the historical hand-sewn domestic rug, as is using found chairs and stools for "armatures". Color, texture and whimsy are the driving forces in these pieces.