

Quilted ARTifacts



GRADE LEVEL

All Ages

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Reconstruct the traditional crazy-quilt to build a multidimensional artifact of the future.

GOALS

Students will understand:

- How close observation is a tool for learning and discovery
- Process of creating a work of art that reflects the current cultural time
- Reuse and recycle materials in a new style

ARTISTS

Baxter Koziol

Portland based textile artists Koziol, reuses clothing to create new textiles. Altering our ideas of traditional function and style.

Isabelle Maschal O'Donnell

Intertwining textile and craft by expression of feminism and labor, process and material, and pattern and ornamentation.

INTRODUCTION

The 2020 edition of the CMCA Biennial features the work of 34 artists from 17 Maine communities. The selected artists were chosen from a pool of more than 500 individual submissions by jurors Nina Johnson-Milewski, owner, founder, and director of Nina Johnson Gallery, Miami, FL, and Kate McNamara, an independent curator and educator based in Providence, RI.

In a statement by the jurors, Johnson-Milewski writes, "I hope this exhibition will reflect the importance of harnessing the creative spirit, particularly in times of disconnection, isolation, and confusion." McNamara adds, "With over 500 submissions the process of looking through the Biennial entries offered us an opportunity to view an incredibly diverse range of art practices reflected in the contemporary art field. I am thrilled with our final selection of work, which reflects some of the hopefulness and re-imagining this particular and historic moment in time calls for.

LESSON

Experience the Center for Maine Contemporary Arts 2020 Biennial virtual tour. Using recently recycled newspapers and magazines patch together artifacts of the current time over an armature of any size. Looking at artists Isabelle Maschal O'Donnell and Baxter Koziol in the 2020 Biennial, stretch, bend, and mold your quilt into a relic for the future.

CELEBRATE YOUR WORK

When your artifact is complete add it to a time capsule, or place it in your home on display. Duplicate it to form a series or share with other! Make sure to tag us @cmcanow on Facebook or Instagram!

VOCABULARY

Relic: artifact with great meaning and narrative behind them

Crazy-Quilt: textile art form incorporating random patchwork design

Patchwork: combining together pieces of fabric to form a design

Sculpture: three-dimensional visual art form

Armature: a framework to support being covered in clay, plaster, or paper

Overlap: layering material onto itself

Texture: representation of a surface

TEACHING TIPS

- For younger artists, precut larger shapes or headlines out of newspapers and magazines.
- Clippings do not have to contain text. Food, colors, images serve as evidence of current culture

MATERIALS

- Newspaper or table cover
- Liquid glue (Elmer's works great!)
- Cup w/water
- Glue brush
- Newspaper & Magazine clippings
- Colorful paper scraps
- Popsicle sticks, wire, crumpled newspaper (material to build your armature)
- yarn, stickers, gems to be used as seam embellishment

INSTRUCTIONS

STEP 1

Prepare an area where you can get sticky and leave your work to dry over a few hours. Cover your area and take out materials to build your **armature**. Begin gluing, bending, and sculpting the armature which you will be gluing your magazine and newspaper clipping onto.

STEP 2

Apply glue to the backside of the newspaper and magazine clippings and lay over armature. **Overlap** the edges slightly to create the effects of a sewn seam. Intermingle the colorful paper scraps to brighten up the composition. Cover all exposed sides.

STEP 3

Glue embellishments of varying materials adding an alternative **texture** to emphasize the overlapping edges/seams of the quilt.

STEP 4

Flip sculpture around to expose underside and repeat steps 2 & 3. As the artist, you decide when your relic is complete. Find a safe place to display after drying.



Top Left: Baxter Koziol
Survival Blanket 1, 2020
Used clothes, yarn, and survival gear



Below Left: Isabelle Maschal O'Donnell,
Detail from *Garden Clippings*, 2018
Muslin, canvas, velour, upholstery fabric, faux fur,
rug mat, madder, cochineal, indigo, logwood,
coffee, dye, acrylic paint, glue

Top Right: Baxter Koziol
Detail from *The Sequel Suit – The Sopranos*
(1999) *Deep Blue Sea* (1999) *Adaptation*
(2002) *Nightflyers* (1987), 2019
Use clothes, yarn

Below Right: Isabelle Maschal O'Donnell
High Noon, 2018
Muslin, canvas, velvet, velour, synthetic fabric,
madder, turmeric, indigo, osage, dye, acrylic

