



# Shifting Tides

Studio Art Quilt Associates, Inc. (SAQA)

## Meet Maria Shell Anchorage, Alaska



[mariashell.com](http://mariashell.com)

### Artwork on Display

*Break Up*

Maria Shell's work is grounded in the tradition and craft of American quilt making. She strives to take the classical components of a traditional bedquilt and manipulate them with the hope of creating surprising combinations of pattern, repetition, and color for the viewer. Maria is the recipient of a Sustainable Arts Foundation 2011 Winter Award, a Rasmuson Foundation Project Award and two Rasmuson Fellowships (2009, 2013, 2017). She has had several solo and small group shows including *Fiber* at the Fitton Center for Creative Arts in Hamilton, OH; *Right Lines & Circles* at the Ormond Beach Memorial Art Museum and Gardens in Ormond Beach, FL; and *Line + Shape* at the Hello Stitch Studio in Berkeley, CA. Her most recent solo show *The Pieced Canvas* was on view at the Visions Art Museum in San Diego, CA. Her first book *Improv Patchwork—Dynamic Quilts Made with Line & Shape* was published in 2017.

### Artist Statement

Northerners have special names for the mucky weather of spring. In Alaska, we call this time of the year Break Up. Snow from the mountains begins to melt and dirt roads become creeks. Ice rots and mud rules. The change is so slow that we all grow impatient wanting the light, the sun, the dry land. I love this season. Everyone's yard looks like a junkyard. There is no snow or leaves to hide your business. You spend your days adding and subtracting layers of clothing, and the sunlight just keeps coming. It is a restless, naked season I think.

To view full exhibit - <https://visionsartmuseum.org/shifting-tides/>