

Quilt Visions 2020

Meet Paula Kovarik
Memphis, Tennessee



www.paulakovarik.com

Artwork on Display

*The Usual Suspects:
Presto-Chango, Empty
Rhetoric, Caught Red-Handed
and Sideshow*

Paula Kovarik received her Bachelor of Arts in graphic design from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale. As the creative director and owner of Shades of Gray, Inc., a graphic design studio, she specialized in communications. Paula's textile art has been recognized by several national venues. She has been profiled in *American Craft*, *Fiber ArtNow* and *Art Quilting Studio* magazines. Paula lives and works in Memphis, TN.

Artist Statement

Mom taught me pretty much everything she knew. Knitting, crocheting, embroidery, cooking, camping, fishing, compassion and responsibility. Then I went to school and learned some more. It all interests me, rocket science, plant biology, history, art, you name it, I'm interested. So I became a designer, the one career that forces you to keep on learning. I ran a graphic design business called Shades of Gray for over 25 years specializing in corporate and employee communications.

Seven years ago I sold that business and began my career as a full-time fiber artist. Stitching is an extension of my thoughts through my hands. It's about the edges as defined by line. It's about the inner coming out. It's about the layered, ripped, cut, and sandwiched together. Stitching is a slow process so I can be sensitive to surprises, allowing the stitched drawings to tell me more than I think I know. Surrounded by inspirations, I am awed by the mystery and eager to create. I multitask, dream in code, read with urgency and play with intent. Most days, I am breathless.