

FI2019



An Exhibition of Contemporary Fiber Art

Contact: Rae Gold
Director Fiberart International 2019
fiberartinternational@gmail.com
<https://fiberartinternational.org/>

Stephanie Sun
Marketing Manager
Contemporary Craft
ssun@contemporarycraft.org
<https://contemporarycraft.org>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Fiberart International 2019 Returns to Pittsburgh

23rd Triennial Fiber Exhibition Explores Changing Definition of Textile Art

Fiber art has become a widely celebrated art medium, one that is ever evolving and crosses the boundaries between fine art and craft. The scope of this medium is exemplified by the artworks displayed in [Fiberart International 2019 \(FI2019\)](#), the 23rd triennial exhibition of contemporary textile art sponsored by the Fiberarts Guild of Pittsburgh. **Featuring artworks by 55 artists from the US and abroad, FI2019 will be hosted by two Pittsburgh arts organizations: Contemporary Craft (2100 Smallman Street) and the Brew House Association (711 South 21st Street). Opening receptions and awards ceremonies will take place at both locations on Friday, May 31, 2019 from 5:30 - 8:30 PM.** This exhibition is free and open to the public, and will be on view through August 24, 2019. More than 10,000 visitors from all over the world are expected to visit the exhibition.

FI2019 records the changing definition of textile art and gives the audience a chance to experience works by a diverse group of artists who have been underrepresented in large institutions. Internationally renowned artists and exhibition jurors, Sonya Clark and Jane Sauer reviewed more than 1,400 artworks submitted by artists from 28 countries and across the United States. They refined the final selection to 56 pieces bringing together artists from eight countries and 43 states.

The exhibition presents viewers with art that explores the unexpected relationships between textile art and other creative disciplines. Drawing on a variety of visual languages and global points of view, ancient textile techniques are transformed into contemporary artworks that ask questions and challenge us to look at ourselves.

Exhibition related activities are scheduled during the run of the show. On Saturday, June 1, the Fiberarts Guild of Pittsburgh will present the *Fiberart Forum*, a day-long event featuring a keynote address by Jane Sauer and informal artist talk and discussions with *FI2019* exhibiting artists. *Fiberart Forum* will begin at Contemporary Craft and continues at the Brew House Association with lunch and transportation between galleries included. For more information about the *Fiberart Forum* and to purchase tickets, please visit: <http://bit.ly/forumFI2019>.

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FI2019 exhibition catalogs will be available for sale at both exhibition locations. Gallery tours will also be available upon request. To schedule a guided gallery tour, please contact: fiberartinternational@gmail.com

For more exhibitions or high-resolution images about *FI2019*, visit: <https://fiberartinternational.org/> or please contact: Rae Gold, *FI2019* Director at fiberartinternational@gmail.com or Stephanie Sun, Marketing Manager of Contemporary Craft at ssun@contemporarycraft.org or at 412-261-7003.

ABOUT THE JURORS



Sonya Clark's work has been exhibited in over 350 museums and galleries nationally and internationally. She is the recipient of major awards, including a Smithsonian Artist Research Fellowship and an honorary Doctorate from Amherst College. Clark's work is in the collections of the Philadelphia Museum of Art, PA, The National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, D.C., and the Musees d'Angers in France, among others.



Jane Sauer has more than 40 years of experience as a highly recognized professional in the American art/craft movement. Her pioneering wrapped basket form sculptures have exhibited internationally and in the collections of 24 museums in the US and abroad. A recipient of major grants, including two from the National Endowment for the Arts, Sauer has served on the Board of Trustees of the American Craft Council, Craft Emergency Fund, National Council for the School of Art, and numerous others.

EXHIBITION FUNDERS

Fiberart International is made possible by the Fiberarts Guild of Pittsburgh, with generous support from the Fine Foundation, the Heinz Endowments, MAK Fund of the Pittsburgh Foundation, Opportunity Fund, Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Pittsburgh Center for Arts & Media - Artists in Schools & Communities, and Private Donations. Additional support comes from Contemporary Craft and Brew House Association. Media sponsored by [91.3 WYEP](#) and [90.5 WESA](#).

ABOUT THE FIBERARTS GUILD OF PITTSBURGH, INC.

The Fiberarts Guild of Pittsburgh, Inc. is a non-profit, member supported organization driven by a commitment to promote fiber art and foster its development. Named by the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette as one of the "Top Fifty Cultural Forces in Pittsburgh", Fiberarts Guild exhibitions and educational programs create opportunities for its members and the general public to engage with textile arts at every stage of the creative process. www.fiberartspgh.org

ABOUT CONTEMPORARY CRAFT

Presenting contemporary art in craft materials by regional, national, and international artists since 1971, Contemporary Craft offers innovative exhibitions focusing on multicultural diversity and

perspectives, as well as a range of studio workshops, community outreach programs, and a store specializing in contemporary craft. Exhibition and informal, hands-on art activities in the Drop-Im Studio are always free to the public. Contemporary Craft is committed to making its exhibitions, programs, and services accessible to the public. For more information, call 412.261.7003 or visit <http://www.contemporarycraft.org>.

ABOUT BREW HOUSE ASSOCIATION

Established in 1993, Brew House Association resides in the former Duquesne Brewing Company Brew House in Pittsburgh's South Side. BHA cultivates a wide range of artistic development through an emerging artist residency called *Distillery*, a curatorial support program called *Prospectus*, dynamic gallery exhibitions, and flexible rental space. www.brewhousearts.org

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