

# Quilt Visions 2020

## Meet Deborah Fell

Urbana, Illinois



[www.deborahfell.com](http://www.deborahfell.com)

### Artwork on Display

*Courage: Thank You Greta Thunberg*

Deborah Fell is a full time studio artist committed to the quilt medium. She is a professional member of the Studio Art Quilt Associates, and Art Quilt Network. Deborah's art focuses on abstract, organic shapes while using surface treatments such as dyeing and painting fabric, photography and reclaimed materials. Deborah has been a professional educator for over 30 years. Besides teaching at risk high school students in a public high school setting, Deborah has taught various art workshops at national symposiums such as Quilt Surface Design Symposium, Quilting by the Lake and Art Quilt Tahoe. Deborah obtained a Master's degree from Northern Illinois University as well as graduate work at University of Illinois, University of New Hampshire and a fellowship at Northwestern University. In 2003 Deborah was in *Quilt National* and in *Quilt Visions* in 2018. In 2010 Deborah was asked to assist the host of CBS's television show, *Extreme Home Makeover*, in creating the art piece for the master bedroom project for the new house build in the east central Illinois area. The fall of 2011 Deborah was an Artist-in-Residence at the Mendocino Arts Center in Mendocino, California. In 2012 Deborah started teaching art quilt related courses at the University of Illinois through OLLI program. The winter 2012 issue of *Art Quilting Studio* featured Deborah's work on the front cover. In 2013 Deborah completed an Artist-in-Residence at the University of Illinois in Champaign, Illinois. Deborah was an Artist-in-Residence at the Nantucket School of Design and the Arts in the summer of 2016, along with the Vermont Studio Center in the fall of 2017. Deborah was the featured artist for the January 2017 *Patchwork Professional* in Germany, which featured an architectural series focusing on German architectural elements. Art exhibit openings in South Africa in 2014, Holland in 2015, and France and Cape Town in 2017, continue to strengthen Deborah's art visibility at the international level. Deborah's art quilt in *Quilt Visions 2018* won the Quilts Japan Prize, along with teaching in Tokyo in 2019.

### Artist Statement

I am an artist and my medium is quilting. Materials include cloth, paint, repurposed found objects and stitching. Layering, organic mark-making and line are prominent elements in my work. I allow myself to listen to the art. I follow where it takes me and the process of creating continues to teach me to be honest and to have the courage to keep moving forward.