## Sleight of Hand

LEVEL 6, NORTH BUILDING | ONGOING



New on view in the Neusteter Textile Gallery are sixteen contemporary works that surprise the eye and challenge our powers of perception. From pop art to present day, these sculptures and images span more than thirty years of exceptional inventiveness.

"None of these works reveals itself completely at first glance," says curator Alice Zrebiec. "Every piece deserves a second—or third—look to fully appreciate its creative originality."

Some of the featured artists use time honored textile techniques—embroidery, quilting, weaving, netting, crochet, coiling, and ikat—however, they use these techniques in unique and unexpected ways.

Others have devised new methods

to realize their vision. Zrebiec calls the artists "alchemists" for their ability to change materials as diverse as cotton, newspaper, sand, and gold leaf into astonishing works of textile art.

Magdalena Abakanowicz's Standing Figure and Norma Minkowitz's Legs I explore the human form with surprising materials and techniques. Gugger Petter captures a fleeting street scene with what appears to be thick layers of paint, but is actually woven newspaper. Carol Shinn's embroideries evoke and mirror the textures of nature, both in close-up study and panoramic views. Notas 2 by Olga de Amaral is a visual metamorphosis of woven strips of cotton and linen into a shimmering illusion, through the application of gesso, parchment, gold leaf, and paint.

## **SURPRISING MATERIALS**

Painter Gugger Petter weaves tubes of newspaper into a canvas of slashing brushstrokes.

Gugger Petter, Dog Barking at Two Women, 2008. Neusteter Textile Collection: Funds from Mary Dean Reed and Fortunee Morrison, by exchange.



## **ARTISTIC ALTERATIONS**

Tracy Krumm transforms found industrial objects through the addition of crocheted metal thread.

Tracy Krumm, Specimen: Giant Needle and Specimen: Spool of Lace, 1999. Neusteter Textile Collection: Funds from various donors, by exchange.

See the power and beauty of creativity unleashed in these and other works by Polly Barton, Lia Cook, Carol Eckert, Arlette Rose Gosiewski, Cindy Hickok, Kay Khan, Tracy Krumm, Jane Mathews, and Rebecca Medel.