



Surface Design
Association

BEYOND ^{the} SURFACE

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Contact: info@surfacedesign.org

Beyond the Surface, Surface Design Association Juried Exhibition Opens at St Louis Artists' Guild

A textile nonprofit dedicated to promoting contemporary textile and fiber art, Surface Design Association (SDA) presents its annual juried members' exhibition, *Beyond the Surface*, September 20- October 23, at the St Louis Artists' Guild, St Louis, Missouri. Jurors Jo Stealey and Jim Arendt selected work by 48 artists. Award winners will be announced at the opening reception, October 3, 5-8pm and are supported by the Leonore Tawney Foundation. October 3 is also the opening night of the SDA's biennial conference, *Beyond the Surface*, October 3-6. The Conference is being held in conjunction with Innovations in Textiles 2019, which features 40 textile exhibitions in greater St Louis, Missouri. In operation since 1886, the St. Louis Artists' Guild is the oldest arts organization west of the Mississippi River. Its 5000 square foot contemporary art space in the mid-century modern Famous Barr Building will be the site of the conference's opening and closing events as well as the exhibition.

Jurors Jo Stealey and Jim Arendt selected works by 48 artists who considered the following ideas: "Artists continually push the evolution of textiles from their long history of utilitarian use through the use of color, design, processes, and meanings. Works chosen demonstrate unique, well-developed



Anette Millington, *Synthetic Flight: Tech Nomad*

artistic vision, and innovation. Whether commentary on social issues, meditations on the natural world, humor, storytelling, abstraction, influenced by science, or other areas of focus, this exhibition includes the best of contemporary work by SDA members." Image at left: Marie Fornaro, *Quilt for Grandmother*; Melinda K.P. Stees, *st equals px*



Accepted artists include Jessica Wildman Katz, George-Ann Bowers, Kate Barber, Roz Ritter, Ann Clarke, Susan Hensel, Gretchen Morrissey, Karen Gustafson, Anette Millington, Marie Bergstedt, Steve Donegan, Ann Coddington, Dorothy McGuinness, Ruth Tabancay, Dong Kyu Kim, Michael Rohde, Deborah Kruger, Nanhee Kim, Hale Ekinci, Judy Bales, Connie Lippert, Lily Lee, Jennifer Davies, Leslie Simon, Melinda K.P. Stees, Susan Avila, Alexander Hernandez, Faith Hagenhofer, Helen Geglio, Margaret Jo Feldman, Chris Motley, Eva Camacho, Saberah Malik, Victoria Potrovitza, Marie Fornaro, Catherine Reinhart, Raija Jokinen, Barbara De Pirro, Amy Sands & Bridget O'Malley, Marie McInerney, Jenn McNamara, Xia Gao, Frances Parry, Christine Aaron, April Dauscha, Kathy Nida, Astrid Hilger Bennett and Jennie Frederick.

About the Jurors

Jo Stealey is an artist, curator, juror, lecturer, and Emeritus Professor of Art at the University of Missouri whose work includes sculptural objects, artist books, and installations. Her work has been shown in over 300 national and international exhibitions and is in many private and public collections, including the National Portrait Gallery, Smithsonian American Art Museum. Jo has been a contributing author for the International *Surface Design Journal*, *Fiberarts Magazine*, and the National Basketry Organization's Quarterly Review Magazine. She curated the traveling exhibition and scholarly catalog, *Rooted, Revived, Reinvented: Basketry in America*. View Jo's work at www.jostealey.com

Jim Arendt's work explores the shifting paradigms of labor and place through materials that resonate with work and the people engaged in it. Influenced by the radical reshaping of the rural and industrial landscapes in which he was raised, he investigates how individual lives are affected by transitions in economic structures. Jim is an Assistant Professor and Gallery Director at Coastal Carolina University. His work has been exhibited internationally in numerous group and solo shows and has participated in residency programs including The Fields Project, Illinois; Tactility Forum, Arrowmont School of Arts and Crafts; and From Waste to Art VI, Baku, Azerbaijan. Jim's work can be viewed at jimarendt.com



Left to right: Xia Gao, *Flowffocate*; Raija Jokinen, *Sleep Cycle 1*

Beyond the Surface is one of three SDA exhibitions taking place during *Innovations in Textiles 2019*. The others are *Future Tense 2019*, the annual student exhibition at the Edwardsville Art Center, and *Small Works*, SDA's all member, non-

juried exhibition at Webster University's Contemporary Art Projects Arcade Building.

Surface Design Association's *Beyond the Surface* Biennial Conference is made possible through generous partnerships with *Innovations in Textiles 2019*, the St Louis Artists' Guild, Webster University, the Edwardsville Art Center, Craft Alliance and Central Print. Sponsors include Dharma Trading Co, PRO Chemical & Dye, Jacquard, Stencil Girl Products, John C. Campbell Folk School and Penland School of Craft. Major conference activities include a Day of Speakers at the Missouri History Museum and a day-long bus tour sampling *Innovations in Textiles 2019* exhibitions. Registration for the SDA conference, is open to the public; may be found on the [SDA website](http://www.surfacdesign.org/). Information about *Innovations in Textiles 2019* event is located [here](#). Learn about the St. Louis Artists' Guild [here](#).

Surface Design Association (SDA) is a nonprofit textile arts organization founded in 1977. SDA promotes international awareness and appreciation of fiber, textiles and new materials. Members include artists, designers, educators, students, curators, gallery owners and textile enthusiasts from around the world. Students qualify for reduced membership rates. Learn more at <https://www.surfacdesign.org/>