## Linda V. Hubbard Contemporary Fiber Artist



"Woodland Sunset"

As a Textile/Fiber Artist my main tool is my home sewing machine which I use to explore different techniques and varying effects which keep me constantly challenged and creatively engaged. Using fabric as a medium is multi-faceted. It entices one to touch it and feel its texture. It can be stiff or flexible, ripped or cut and sewn together again, dyed, printed, stenciled, stuffed, folded, felted, knitted, woven and more. The challenge is to raise the use of fabric and thread to a level beyond the useful or practical and into the purely artistic realm.

"Woodland Sunset" is a fabric landscape and my goal in creating this piece was to evoke viewing sunset in a forest setting using several techniques such as Applique, Thread Nesting, Dimensional Quilting and Free-Motion Stitching (a technique where the "feed dogs" that grip and pull fabric through the sewing machine are dropped allowing the fiber artist to move the fabric freely in any direction beneath the needle). Materials used are several commercial cotton fabrics, batiks and thread. The background is comprised of a "mosaic" of fabric chips covered with colored Tulle netting (for shading) and over all "pebble"-stitched. A second layer has trees and thread-nested leaves and bushes providing texture, dimension and depth.

I am always excited about the many aspects of working with fiber as a medium to bring my vision to reality, and am continually exploring the multitude of techniques available with this medium such as *Dimensional* fabric piecing, fabric manipulation, insertion and stitching, *Surface Treatments* such as dying, stamping, stenciling, image transfer, painting and staining (with rust and bleach), *Threadwork* such as thread painting, thread sketching, thread nesting and textural stitching. I have also created *Three Dimensional* work such as folded fabric boxes. Another tool I often utilize in my work is *Computer Digital Image Manipulation* of original photographs used directly or as a reference for design work. Recently I've experimented with Eco Printing where plant matter (such as leaves and flowers) treated with chemical solutions (such as Alum, Iron, Copper and Vinegar) combined with heat and pressure to create unique and spontaneous botanical prints on paper and fabric. I've sent photos of select prints to a commercial fabric printing service to create original fabric designs.

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## Bio

My artistic endeavors began when, as a teenager, I studied music in Europe. Later I developed an interest in ceramics resulting in a Degree in Art from San Jose State University. Subsequent "Life" and "Work" interruptions delayed my active involvement in artistic pursuits for years until I saw an article about Quilts in the mid-80's and made one for fun- suddenly finding my preferred medium. Since that first Quilt I have transitioned from Traditional Quilter to Contemporary Fiber Artist and continue my journey of artistic discovery.

A resident of Benicia, I am a member of, and exhibit regularly at, Arts Benicia and have been a member of the Vacaville Art League and Gallery and the Fairfield Suisun City Visual Arts Association. My work has been exhibited at the Blackhawk Gallery in Danville and the Seager Gray Gallery in Mill Valley. In 2019 I was invited to teach a creative stitching workshop at the Mendocino Art Center in Mendocino. The 2020 Covid – 19 Pandemic caused cancellation or postponements of scheduled workshops in Mendocino and other Creative Stitching and Discharge Dyeing workshops at local venues until normal life resumes for us all.

To see more of my work, please visit the Little Art Shop on First St. in Benicia where I have been an artist member for the last three years or view my Website at <a href="www.LindaVHubbard.com">www.LindaVHubbard.com</a>