

Remnants

Q&A with Teri McHale



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Artwork on Display

Waste

Medusa

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What inspires your work at this time?

I seek inspiration primarily in nature. I like to concentrate on natural forms, including the “litter” or waste products of nature, like peeling bark or piles of dried leaves, that most people ignore or sweep away. I find these fascinating and wish to draw others’ attention to their beauty.

Have you ever made any 3D textiles?

I currently create almost exclusively in three dimensions. Art quilting itself stretches many people’s preconceived ideas of quilts, and the added element of three dimensionality expands that even further. My favorite response to my work has always been, “That’s a quilt?!?” Each new piece presents unique challenges, depending on its size, shape, number of elements, etc. Fabric sculpture is an ongoing journey of exploration and experimentation in finding out how the materials will behave.

Tell us about a piece of your work that holds particularly fond memories and why.

I am currently working on a piece entitled “Desiccation.” This piece had been in the back of my mind for almost three years, ever since my family and I took a camping trip to Death Valley. A wash that had been flooded and dried to a mudflat caught my attention, and this piece was conceived.