

Denise Perreault

Artist Biography & Statement

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Exhibits:

- * Sept. - Nov. 2018: **"Material World: Upcycled Textile Art,"** curator / participant, Bricolage Gallery, Boulder, CO.
- * January 6 - April 3, 2017: **Gleaming Art Invitational**, North Wing Gallery, Denver, CO.
- * November 29, 2016 - January 15, 2017: **"Connecting Threads"** Invitational, part of "The History of the Visual Arts in Boulder," (HOVAB), First Methodist Gallery, Boulder, CO.
- * December 2014 - January 2015: **"The Art of Fiber: 50 Years of the Handweavers Guild of Boulder."** Juried. Dairy Center, Boulder, CO.
- * *May 1 - 31, 2012: **"Annual Bead Show."** International invitational show. Pismo Glass Gallery, Denver, CO.
- * December 1 - 28, 2011: **"Small Wonders."** National juried show. Maryland Federation of Art, Annapolis, MD.
- * June 3 - July 8, 2011: **"Rough Ruffles."** Curator. Featuring five CO women artists: Rebecca Cuming, Shelly Hamill, Karen Mandery, Denise Perreault, and Arabella Tattershall. Dairy Arts Center, Boulder, CO.
- * April - May 2010: **"Re-Connections."** Juror and participating artist; regional fiber art show. University Loveland Museum, Loveland, CO, and Lincoln Center for the Arts, Fort Collins, CO.
- * October 1997 - 2010: **"Open Studios."** Bi-annual participation in juried Boulder County, CO exhibit and open studio at our home, Boulder, CO.
- * April - May 2009: **"The Fiber Of Our Being."** National juried show. Ciao Gallery, Jackson Hole, WY.
- * February 2005 - 2006: **"The Beaded Figure."** International, traveling juried show with exhibitions at the following U.S. museums: The Museum of Art and Design, (NYC); The Dorothy Page Museum, (Wasilla, AK); The Sonoma Glass and Bead Festival, (CA); The Kentucky Museum of Art and Craft, (Louisville, KY); The International Quilt Festival, (Rosemount, IL); and The Loveland Museum, (Loveland, CO).
- * 2000: **"Beady-Eyed Women; Colorado's Contemporary Bead Artists."** Curator and exhibitor. Featuring 10 bead artists from Colorado. Dairy Center for the Arts, Boulder, CO. of Colorado Gallery, Boulder, CO.
- * May - July 1999, 2009, and 2010: **"Fiber Celebration '99, '09, and '10."** National juried shows.
- * 1996: **"Tunisia Through Foreign Eyes."** International juried show of artworks from foreign visitors included my handwoven "hil'm" belt, created during my Peace Corp service in Mansoura, Tunisia. Tunisian Office of Foreign Affairs, Tunis.
- * 1987 - 2013: Over a dozen regional shows, including the Handweavers Guild of Boulder's Annual juried Show and Sale, Boulder County Fairgrounds, Longmont, CO.

Public Art Installations:

November 2014, ongoing: **"Luminescence."** Dairy Arts Center, Boulder, CO. Large outdoor sculpture woven with a variety of prepared metal strips on two large vertical grids. This public installation includes ribbons of 2300 individually-programmed LEDs, which create a complex light show from dusk - 2am every night. Becky Vanderslice, project lead, with Mary Balzer, Betsy Blumenthal, and Mary Beth Homiack.

April 2013 - 2015: **"Hannah's Highland Lawn Plat, 1884."** Outdoor art installation surrounding the rehabilitation of the historic Hannah Barker House, 800 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, CO. The chain link fence weaving utilized thousands of yards of surplus window treatment fabric and 116 used metal tape measures to replicate the plat that Hannah drew of her early Boulder neighborhood. In cooperation with Historic Boulder and restoration architects, this was the largest chain link fence weaving ever created in the U.S. in 2013.

Juror / Curator:

- * May 2015 - October 2020: Curated over 40 solo and group exhibits, Bricolage Gallery, at Art Parts Creative Reuse Center, Boulder, CO.
- * November 2018: Juror: Handweavers Guild of Boulder Annual Showcase, Longmont, CO
- * June 10, 2017: Longmont Artist Guild Annual Show and Sale, Boulder County Fairgrounds, CO.
- * November 2016: Handweavers Guild of Boulder Show and Sale, Boulder County Fairgrounds, CO.

Awards:

- * December 2005: People's Choice Award, Handweavers Guild Show, Longmont, CO
- * July 1999: 2nd Place for "Tunisian Carpet," large beaded valance, "Fiber Celebration '99."
- * August 1996 - 2004: Various First and Second Place ribbons for handwoven rugs and table linens, Boulder County Fair, CO.
- * February 1996: American Juror's Choice, Tunisian Office for Foreign Affairs, Tunis.
- * October 1987: First Place; Wearables, Handworks Gallery, Boulder, CO.

Education:

- * April 2015: Creative Reuse Director Training, 5 day session with SCRAP USA (School and Community Reuse Action Project), Denton, TX.
- * July 2013: Certified Master Reuser, 6 week training through International Reuse Alliance, Minneapolis, MN.
- * 1982: B.S., Communications, specializing in journalism and public relations for the arts. Boston University, MA.

