

# seams

CONTEMPORARY TEXTILE ARTISTS

Portrait Society Gallery

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# seams

CONTEMPORARY TEXTILE ARTISTS

**September 25 through November 28, 2020**

Portrait Society Gallery is pleased to present its fall exhibition, SEAMS: Contemporary Textile Artists, opening September 25 and running through November 28, 2020, curated by gallery director Debra Brehmer and fiber artist Heidi Parkes, with assistance from Paul Salsieder.

The gallery is located at 207 E. Buffalo Street, Fifth Floor, in the Third Ward, Milwaukee, WI. Hours are Thursday through Saturday, noon to 5 p.m. and by appointment.

SEAMS features 17 regional and national artists working with fabric. The exhibition also inaugurates a newly constructed additional space for PSG, expanding the gallery's square footage to 1600 feet.

From the historically traditional patchwork quilts of 75 year old Milwaukee artist Ella Mae Brooks, to New York-based artist Mary Tooley Parker's hooked rug tributes to the quilters of Gee's Bend, to sculptural contemporary work by Judith Mullen, Jacqueline Surdell and Nirmal Raja, SEAMS traces an evolution of fiber work. The thread and yarn used to stitch, patch, enumerate, contain, define, elaborate, and connect, wanders between genres with a material freedom that holds an echo of 'women's work' while defying domestic or art world categorical limitations.

The exhibition features new work by Milwaukee and Florida-based artist Sharon Kerry-Harlan who devoted the past winter to black and white compositions. Milwaukee artist-of-the-year in 2019, Rosemary Ollison, is represented with a new series of dyed, stitched and constructed denim jackets as well as wall textiles. Local legendary seamstress Madam Chino presents a three-story tall strip of 28 stitched together dress shirts, installed as a cascading ribbon. Cincinnati MFA student Josie Love Roebuck applies stitching to her painted canvases and Chicago based artist Judith Mullen finds nature-based textures in combinations of wire, plastic, fabric and glue. Co-curator Heidi Parkes presents new work using a variety of quilting techniques, with one work a diaristic account of COVID months.

**Artists include:** Vanessa Devaki Andrew (Madam Chino), Ella Mae Brooks, Molly Hassler, Sharon Kerry-Harlan, Linda Marcus, Kirsten Meier, Shannon Molter, Judith Mullen, Amanda Nadig, Rosemary Ollison, Mary Tooley Parker, Heidi Parkes, Rosy Petri, Nirmal Raja, Josie Love Robuck, Jacqueline Surdell, Charles Queen.



Left:

**Judith Mullen**

*Mask VII*, 2020

Plater and yarn

24 x 18 x 5 inches

\$2400



Right:

**Judith Mullen**

*Mask VIII*, 2020

Plater, yarn, acrylic, and  
pigment.

