

JUROR'S STATEMENT

***Printed & Stitched* is an exhibition bringing together two highly professional and accomplished art organizations – the California Society of Printmakers and Studio Art Quilt Associates – to encourage members to create work bridging the print and art quilt disciplines.** Contemporary artists push and blur historical boundaries between mediums, breaking down traditional hierarchies of craft and fine art, and use alternative materials that bring meaning, depth and complexity to their work.

Exploring new processes and materials leads artists to venture outside comfort zones to experiment and stretch limits in material and meaning. I appreciate and respect these artists' willingness to explore alternative mediums and processes while integrating them to create work in their unique voices. I am impressed by the quality, range of viewpoints, and multiple interpretations of the *Printed & Stitched* theme expressed in a great variety of methods and materials. These include cyanotype, stencil, linocut, wood cut, monotype, discharge printing, paper, fabric, thread, and hand and machine stitching.

The included works represent traditional and non-traditional use of materials and process; moves from abstraction through representation; and is at times deconstructed, playful, intimate, and expansive. Hand pulled prints reference quilt traditions like fabric and stitching; fabric resembles paper, paper is used as fabric. The work is intriguing and thought provoking, often transcending material and process without losing references to the mark of the hand.

The role of juror necessitates difficult decisions. Several different exhibits could have been curated from the submissions. Ultimately, this is the one I chose. My final choices look to the conversations generated within and between the works, creating a whole larger than the sum of its parts, while respecting the complexity of individual voices. I hope viewers are captivated by and thoroughly appreciate *Printed & Stitched* as much as I relished jurying it.

– Christine S. Aaron, February 2023

About Christine S. Aaron

Christine S. Aaron is a conceptual and material-focused artist whose work is exhibited nationally and internationally. She utilizes printmaking, wax, wood, metal and paper to create work investigating memory and the fragility of human connection.

Aaron received artist's grants from ArtsWestchester/NYSCA, Surface Design Association and a residency and grant from Vermont Studio Center. She has received awards in printmaking and mixed media in exhibits at The Center for Contemporary Printmaking, Mamaroneck Artists Guild, Pen and Brush Gallery (NYC) and Silvermine Arts Center (CT). She presented talks at The International Encaustic Conference in Provincetown, MA in 2016, 2017, and 2019. Aaron was invited to present her work at The New York Print Club in 2019. Her work has been exhibited in solo and group exhibitions in the U.S. and Europe. Exhibition venues include solo exhibits at California Museum of Art Thousand Oaks, CA, Mamaroneck Artist Guild, and Silvermine Arts Center, and juried/curated exhibitions at The Hunterdon Museum (PA), Provincetown Art Association and Museum (MA), CIT Wandesford Quay Gallery (Ireland), Fyns Grafiske (Denmark), Westchester Community College (Valhalla, NY), Castle Hill Gallery, College of New Rochelle and Iona College Gallery (both New Rochelle, NY), Silvermine Arts Center (New Canaan, CT), and Mamaroneck Artists Guild (Larchmont, NY).

Aaron holds a BS from Cornell University and a Masters in Social Work from Hunter College. She lives and maintains a studio in Westchester County, New York. Visit her website at christineaaron.com.