



## Call to Artists

### Art Quilts XXVI: Stitching Stories

Due Date: Monday, September 13 at midnight MST

Juror: Ellen M. Blalock



Ellen M. Blalock, *Bang Bang You Dead* (left), quilt, commercial cotton fabric, 2019, 44" x 43"

Ellen M. Blalock, *Middle Passage: America's Legacy* (right), quilt, hand painted silk and nonwoven pellon on canvas, 2020, 56 1/4" x 52"

## DESCRIPTION

Quilts and storytelling have always complemented one another. Quilts are blanketed in the oral tradition from construction and deconstruction to concept, purpose culture and history.

What stories do your quilts tell? Are they family stories? Utilitarian stories? Animal stories? Travel stories? Maybe a concept? Or maybe, "I got mad and cut it all up and sewed it back together" stories? Regardless of whether the narrative lies in the imagery of the quilt, the process in which you made it, or the significance of design or purpose, we want to see your story quilts.

Submit your most significant work to this annual exhibition of contemporary art quilts, showcasing some of the finest textile art on display in the Southwestern United States. This exhibition will take place at both the Vision Gallery and the Chandler Center for the Arts.

Now in its 26<sup>th</sup> year, this annual exhibition has grown from a local and regional quilt show to a respected vehicle for contemporary works. The yearly exhibition draws national and international entries and allows hundreds of visitors each year to experience quilting as an art form.

## ABOUT THE JUROR

Ellen M. Blalock started quilting over 20 years ago to replace what was taken from her family. As a narrative artist and documentarian, she works in several mediums: quilting, photography, film/video, and drawing. Her main goal is to tell the stories of people that have been marginalized. She is particularly interested in female identity and power and the African diaspora.

Originally from Philadelphia, PA, Blalock now lives in Syracuse, NY. She has a B.F.A. from Temple University and M.F.A. from Syracuse University. She lectures on art/quilting, race and social issues. She has taught art history and studio arts at colleges and universities: Syracuse University, Georgia Southern University, Georgia College & State University, and Onondaga Community College.

Her art quilts have been exhibited in several solo and group exhibitions, including: Gibbs Museum, Charleston, SC; Bundy Museum, Binghamton, NY; Schweinfurth Memorial Art Center, Auburn, NY; Natural History Museum, Los Angeles, CA; The African American Museum, Philadelphia, PA and Everson Museum of Art, Syracuse, NY.

Blalock has received several awards, grants, fellowships and residencies and she serves on the Syracuse Public Arts Commission.

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

For a \$15 fee, artists may submit up to 3 works for consideration. Please follow these instructions:

1. Complete artist submission form
  - a. Please complete the online submission form with all of the information relevant to your submission including contact and title card information. You will need the following: title, medium, year created, and sales price for all three artworks, and an artist statement with any information you think will be relevant to the juror.
  - b. Access the form here: <https://forms.gle/rsCVpe7cVTGEjq3F8>
2. Email [vision.gallery@az.gov](mailto:vision.gallery@az.gov) with images of the quilts you are submitting. For each submitted work, include a full view and a detail view. Images should be .jpeg files up to 3000 pixels in the longest direction, and no shorter than 1000 pixels in the shortest direction. This allows the images to be considered for printed marketing materials. \*\*\*Please include your images as attachments in your email - please do not embed them in the body of the email\*\*\*. Please title digital files with your full name and the work's title. Example: Smith, Theresa\_Cholla\_det.jpg would indicate the piece titled: "Cholla", detail view by Theresa Smith.
3. Payment: the \$15 submission fee can be paid either online at [visiongallery.org](http://visiongallery.org) or by calling 480-782-2695. Submissions are considered incomplete until the submission fee has been paid.
  - a. Pay online here: <https://my-site-107539-101568.square.site/product/art-quilts-xxvi-stitching-stories-submission-fee/250>

## EXHIBITION TIMELINE

Entries due: Monday, September 13 at midnight

Notification to artists: Tuesday, September 21

Final title card info for accepted work due to gallery: Friday, October 29

Work drop-off in person: Monday, November 8 – Friday, November 12 (closed Wed, Nov 11 for Veteran's Day)

Work shipped to gallery must arrive no later than Friday, November 12

Opening reception: Saturday, November 20, 4 – 6pm

Show closes: Saturday, January 8

Work pick up: Monday, January 10, 2022

**ELIGIBILITY**

All quilt artists who want to share their art with a broad arts audience are invited to enter. Collaborative work by two or more artists is also permitted. The works must not have been previously displayed at the Chandler Center for the Arts or Vision Gallery. Works should have been completed within the last three years. Both two and three - dimensional textile combinations will be accepted.

**JURY FEE**

There is a fee of \$15 to enter up to 3 works. This fee is non-refundable.

**SHIPPING/DELIVERY**

All delivery and shipping costs are the responsibility of the artist. To ensure your shipping and insurance needs are met when we ship your artwork(s) back to you, we ask you to include a completed return label when you send work for installation. This helps us efficiently process shipping at the end of the show. Art must be received by Friday, November 12, 2021. We recommend shipping with FedEx.

**INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING**

Rules listed are for U.S. artists. While shipping costs remain the responsibility of the artist, accepted international entries are handled on an individual basis to assure an efficient and cost-effective delivery.

**QUILT DISPLAY**

For ease of installation, please ensure your quilts have top and bottom sleeves (if applicable) appropriate to their sizes. These sleeves should be large enough for 2 inch slats. If your piece has a hanging system other than a sleeve, please contact us prior to entering to ensure it will be compatible with the gallery's hanging requirements. It is a great help to our installation staff if you include slats with your artwork that fit properly in relation to the length of your sleeves. Slats should not have a wire attached to them, but should have holes at both ends large enough for a nail to fit through. Please label slats and any packing material with artist name and artwork title.

**INSURANCE**

Works are insured while on display at Vision Gallery for 50% of the retail price for the duration of the exhibition. All paperwork must designate whether an artwork is available for sale, or is listed as NFS (not for sale), along with the insurance value.

**SALES COMMISSION**

All artworks offered for sale are listed with a 50% commission, unless specified by the artist as not for sale. Commissions are paid in the month following the sale.

**GALLERY HOURS**

Vision Gallery and the Gallery at the Chandler Center for the Arts are open 10AM – 5 PM Monday – Friday. On Saturdays, Vision Gallery is open 10 AM - 4 PM and the Gallery at the Chandler Center for the Arts is open 12 - 5 PM. Call 480-782-2695 for holiday hours.

**CLOSE OF EXHIBIT**

Artworks from local artists may be picked up on Monday, January 10. Non-local works will be shipped by Wednesday, January 12; see Shipping/Delivery for details. Accepted artists will be notified with more detailed instructions prior to the close of the exhibition.

**QUESTIONS?**

Contact staff at [vision.gallery@chandleraz.gov](mailto:vision.gallery@chandleraz.gov) or call us at 480-782-2695.