24 x 18 x 5 inches

\$1800



**Judith Mullen**

*Figure II, 2020*

Plaster, yarn, ace bandages,  
resin, pigment

54 x 36 x 24 inches

\$4500









**Sharon Kerry-Harlan**  
*Blue Horizon, 2020*

Acrylic on cotton  
50 x 43.5 inches

\$5500



**Sharon Kerry-Harlan**  
*Orange Blossom, 2020*

Acrylic on cotton  
50 x 43.5 inches

\$5500





**Sharon Kerry-Harlan**

Black Eyed Peas (new edition), 2020

Hand painted cotton, stitching, beads

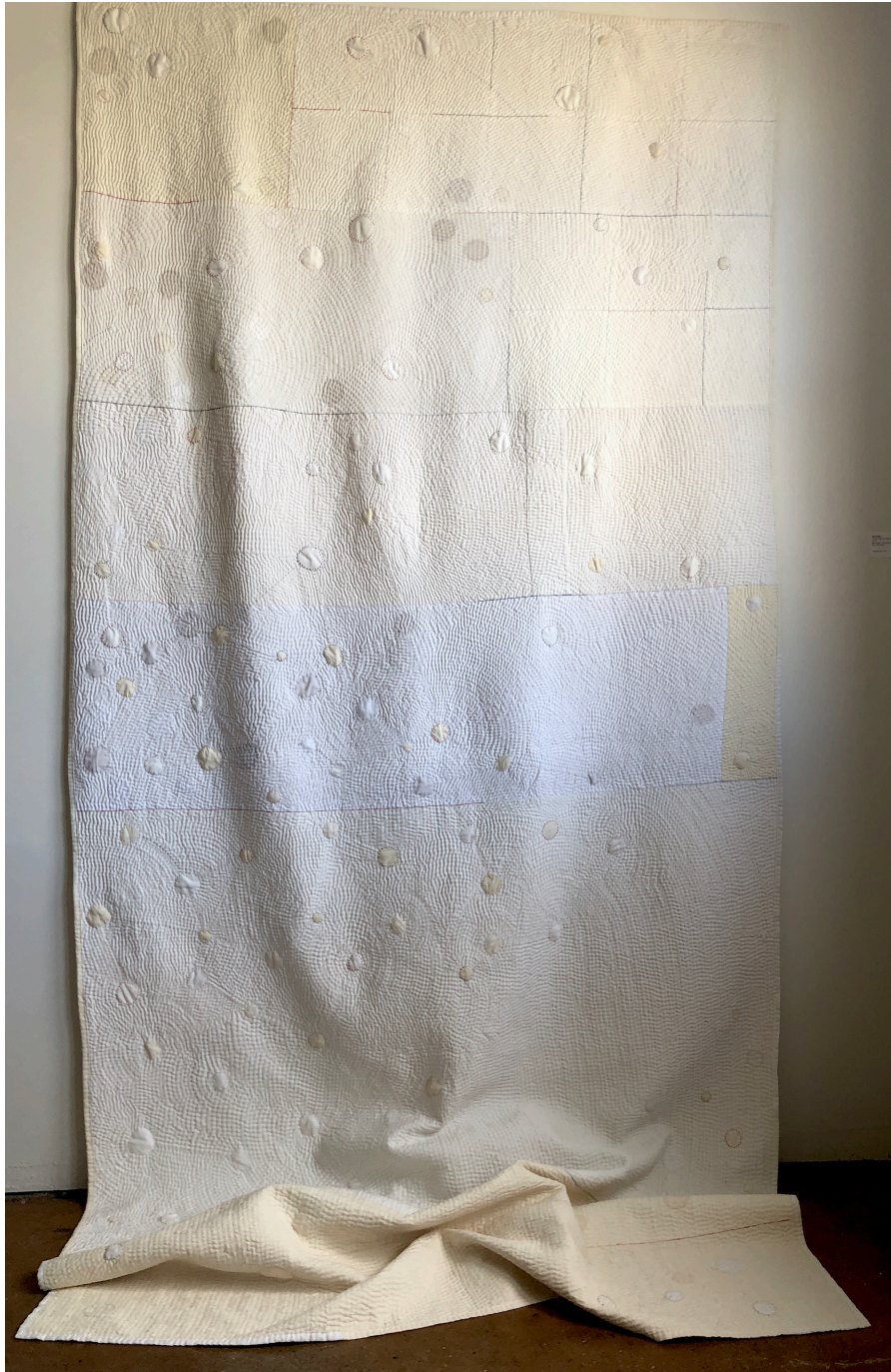
18 x 8 inches

\$195 each









**Heidi Parkes**

*I Know the Stars Are There  
Beyond the Clouds 2, 2016*

Quilt

66 x 135 inches

\$10,000







