

Fiber Optix: Recent Work

Virtual Opening - April 18, 2020



Q+A with Barbara Kanaya

Tell us about first learning to sew. Who did you learn from? How old were you?

My mother was always sewing clothes when I was young and most of my clothes in elementary and junior high were home sewn but I don't remember learning to sew until home ec in high school. Although I was a business major in college, I took a tailoring class in my last quarter of college. I don't even know how I got in that class having no background in sewing and I started to make a wool full length coat but never got past making the collar! I did not begin to make quilts until about 2005 when my friends up at our cabin decided to form a quilt guild. The first year I did not sew but just watched them and then I decided to make a quilt for my cabin. Having never taken a class on quilting I just tried to sew triangles.

What artists influence you?

I have been taking classes from Nancy Crow for 11 years. She has been the artist that has been the most influential. Her use of color and design attracted me even before I had ever met her. Painters such as Paul Klee, O'Keefe and Vincent Van Gogh with their wonderful use of color have always inspired me.

How are you staying busy during social distancing? Can you recommend any projects to our opening's virtual guests?

During this time of stay at home, it isn't much different than my "before life" as my husband and I are retired and we were staying at home anyways. My different meetings have all turned to Zoom meetings on a weekly basis and all of us seniors are learning more about technology than we ever had before. I walk everyday with my dog near our house on rarely used trails so we don't meet very many people if any during our hikes. Everyday is spent in my studio making art or making masks for family and friends. There never is enough time to do everything on my to do list and especially now with the weather changing it is time for the garden.

www.fiberoptixart.com

Artwork on Display

Liz Square, 2020

Southwest Columns, 2019