

Patricia Mink – Bio

Patricia Mink lives in Johnson City Tennessee, and is an Associate Professor of Art, and head of the Fibers program in the Dept of Art & Design at East Tennessee State University. She earned an MFA from Eastern Michigan University in Ypsilanti MI, and a BA from Kalamazoo College in Kalamazoo, MI. Her work has been included in national and international exhibitions, and has appeared in Surface Design Journal, Fiberarts Magazine, Fiberarts Design Book 7, Quilt National, Visions, and Fiberart International.

Specializing in inkjet printed fiber constructions, her current research includes combining digital printing with jacquard power-loom weaving. Patricia is a recipient of an ETSU Summer Research Fellowship, an Individual Artist Fellowship from the Tennessee Arts Commission. and is one of 22 artists featured in the documentary “Soul’s Journey: Inside the Creative Process”.

Artist Statement

My current work explores the traditional layered quilt form, employing new digital techniques for weaving and/or printing fabric, as a means of establishing a visual dialogue addressing issues of contemporary culture. Drawing from historic associations with domesticity, comfort and home, the quilt form offers unique possibilities for developing content when combined with non-traditional techniques and unexpected imagery.

I am interested in the relationship between surface and structure. This can manifest in several ways- the images I chose, the materials I work with, and the layered forms they take. Fabric serves not only as a substrate for developed imagery, but also as a “built” form both in weave structure and constructed quilt. The play between 2-D and 3-D, the illusionary and the actual, creates a kind of space for metaphor unique to the medium of cloth.

“Venice III” is part of a series exploring patterns of both time and place.

“Made in the USA” is an installation juxtaposing the hand-made: utility quilt and overshot coverlet produced by anonymous makers, with the machine produced-Walmart photo “tapestry” of an image of mountaintop removal.