**Heidi Parkes**  
*Meuse, Pandemic,  
Invisible, Sweetheart*  
2020  
Quilt  
60 x 60 inches  
\$8,000



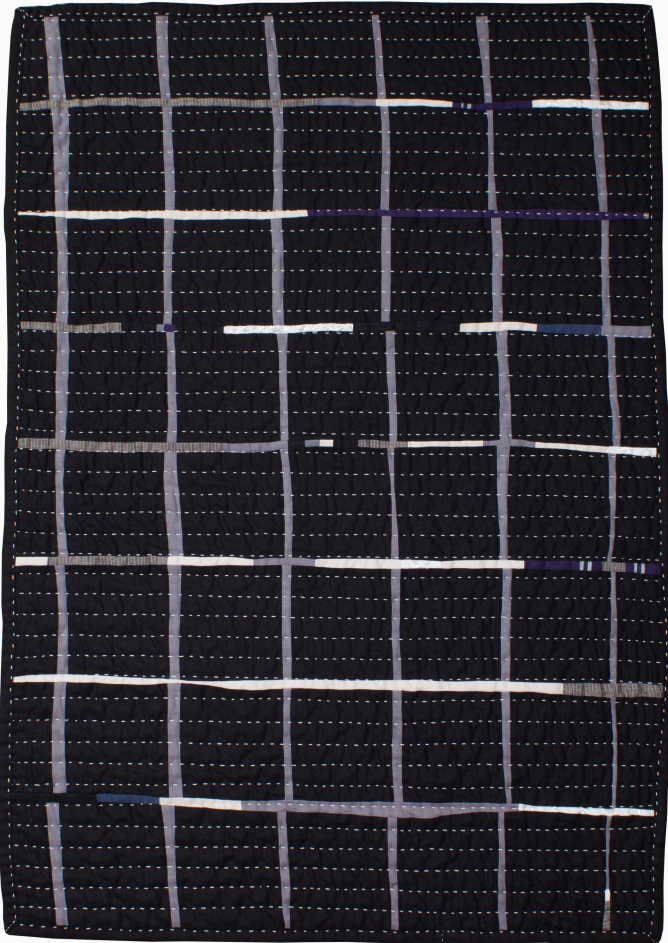


**Heidi Parkes**  
*Neutrality Study. 1*, 2020

Quilt  
36 x 36 inches

\$3000





**Heidi Parkes**

*Night Flight no. 4*, 2015

Quilt

48 x 34 inches

\$1800



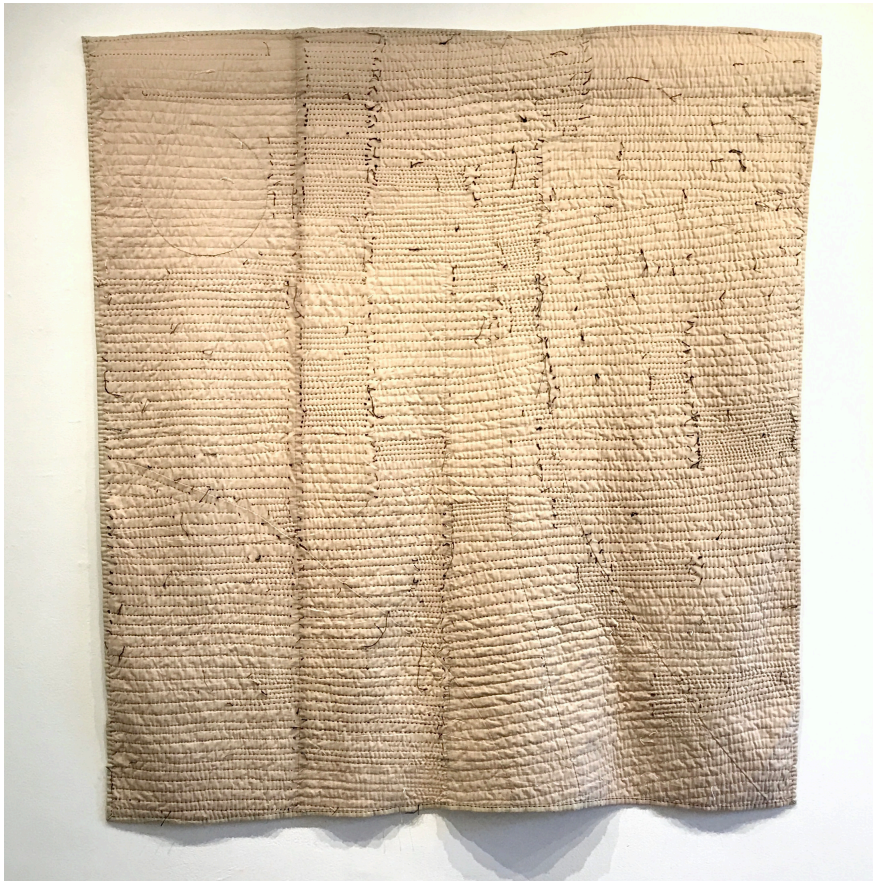
**Heidi Parkes**

*But, What was it Like?*,  
2020

Stretched fabric quilt  
36 x 36 inches

\$4000





**Heidi Parkes**

*Neutrality Study no. 2, 2020*

Quilt

60 x 60 inches

\$4000



**Heidi Parkes**

*Magical Thinking Attempt no. 1, 2020*

Quilt

60 x 60 inches

\$6000









**Jaqueline Surdell**

*Melancholy of Always:  
Sunset in the Rockies (After  
Albert Bierstadt), 2020*

Nylon cord, cotton cord,  
paracord, printed polyester  
fabric, hanging hardware  
90 x 120 inches  
\$14,000

SOLD





**Rosemary Ollison**

*Untitled (narrow  
leather circle  
textile), 2018*

Repurposed leather  
75 x 38 inches

\$950



**Rosemary Ollison**

*Circles and  
Triangles, 2018*

Repurposed leather  
78 x 69 inches

\$3200



**Molly Hassler**

*By Our Labor Alone*, 2020

Acrylic on Weaving  
27.5 x 21 inches

\$2400



**Linda B. Marcus**

*Strained*, 2020

Yarn, metal strainer, metal juicer,  
hand dyed embroidery thread.  
20 x 22 inches  
\$900

