

Mary Babcock "78° 3' 0" N" (detail)

## “Exhibition in Print: Soft Borders” Out Now!

LAUREN SINNER / SEPTEMBER 23, 2019

**Surface Design Association** is excited to announce “Soft Borders” our Fall 2019 International Exhibition in Print. Juried by **Monika Auch** and **Elizabeth Kozlowski**, this exciting edition features seven award winners as well as twenty featured artists from all over the world.

As Elizabeth states in her Editorial,

*“Interpretations ranged from the use of maps and physical demarcations to abstract representations of exclusionary social practices. Materials and techniques spanned from the traditional to the contemporary...Borders are also a familiar tool for artists. For example, they can be used as a pictorial framing device. I have added a border to a quilt on more than one occasion to save myself from the (sometimes)*

*wear process of piecing. The selvedge or border is also a necessary part of textile manufacturing and keeps the ends of fabric from unraveling. It would seem we cannot escape the boundaries we create.*

*In the pages of this issue you will recognize familiar faces and new friends. It is exciting to follow the growth and development of our membership and to learn from those who have dedicated their livelihood to the field of fiber arts. Each round is a blind jury followed by a conversation between the guest editor and myself. This year we had the pleasure of welcoming Monika Auch, a frequent SDJ contributor and practicing artist. She brings an international perspective paired with a contagious passion for our field.”*



CREATIVE EXPLORATION OF FIBER AND FABRIC  
Fall 2019 / \$20.00

Here's a preview of what you'll discover:

1) **Surface Design Award**

**Amy Usdin's** (<https://www.amyusdin.com>) fiber work is a meditation on memory, time, and place. Using needle weaving, knotting, and wrapping, Amy rescues and redefines aging fiber artifacts—manipulating their functional rope armatures, creating a complexity that disrupts previously existing borders.



**Amy Usdin *Dismount Left*** 2019, cotton, linen, paper, silk, wool, repurposed horse fly net (rope), needle woven, knotted, 31" x 15" x 6".

## 2) **Guest Juror Award**

**Susan Smith** (<http://susansmithstudio.com>) is a social practice artist who's done work at the site of the Texas/ Mexico border. Mourning Cloth was part of a performance on the International Bridge between Juarez/El Paso, while the sculptural works are based on border wall fragments embedded with fiber, clothing and items left behind by refugees traveling to safety in the United States.



**Susan Smith *The Passage: Mourning Cloth*** 2019, linen, woodblock, screenprint, boro stitched, laser cut, 72"x 72".

### 3) **Craft and Community Award**

**Alicia Decker's** *Crossing Paths* is part of a creative series and research project called *Cut From the Same Cloth*, which uses printed and embroidered woven cloth to tell the story of cultural displacement, instability, identity politics, personal tragedy, and transformation.



Alicia Decker *Crossing Paths* 2018, cotton canvas, fiber reactive dye, hand-drawn illustration, digital printed, hand- and machine-embroidered, 54" x 42".

#### 4) Innovation Award

Anne-Claude Cotty (<http://anneclaudecotty.com>) uses enlarged, mural-sized pinhole photographs and prints them on silk; depicting the human form; and, addressing issues of a world in crisis.



**Anne-Claude Cotty** *Without Within / Caged* 2019, silk, cotton, batting, pinhole photograph, appliqué, quilted, 34"x 32".

## 5) Material Exploration Award

**Ruth Tabancay** (<http://ruthtabancay.com>) uses microscopic imagery in her work—embroidering directly on printed micrographs to interact with the scanning electron microscope images.



**Ruth Tabancay *Nylon Knee Highs 156X*** 2018, watercolor paper, embroidery floss, scanned electron micrograph digital print, hand embroidered, 13"x 16".

## 6) **Fiber Reinterpreted Award**

**Andrea Donnelley** (<http://andreadonnelly.com>) uses a loom as the ground from which she builds conductors into stories, lovely flawed experiments, unanswerable questions, and intimate bonds, inspired by quantum physics, poetry, literature, and psychology.



**Andrea Donnelly *Portrait of a Recent Storm Cloud*** 2019, cotton thread, dye, PVA, canvas, hand woven, ikat-dyed thread, immersion-dyed cloth, cut, reassembled, 56"x 80".

## 7) **Next Generation Award**

**Kirsteen Buchanan** is a fashion and textile print designer, intrigued by beauty—the flow of fabric, color interplay, pattern engineering, and the opportunity that we have as fashion designers to engage, intrigue and challenge through clothing. She has created a collection based on visions of maps which are bounded by border prints constructed of motifs common to many cultures, as well as by those commonly used in mapmaking.



**Kirsteen Buchanan *Borders That Unite: Melting Maps*** (front)  
2019, silk chiffon caftan, velvet bra, silk habotai pant, digital printed,  
indigo dyed, 45" x 65". Photo: Aaron Ottis, model: Sydney Bia.

8) "Soft Borders" also includes twenty featured artists, each with one page highlighting the amazing work our members create: [Heather Schulte](http://heatherschulte.com) (<http://heatherschulte.com>), [Janice Lessman-Moss](http://janicelessman-moss.com) (<http://janicelessman-moss.com>), [Eva Camacho-Sanchez](http://evacamacho.com) (<http://evacamacho.com>), [Jessica Wildman Katz](http://jessicawildman.com) (<http://jessicawildman.com>), [Betty Vera](http://bettyvera.com) (<http://bettyvera.com>), [Nancy Koenigsberg](http://nancykoenigsberg.com) (<http://nancykoenigsberg.com>), [Hannah Shimabukuro](http://hmshimabukuro.com) (<http://hmshimabukuro.com>), [Gretchen Morrissey](http://gretchenmorrissety.com) (<http://gretchenmorrissety.com>), [Anna Chupa](http://annachupadesigns.com) (<http://annachupadesigns.com>), [Susan Hensel](http://susanhenselprojects.com) (<http://susanhenselprojects.com>), [Meredith Grimsley](http://meredithregrimsley.com) (<http://meredithregrimsley.com>), [Kei'Anna Anderson](http://kskuder.com), [Kristi Swee Kuder](http://kskuder.com) (<http://kskuder.com>), [Barbara Osborne](http://pineneedlerock.com) (<http://pineneedlerock.com>), [Raija Jokinen](http://raijajokinen.fi) (<http://raijajokinen.fi>), [Mo Kelman](http://mokelman.com) (<http://mokelman.com>), [Michelle](http://michelle.com)

Browne (<http://michellebrowne.info>), George-Ann Bowers (<http://gabowers.com>), Mary Babcock (<http://marybabcock.com>), and Alison Muir (<http://muirandmuir.com.au>).



**Anna Chupa *White Quilt*** 2015, cotton, sateen, free-motion longarm-quilted, 53" x 53".



**Barbara Osborne** *Like a Space Needle Pagoda* 2018, coiled pine needles, Jasper slice, cut Septarian Nodule, waxed linen, 16½" x 7". Photo: Paul deRoos.



**Eva Camacho-Sanchez *Border Scars*** 2019, merino wool, cotton thread, porcupine quills, wet felted, hand stitched, 35" x 25".

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(<https://surfacedesign.z2systems.com/np/clients/surfacedesign/giftstore.jsp>). A

free digital sample will be available on our [SDA Journal page](#)

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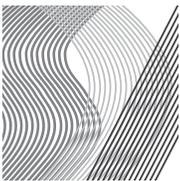
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