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SHANNON DOWNEY OF BADASS CROSS STITCH COMES TO CONTEMPORARY CRAFT

PITTSBURGH, PA (May 2022) – Artist, activist and craftivist Shannon Downey of Badass Cross Stitch will visit Pittsburgh June 17-19, and Contemporary Craft will host three workshops and a free artist talk with Downey. The artist talk will be held on Friday, June 17 at 6:30 PM.

Shannon Downey is an artist known for her embroidered and cross-stitched works that tackle the topics of white supremacy, the patriarchy, and capitalism. With a large and passionate following online, Downey offers a variety of free and for-purchase embroidery and cross stitch patterns and frequently shares her works on Instagram, reflecting a variety of social justice topics and often responding to the news of the day. Since 2020, Downey has been traveling the U.S. in an RV, teaching workshops, doing speaking engagements, hosting gatherings for makers and artists, and engaging in craftivist projects with other art activists.

Along with the artist talk, Downey will teach three workshops: Introduction to Embroidery, Intermediate Embroidery, and Exploring Craftivism. In the Exploring Craftivism workshop, students go deep into the impact that craft can have on social and political issues. Students will learn the long history of art and craft as tools of activism and explore the core tenants of building community projects for social change and impact. At the end of the seven-hour workshop, students will have also completed a shared community craftivism project. The complete workshop schedule is below.

Friday, June 17 at 6:30 PM: Artist Talk: Craftivism - Art as a Tool of Activism

Saturday, June 18 at 10 AM: Introduction to Embroidery

Saturday, June 18 at 2 PM: Intermediate Embroidery

Sunday, June 19 at 10 AM: Exploring Craftivism

To register for the free artist talk and the workshops, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/badass-cross-stitch-355429>.

Visit <https://www.badasscrossstitch.com/> for more information on Shannon Downey and Badass Cross Stitch.

About Contemporary Craft

Contemporary Craft presents contemporary art in craft media by regional, national, and international artists. Contemporary Craft offers cutting edge exhibitions focusing on multicultural diversity and contemporary art, as well as a range of artist-led studio workshops, community engagement programs, and a store. Located at 5645 Butler Street in the Upper Lawrenceville neighborhood of Pittsburgh, PA, Contemporary Craft's exhibition and Drop-In Studio art activity are always free to the public. For more information, visit contemporarycraft.org.