SOLD



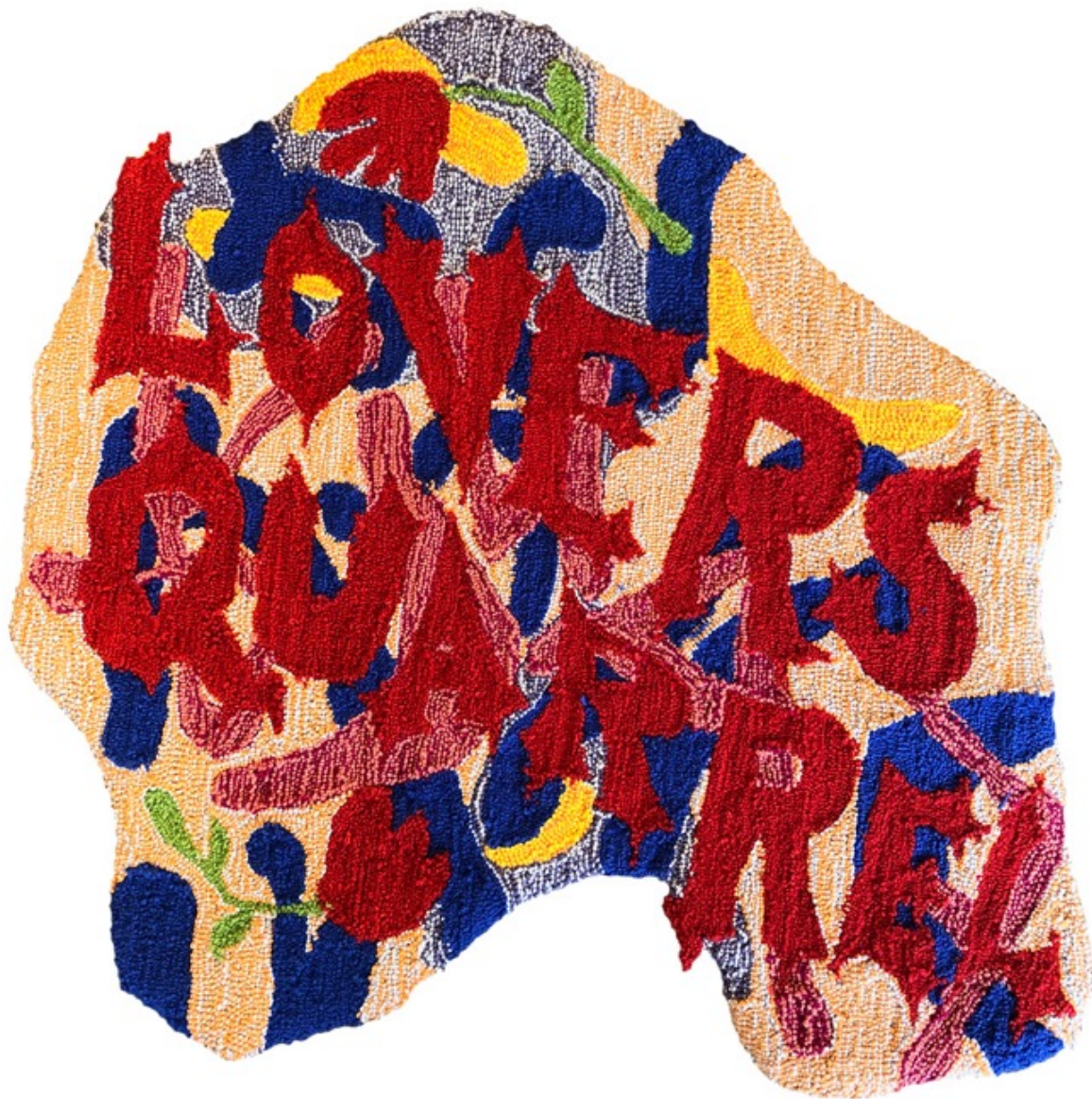
**Rosy Petri**

*Big Chief Beautiful*, 2020

Fabric, stitching  
20 x 16 inches

Inquire for price





**Kirsten Meier**

*I Gave You My Dead  
Grandpa's Clothing, but  
What if His Spirit's Still in  
There? 2020*

Machine-tufted wool rug  
32 x 32 inches

\$1525



**Kirsten Meier**  
*The Kewpie and the Pitchfork*, 2019

Punch needle acrylic rug  
 16 x 16 inches

\$425



**Kirsten Meier**  
*The Kewpie and the Halo*, 2020

Punch needle acrylic rug  
 16 x 16 inches

\$425

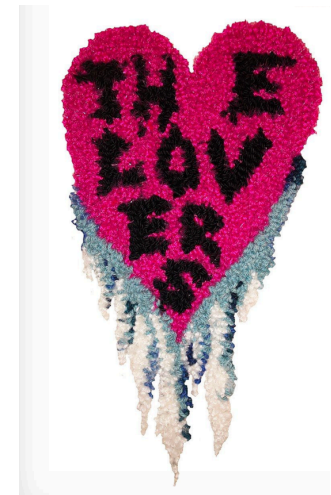
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**Kirsten Meier**  
*The Kewpie and the Snake*, 2020

Punch needle acrylic rug  
 18 x 18 inches

\$425



**Kirsten Meier**  
*On the Rocks*  
 2020

Punch needle  
 acrylic rug  
 18 x 14 inches  
 \$325

Sold





**Josie Love Roebuck**  
*I Remember, Do You?*  
 1, 2020

Charcoal, acrylic, felt  
 paper, oil pastel, soft  
 pastel, and yarn on  
 unstretched canvas  
 24 x 18 inches

\$850



**Josie Love Roebuck**  
*I Remember, Do You?*  
 3, 2020

Charcoal, acrylic, felt  
 paper, oil pastel,  
 conté, and yarn on  
 unstretched canvas  
 24 x 18 inches

