

Jean-Marie Tarascio

I am a maker of one-of-a-kind Artist Books and mixed media paper sculpture. Recently working with paper and wire exploring their diverse tactile, manipulative, and versatile properties. Movement or the illusion of movement is a dimension I strive for in my work. When I am not in my studio I am often in the garden, near-by woods and beach which are a source of creative inspiration. I am intrigued by the rhythms, patterns, shapes, colors, and textures found just outside my door. The whimsical spirit found in much of my work expresses the continuous joy and gratitude I experience from my surroundings.

Pat Herkal Beads, thread and fabric occupy my head and hands most days. Whimsy, color and the natural world inspire my work. Mixing beads, shells, stones, and found objects – man made and natural - I create jewelry, sculptures, wall hangings, critters and dolls. All are hand sewn one bead at a time. Ultra suede backing is applied with a beaded edge. The smaller the bead the better. I have fun creating, so when people see my work, I hope it makes them smile. Recently I have returned to my first creative endeavor, embroidery, embellished with beads and trinkets. I spend my time creating, traveling, gardening and living an artful life.

Barbara Ramsey I am a fabric artist who sews original abstract art works using traditional quilting techniques. Employing my own designs, I piece together fabric shapes with a sewing machine and by hand. My main materials are commercially printed fabric as well as fabric I've dyed and manipulated myself. My work expresses my fascination with light, color, texture, materials, and process. I love the ritual of taking fabric of one color and changing it into another color with dye or bleach. I'm completely absorbed by the simple acts of washing, rinsing, drying, sewing, and ironing as I pull scores of separate colors together into a single piece. Like many traditional quilters, I'm devoted to precise construction. I differ from many traditional quilters in that I design and cut fabric in an effort to distort geometry. I work to create irregularity, using various shapes to impel the viewer's eye to roam

over the entire surface of the quilt, seeking the harmonies in the middle of contrast. I create my work in order to disappear into its making.

Cathie Wier I find myself fascinated by what I see along the shoreline: piles of kelp glistening in the sun, rocks and pebbles washed by the waves, waves crashing on the shore, and sunsets on the water. In Port Townsend, I discovered beaches at low tide with seaweed of all colors and textures laid out on the sand in beautiful compositions.

Just as seaweed changes color and shape as it dries, I experiment with weaving with yarns and structures that change shape when I take them off the loom, wash, and dry them: some yarns shrink, some bubble, and some twist. Although many weavings have strict horizontal and vertical lines, I love to break away from those structures and find ways to create angled or undulating lines.

When I am away from my loom, I enjoy twisting 4-ply cords for ply-split braiding and stitching and tying shibori knots for dyeing. I am currently growing flowers to expand my experimentation into natural dyes. Now I am starting to apply dyeing back to my weaving with shibori and ikat effects.