

Beyond the Stitch
Sept 8- Oct 6, 2011
At Crossroads Art Studios and Gallery

Juror Hollis Chatelain selected 13 pieces out of 26 for this exhibit focusing on Contemporary textile art and its interpretations. Beyond the Stitch is part of Innovations In Textiles 9, a biennial fiber exhibit hosted by various galleries, art museums, and art organizations across St. Louis. The exhibit will also be part of the Innovations In Textiles bus tour on Saturday October 1st.

Hollis Chatelain's Juror's Statement:

"It is an honor to be asked to jury Beyond the Stitch. When I first saw the entries, it was obvious that this show was about innovation. Great ideas come from experimental work and exhibitions like this can encourage new reflection within the fiber community. Innovation can be about technique or materials as long as the work is artistically sound and has a strong sense of design and originality. Pushing the limits in innovation demands, not only the understanding of the medium, but also a freshness in knowing how to use it to make a personal creative statement. Whether the art is conceptual, abstract, or representational, it needs to communicate the artist's message.

Much of the work in this small show seems to be searching for that freshness of expression. Birdseed Doily is an example of risk and experimentation. Creating a very large lace doily with nyjer seeds not only invites the viewer to look closer, it also initiates an interactive quality that is contemporary and bold. This piece also strikes me as being both serious and playful at the same time because of the possibility of an "almost" collaboration with the audience.

From a practical point of view, jurying a show that has both 2-dimensional and 3-dimensional work is more challenging when choosing through digital images. I would encourage the artists to submit several views of each entry. If the work is 3-dimensional, having pictures from two different angles in addition to providing a detail shot would help the juror to understand the artwork."

Gallery hours are Monday-Friday 9:30am-4:30pm and Saturday from 10am-3pm. The exhibit is located on the second floor of Crossroads Art Studios and Gallery at 501 N Kingshighway, St. Charles, MO 63301.