

Artist Statement

I began as a painter and sculptor. I later delved into used mixed media working mostly in fiber/yarns. I use a variety of materials and combine different rug hooking, latch hooking and weave stitching into my works. The subject matter of each work determines the type of materials I will use and the fiber medium I will go forward executing in these works. My art pieces are well researched and painstakingly pursued in detailed and labor-intensive undertakings. I tend to do studies and my drawings are finished works of their own. I have been influenced by Native American design and by women who did samplers in early America and later in the industrial period where women worked in factories and left their homes in rural areas to the city. They were wonderful storytellers. My subjects or themes to my work are diverse as to rug hooking and mostly using fiber to emulate Native Americans. When I lived across the street from Superior Ink Printing Company I watched with much interest the people working in this wonderful industrial building with its two huge chimneys and this represented the printing industry that was important to New York and later disappeared because of the high real estate values and of gentrification. I started to create set designs with several dimensions to the pieces. I started to think of installation works that feature historical significance of immigration, labor rights and women rights. The work became "Triangle Shirtwaist Factory and how it changed us." You have survivor narrative or accounts of the fire and the strike that led up to the tragic industrial fire. Women have always sacrificed themselves and were belittle in many ways of the importance to the fabric of their role in our society. The accounts are inscribed in facsimile of shirtwaists worn by women. The last two pieces are the souls lost and perished in the fire in an ash-like work with the twisted ladders of the fall to their deaths.

Finally, the greatest memoirs are found in our yearbook. It is a time capsule of sorts. This is a journey called: "1962: A Yearbook." The pages are reconstructed of one's own memory and you go from the beginning of the namesake of its dedication in the yearbook - a picture of the school building; and the boy's on one side and the girl's on the other side. It is neatly packaged representing the times in a cultural and political sense. My own entry has been rewritten and we learn who are the overachievers and like myself the underachievers. I look to celebrate the less popular because they had their own identity and recognized them now.

Again, it is interesting how we look at memory/remembrance and time does play tricks on us and the past always looks better. A memoir is the length of time over which one's memory extends and each of the events enters our remembrance and we reminiscence.