

Illinois Contemporary Quilts Juried Exhibition

McLean County Art Center, Bloomington, Ill.
June 19th – August 8th, 2015

Deadline for submission: May 1st, 2015

www.mcac.org



Juror Mary Jo Bower's *Solitude*, 35 x 35 inches

The McLean County Art Center announces a juried exhibition exploring the complexity and diversity in contemporary quilt making across Illinois. Centrally located in Bloomington, the **Illinois Contemporary Quilts Juried Exhibition** is inclusive of Art Quilts, Modern Quilts, Functional and Wall Hanging Quilts of original artistic design that use both modern and traditional quilting techniques.

Eligibility

Residents of Illinois over 18 years of age

Media and Specifications

- All quilts entered must be of the entrant's original design. No quilt may be constructed following a commercial pattern or kit.
- All entries must have the basic structural characteristics of a quilt; predominantly fabric, composed of three distinct layers, and layers must be held together by hand or machine made quilting stitches.
- All entries must be no larger than 60" W x 80" L in any direction, made in the last two years.
- Collaborative work is accepted. Authorship of all parties should be recognized.
- A top sleeve is required on the back of all quilts to be installed in the gallery, no wooden slat is required.

Jurying

Mary Jo Bowers, Contemporary Art Quilter of Chicago, Ill. will be the juror.

A Juror's Choice Award of \$500 and two Merit Awards of \$200 each will be selected.

Entry

All entries are to be submitted through MCAC website, www.mcac.org. Each individual may submit up to three entries for the non-refundable \$25 entry fee. Online payment will be required with online entry. Notification of accepted or declined works will be by email only.

Contact Curator, Claire Hedden at claire@mcac.org for any questions.

July 4, 2014

Dear Contributing Quilters:

The McLean County Art Center is excited to announce *Illinois Contemporary Quilts Juried Exhibition*. Centrally located in Bloomington, MCAC will display the complexity and diversity in contemporary quilt making across Illinois. The *Illinois Contemporary Quilts Juried Exhibition* is inclusive of Art Quilts, Modern Quilts, Functional and Wall Hanging Quilts of original artistic design that use both modern and traditional quilting techniques.

We invite you to submit up to three entries by May 1, 2015 for *Illinois Contemporary Quilts Juried Exhibition*. Accepted works will be on display in MCAC's Brandt Gallery from June 19 through August 8, 2015. With its high ceilings and wood floors, the Brandt Gallery is capable of holding up to approximately 23 quilts all at maximum dimensions. An Opening Reception will be held on June 19 from 5 to 7 pm where award winners are announced. A Juror's Choice Award of \$500 and two Merit Awards of \$200 each will be selected. Mary Jo Bowers, Contemporary Art Quilter of Chicago, will be the juror.

A studio artist for more than 20 years, Mary Jo Bowers has had several solo exhibitions and participates regularly in group quilt shows and multi-media shows within the United States and abroad. Her work has received many honors and has been published in several books. Color is the focus of Mary Jo Bowers' art. Bowers describes her approach to quilting "as if she were painting with wet loaded brushes on a white canvas". Drawing from her responses to her physical and spiritual environment, she invites viewers to respond to her art with their own thoughts and stories. While Bowers enjoys time making quilts, she shares dual role in being a very present "gramma" to her two grandchildren.

The McLean County Arts Center is an independent 501c(3) non-profit organization and is supported in part by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency. Located in historic downtown Bloomington, MCAC celebrated its 125th anniversary as an art association last year. MCAC presents twelve art exhibitions annually, two annual arts festivals, art education classes, workshops, artist lectures, and facilitates art outreach through regranting to other non-profits in McLean County.

Please visit www.mcac.org to learn more about the exhibition and submission process. We pass along our enthusiasm and gratitude as we look forward to your submissions.

Best,

MCAC Staff