\$850





Detail: Josie Love Roebuck, "I Remember, Do You, 1," 2020





**Josie Love Roebuck**

*No, I Don't Speak Swahili,*  
2020

Acrylic and embroidery on  
unstretched canvas  
60 x 50 inches

\$1500





**Ella Mae Brooks**  
*Untitled (flags and  
flowers)*

Patchwork quilt  
84 x 62 inches

\$900



**Ella Mae Brooks**  
*Untitled (Halves)*

Patchwork quilt  
94 x 43 inches

\$850







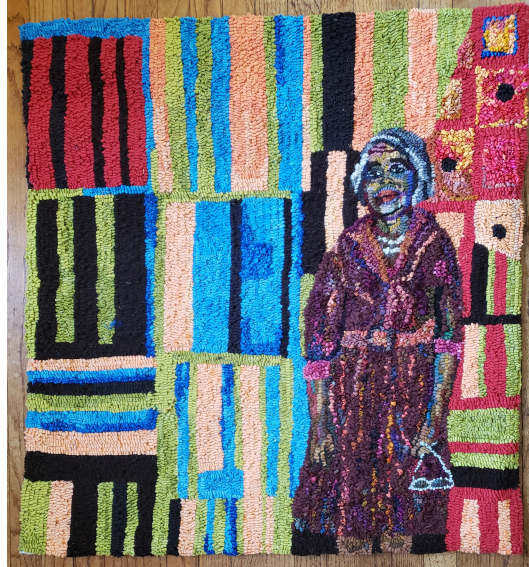


**Mary Tooley Parker**

*Geraldine Westbrook, Gee's Bend  
Quilter in Klimt, 2019*

Hooked rug. Variations of new and  
recycled wood, cotton, and silk,  
fleece, hand-spun yarn, silk fiber.  
40 x 33 inches  
\$3000

SOLD



**Mary Tooley Parker**

*'Ma' Willie Abrams, Gee's Bend  
Quilter in Klimt, 2020*

Hooked rug. Variations of new and  
recycled wood, cotton, and silk,  
fleece, hand-spun yarn, silk fiber.  
37 x 35 inches  
\$3000

SOLD



**Mary Tooley Parker**

*Sue Willie Seltzer, Gee's Bend  
Quilter in Klimt, 2016*

Hooked rug. Variations of new and  
recycled wood, cotton, and silk,  
fleece, hand-spun yarn, silk fiber.  
37 x 36 inches  
\$3000

SOLD





**Mary Tooley Parker**

*Sue Willie Seltzer, Gee's Bend Quilter in Klimt, 2016*

Hooked rug. Variations of new and recycled wood, cotton, and silk, fleece, hand-spun yarn, silk fiber.

37 x 36 inches

\$3000

SOLD



**Mary Tooley Parker**

*Annie Mae Young, Gee's Bend Quilter in Klimt, 2012*

Hooked rug. Variations of new and recycled wood, cotton, and silk, fleece, hand-spun yarn, silk fiber.

15 x 15 inches

\$800

SOLD





**Madam Chino**

*28 Dress Shirts, 2020*

Repurposed cotton  
dress shirts  
108 x 132 inches  
(variable)

