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LIVE WIRE

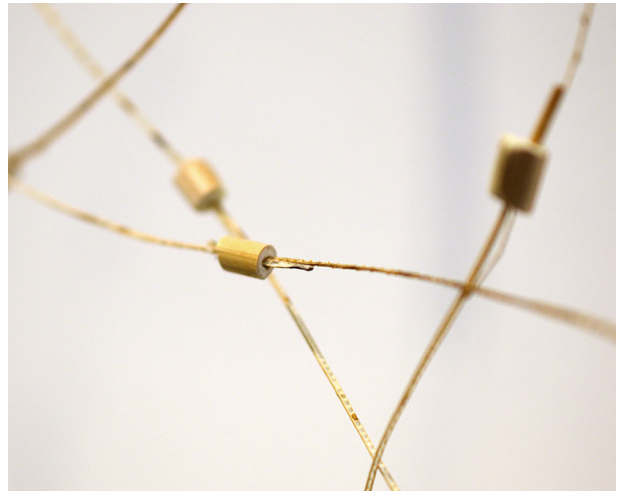
July 31–October 10, 2020

IN COLLABORATION WITH:

Española Valley Fiber Arts Center

FEATURING:

work by national juried and invitational contemporary fiber artists



c marquez, 728 (detail)

LIVE WIRE: MATERIALS OF A REVOLUTION

(July 2020) form & concept is delighted to present *Live Wire*, a juried and invitational group exhibit made in collaboration with New Mexico’s Española Valley Fiber Arts Center. Encompassing the gallery’s entire atrium and ground floor, *Live Wire* showcases contemporary fiber work by emerging and established textile artists whose work explores the turmoil and transformation of social and political upheaval. Select artists on view include Tamara Burgh, Erika Diamond, Nika Feldman, c marquez, and Rosemary Meza-DesPlas, among several others.

“Fiber is the material of revolution,” writes Co-Juror and Gallery Director Jordan Eddy. “Think of Betsy Ross stitching an early version of the American flag or Eugène Delacroix’s Liberty holding colors aloft to usher in the French Revolution. In recent decades, fiber artists from Judy Chicago to Faith Ringgold have provided potent kindling for social and political movements.” *Live Wire* will explore fiber’s remarkable ability to conduct world-changing ideological currents.

The wide-ranging exhibition, originating from a national call to artists, features costume, tapestry, found object and large-scale installation. Nika Feldman, whose simple methodology of needle and thread playfully incorporates found soda tabs in a series of wearable artworks, investigates ritual, identity and deconstruction across cultures. In an exhaustively researched body of work by Tali Weinberg, climate data is translated into impeccably finished tapestries of plant-derived fiber and dyes. Martha Shade, who exhibited in the landmark show “Women Artists from the Land of Enchantment,” Co-Curated by Lucy Lippard, presents her unconventional interpretation of “crazy quilts” with woven depictions of pre- and post- 1948 Palestinian exile. Whether by hand, loom or studio team, each artist’s work on view presents fiber’s unique ability to renew and reclaim the profound histories that continue to affect and unfold today. Anchoring the comprehensive show is Priscilla Dobler’s woven Volkswagen Beetle, a life-sized actualization of corporate and capitalist influence in the arts.

Live Wire is an in-gallery exhibition with an online presence. A *Live Wire* Exhibition Guide will be available on the form & concept website in addition to select work on view and installation photography. To make a private appointment or to request a guided tour, please contact the gallery at (505) 780-8312 or info@formandconcept.center.

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ABOUT ESPAÑOLA VALLEY FIBER ARTS CENTER

The New Mexico Fiber Arts Center is a unique resource for fiber artists and those who find beauty in the fiber arts. Visitors to the adobe storefront in the historic district of Española enter a world of looms, colorful yarns, beautiful handmade textiles, books, and supplies. The organization was founded as the Española Valley Fiber Arts Center in 1995 by a small group of weavers who learned that many families in the Española area had inherited looms but who had little knowledge of the techniques and heritage of Northern New Mexico weaving practiced by their grandparents.

In working closely with the community, The New Mexico Fiber Arts Center leadership became involved with the New Mexico Arts Division in the development of the Fiber Arts Trails and subsequently the New Mexico Fiber Artisans, both important resources that showcase the creative work produced by fiber artists across New Mexico.

The New Mexico Fiber Arts Center is the proud organizer of the New Mexico Fiber Crawl. The NM Fiber Crawl is the state's largest reaching fiber arts event and engages local communities and economies throughout northern New Mexico, bringing tourists from across the United States. In addition to the crawl, the center also organizes Santa Fe's largest show dedicated solely to the fiber arts, Fall Fiber Fiesta.

ABOUT FORM & CONCEPT

form & concept challenges the perceived distinctions between art, craft, and design. We dispute the historic use of these terms to divide artists and rank material culture. Our programming acts as a conversation between many converging disciplines, harnessing the power of contemporary creative practice to shatter entrenched narratives. form & concept mounts exhibitions of regional and international art. We engage the community through educational initiatives including workshops, lectures, and artist residencies.

The gallery is located in the Santa Fe Railyard Arts District. We share our headquarters with Zane Bennett Contemporary Art, which exhibits investment-quality, editioned masterworks. The full Zane Bennett collection is available to browse online, and selections appear on our second floor.

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For press or image inquiries, please contact Marissa Fassano at marissaf@formandconcept.center.

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