

Susan Margin

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- 2014 *Holiday Group Show*, Gallery IMA, Seattle, WA
- 2005 *Originals*, Museum of Fine Arts, San Francisco, CA
- 2004 *FOCA Artists Show*, Lewallen Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- 2003 *The Show*, Fine Arts Museum, Santa Fe, NM
FOCA Artists Show, Lewallen Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- 2002 *Group Show*, Lewallen Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
American Women Artists, Columbine Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
Collect, Center for Contemporary Art, Santa Fe, NM
FOCA Artists Show, Lewallen Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
- 2000 *Basket Show*, Del Mano Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
From the Earth - Women Clay Artists, Arlene Siegal Gallery, Santa Fe, NM
Shidoni Gallery Group Show, Shidoni Gallery, Tesuque, NM

PUBLICATIONS

- 2014 Art Buzz
- 2004 3-D Art/Techne New Mexico Artist Series
- 2002 SWART

AWARDS

- 2014 Art Buzz Competition, First Prize: Ceramics
- 2002 American Women Artists Show, Award of Merit. Santa Fe, NM

ARTIST STATEMENT

I have been inspired by ancient baskets ever since I saw an exhibit of them in a Washington state museum. Each one was more than a woven basket; each was a sculptural object that captured a moment in time, a stage in the irrepressible path between durability and decay. My clay sculpture captures the essence of this impermanence by transforming it into a permanent medium.

I am fascinated by the concept of warp and weft. The interconnectedness of warp and weft are metaphors for the fabric of existence, the cycles of life, the patterns of the universe, and the transience of organic matter. My ancestors wove cane and other fibers. I feel a visceral connection to all my grandmothers for whom warp and weft were a way of life using processes deeply rooted in tradition.

As I slowly weave and hand-coil clay, I become, as it were, a needle passing through the generations. After firing, I apply unconventional patinas such as metallic surfacers and gold leaf to convey the notion of preciousness. I then preserve the underlying finish with several coats of wax.