\$2500





**Charles Queen**  
*AH HA*, 2019  
 Patchwork quilt  
 50 x 55 inches

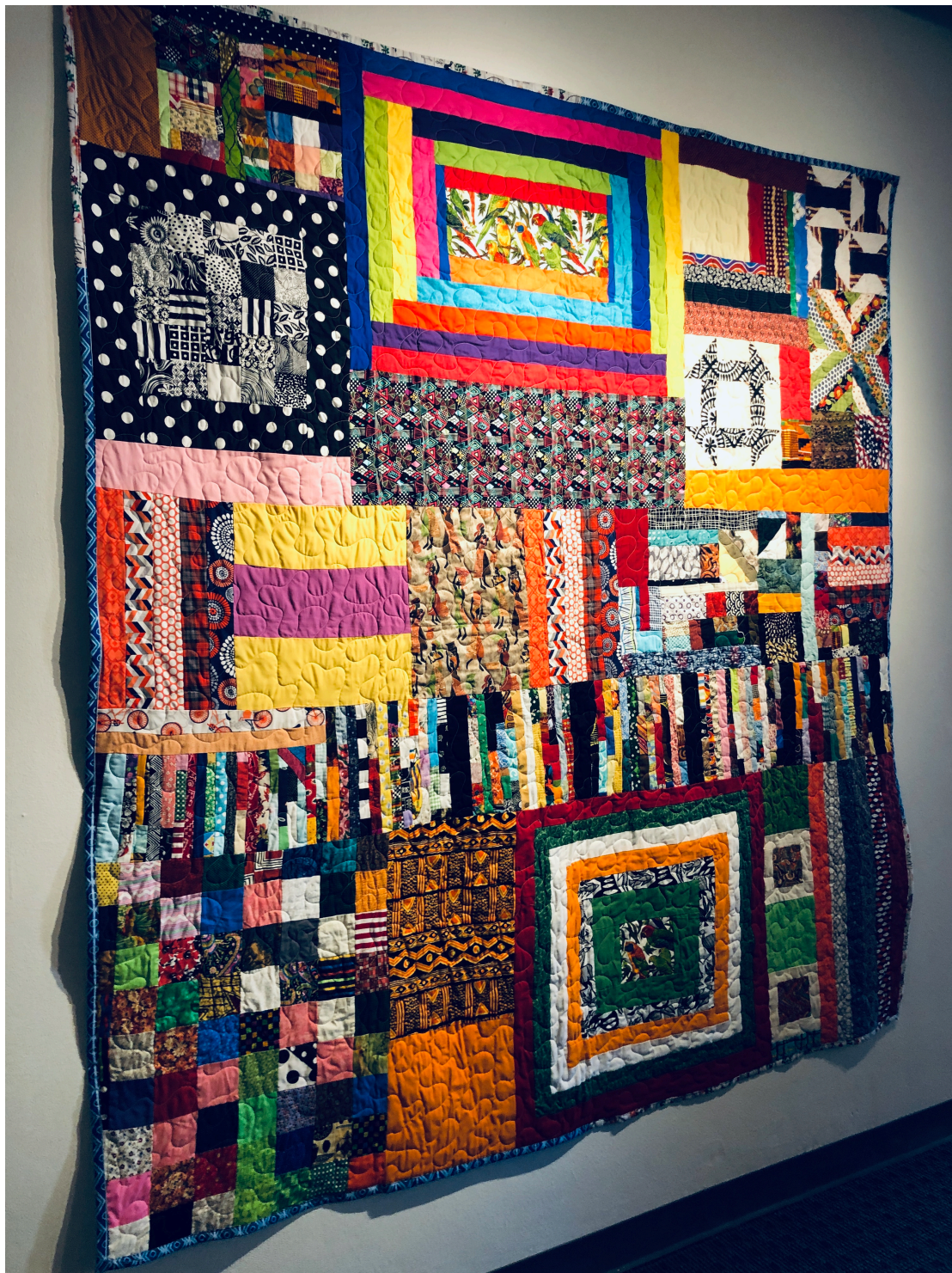
\$650



**Charles Queen**  
*Nam*, nd  
 Quilt  
 45 x 45 inches

\$600





**Charles Queen**  
*Untitled (Parrots)*, nd  
Quilt  
86 x 78 inches

\$1500





**Shannon Lee Molter**

*Babel*, 2020

Found leather, acrylic  
49 x 63 inches

\$4000





**Nirmal Raja**

*Can I Ask a Question of a Thread, 2020*

Video performance using a retinal examination camera

3:36

Edition of five

\$1800



**Nirmal Raja**

*Me / You / We and the Question, 2020*

Hand Embroidery on Hand

Dyed Silk Organza

48 x 48 x 48 inches

\$4000





**Amanda Nadig**  
*Surprise Cut-offs, 2020*

Quilt  
51 x 45 inches

\$1800



