

Get the Message: Words and Images November 14 – December 31, 2020
At Arts Benicia, 991 Tyler Street, Suite 114 Benicia, CA 94510

Nancy Bardach

Artist Statement:

I am a full time fabric artist and a retired Architect. My training and experiences inform my art. But rather than concrete reality, my work tends to explore intangible qualities like light and movement. I explore these in pieced cloth compositions, creating striking new images from cut bits of fabric. Free-hand curve cutting adds to the flow of my work. Color adds mood and emotional tone. Color and pattern provide lighting contrasts, a sense of movement, dimensional depth and glowing beauty.

Realistic imagery is often the starting place for my work. A suggestion of representational ideas always hovers in the abstract designs. My most exciting pieces are those I do quickly, intuitively, chasing a fleeting image --- trying to realize its sensibility and beauty in the final pieced and textured quilt. For viewers, meanings proliferate as they study my compositions.

Second, conceptual thinking... words to describe what I have achieved...and the process by which I got there. Inspirational descriptive language may indicate the meaning I have embodied in a piece. I am very conscious of the on-going process and its opening up as I work, expressing and changing my visual goals as I proceed on any one piece or through a series of related pieces. The design inspiration behind some of my works may be described as glimpsing some striking image that inspired me to go in some direction.

Thirdly, artistic strengths. Sophisticated, complicated image seem important to me. Mainly because these hold interest, avoiding simple, boring pieces, lending the work a timeless appeal. My work is usually not strictly "representational". If an image, whether abstract or more realistic, embodies visual ideas, its power, for me, always lies primarily in its artistic excellence.

As an aspiring artist, I want recognition for fabric art; art quilts are underestimated in the general art world. It will be a delight to build up a body of public art compositions, collaborating with others, and presenting one of my art quilts for this exhibition.