Affiliations:

- 2012 - Present: International Reuse Alliance, Minneapolis, MN.
- 1984 - Present: member, Handweavers Guild of Boulder, CO.
- 2004 - Present: artist member, Boulder County Art Alliance.

Publications:

- * January 2014: **"How To Increase Commercial Recycling in Boulder County,"** op-ed by Denise Perreault. *Boulder Daily Camera*.
- * November 2013: **"From Mundane To Marvelous: How Creative Reuse Centers Benefit Products, People, and Planet."** YouTube video lecture and slideshow to the Front Range Bioneers, University of Colorado, Boulder.
- * December 2008 - January 2009: **"Tiles and Tribulations,"** by Denise Perreault. Journal-style article about the making of "Tara's Tiles." *Beadwork Magazine*.
- * Winter 2008: **"An Artist's Abode."** Photographs and accompanying article about the home remodelled by Denise and her husband, David Low. *Boulder County Home and Garden Magazine*.
- * March/April 2008: **"The Knight of the Royal Crusades,"** featured artwork by Denise Perreault. *Bead Trends Magazine*.

- * 2004: **"The Portable Crafter: Beading."** by Susan Ire. Book featured Denise's beaded vessel, "Aspen Alley Basket." Sterling Publishers.
- * June/July 2004: **"The Beadwork of Ruth McCorrison." Profile by Denise Perreault.** *Beadwork Magazine.*
- * October/November 2003: **"Recycled Beaded Basket,"** by Denise Perreault. **Cover photo and article.** *Beadwork Magazine.*
- * 2003: **"Netted Beadwork,"** by Diane Fitzgerald. Book features Denise's piece, "In My Victorian Dreams." Interweave Press.
- * October/November 2001: **"Secrets of the Glass Seed Bead Industry,"** by Denise Perreault. *Beadwork Magazine.*
- * Sept. 2000: **"Beading With Brick Stitch,"** by Diane Fitzgerald. Book featured Denise's beaded valance, "Medieval Village." Interweave Press.
- * May/June 2000: "Large Scale With Small Beads," by Denise Perreault. *Beadwork Magazine.*
- * Spring 1999: **"Spicy Bottles,"** by Denise Perreault. **Cover photo and article.** *Beadwork Magazine.*
- * Fall 1998: **"Leaf Me Alone,"** by Jean Campbell. Article about Denise's first "glass curtain." *Beadwork Magazine.*
- * May/June 1996: **"Backless Woven Blouse,"** by Denise Perreault. *Handwoven Magazine.*

Work Experience:

- * 2011 - 2020: Founder and Executive Director, Art Parts Creative Reuse Center. Included curating and mounting exhibits in Bricolage Gallery, which specializes in found object, mixed media, assemblage, and bricolage artworks. Handled all aspects of volunteers, staff, retail and gallery sales, lease and building issues, and data entry. Worked with board members and numerous community partners to grow Art Parts into a thriving and successful community nonprofit.
- * 1996 - Present: Sole Proprietor, Denise Perreault Beaded Art and Restoration, Boulder, CO. Over 50 restorations of Victorian beaded purses and clothing, and 5 antique beadwork appraisals for gallery owners and private clients throughout the U.S.
- * 1991 - 92: Peace Corps Volunteer, Youth Opportunity Task Force, Mansoura, Tunisia, Africa. Assisted two weaving cooperatives in my village to cut out middle men and undertake some of those tasks, so that more income was earned by weavers. Also worked in youth center, which formerly served only boys, to bring activities like beadwork and embroidery to girls.
- * 1983 - 1991: Promotion Manager / Tour Guide / Carrier Newsletter Editor / Ad Sales / Freelance Writer, Boulder Daily Camera, CO.
- * 1975 - 1982: Various seasonal and full time positions as bed and breakfast manager, bartender/waitress/hostess, receptionist at 3 different offices in Louisiana and Colorado, resume and freelance writer, ad rep for Boston Arts magazine during college, farm hand. factory worker making guitar strings, and assembly line worker at Milton Bradley Company, CT and MA, during high school summers.

Personal:

Born in Berlin, NH; raised in Enfield, CT. Boulder, Colorado resident since 1983. Travel throughout the U.S., Thailand, Greece, Tunisia, Morocco, West Indies, Jamaica, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Australia, the Cook Islands, Mexico, and Venezuela. Married with one son. David and Denise maintain an international folk art and found object art collection.

Artist Statement

I've been fascinated with refracted light since childhood, when I discovered my mother's Austrian crystal necklace shot rainbows around the room when held in sunlight. It's the impetus for every "glass curtain" I create, and my delight in those private rainbows has not diminished.

My other inspirations are medieval art and architecture, fashion, historical costumes, folk and assemblage art, and textiles in their myriad forms. As the founder of a creative reuse center, I relish the chance to incorporate found objects in my work, and the opportunity to coax beauty or utility from cast-off, mundane items. This satisfies my desire to reuse, repair, reduce, and recycle, which in turn has honed my repair and restoration skills.

While social commentary often finds its way into my beaded sculptures, I hope viewers of my work will experience moments of whimsy, humor, beauty, and wonder when considering how very labor-intensive seed beadwork can be - especially large-scale.

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