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“WEAVE HOUSTON” SHOWCASES DIVERSITY IN FIBER ARTS AND HANDWEAVING

On View at Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, January 9 – March 6, 2021

Weave Houston: Celebrating 71 Years of the Contemporary Handweavers of Houston

January 9 – March 6, 2021

Asher Gallery

Houston Center for Contemporary Craft

4848 Main Street, Houston, TX 77002

Weave Houston Juror Awards Event

January 13, 2021, 6:00 – 6:45 PM on HCCC’s Facebook Live

Weave Houston juror, Dr. Mary Ruth Smith, will present the awards of distinction and engage in conversation about the exhibition during this Facebook Live event, which will include an audience Q&A session following the award presentation.

Hours & Admission

Current hours: Thursday through Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM. Holiday schedule for 2020: HCCC will be closed for Thanksgiving Day, November 26, and from Christmas Eve - New Year's Day, December 24 - January 1, 2021. Admission is free. Reservations are required. Visitors must wear masks and practice social distancing.

(HOUSTON, TX) December 9, 2020 – Houston Center for Contemporary Craft (HCCC) is pleased to present *Weave Houston: Celebrating 71 Years of the Contemporary Handweavers of Houston*. *Weave Houston* showcases the history and diversity of Contemporary Handweavers of Houston’s membership, featuring works from emerging practitioners and longtime fiber artists. Noted fiber artist Dr. Mary Ruth Smith juried several awards for works that highlight exceptional craftsmanship and innovative use of materials.

The Contemporary Handweavers of Houston (CHH) was founded in 1949 as a chapter of the Contemporary Handweavers of Texas to provide a common meeting ground for weavers throughout the state. In its 70 years as a guild, the non-profit organization has promoted the education of and interest in handweaving and fiber-related crafts. This is accomplished through regular gatherings and demonstrations at schools, museums, and festivals throughout the Houston community, including the Livestock Show and Rodeo. CHH has an ongoing relationship with the Houston Center for Contemporary Craft and sponsors a scholarship for its resident artists who are weavers and demonstrate or lead activities at HCCC events.

Former HCCC resident artist and CHH member Molly Koehn benefited greatly from this scholarship. “It was an unexpected blessing to be awarded the Tilly Marchwinski Scholarship for Excellence in Handweaving when I first arrived at HCCC. The scholarship funded supplies during my residency and allowed me to create without worrying about finding additional funding. It was also such a pleasure to learn about Tilly and her involvement in weaving and the guild!”

Visitors to *Weave Houston* will delight in the variety of fiber works on display--everything from traditional wall hangings to unconventional sculpture--all celebrating the contributions of this time-honored artist guild.

Learn more about the Contemporary Handweavers of Houston at <https://www.weavehouston.org/>.

About Juror Dr. Mary Ruth Smith

Dr. Mary Ruth Smith is a former CHH member and current professor of art in fiber arts and fabric surface design at Baylor University in Waco, TX. Starting with coursework in home economics, her career has led her to a variety of disciplines from art education to the visual arts. At Baylor, she created a studio concentration in fabric surface design. Over the past 35 years, her hand-stitched artwork has been exhibited extensively internationally.

About Houston Center for Contemporary Craft

Houston Center for Contemporary Craft (HCCC) is a nonprofit visual arts center dedicated to advancing education about the process, product, and history of craft. HCCC provides exhibition, studio, and garden spaces to support the work of local and national artists and serves as a resource for artists, educators and the community at large.

HCCC is currently open limited hours: Thursday through Saturday, 10 AM – 5 PM. Holiday schedule for 2020: HCCC will be closed for Thanksgiving Day, November 26, and from Christmas Eve - New Year's Day, December 24 - January 1, 2021. Timed reservations are required. Before visiting, the public should visit the website to make reservations and view the complete list of visitor guidelines, including the requirement to wear face masks and practice social distancing throughout the building.

HCCC is located in the Museum District at 4848 Main Street. Admission is free. Free parking is available directly behind the facility, off Rosedale and Travis Street. HCCC is three blocks south of Wheeler Ave. MetroRail station on Main Street.

HCCC is supported by individual donors and members and funded in part by The Brown Foundation; Houston Endowment, Inc.; the City of Houston through the Houston Arts Alliance; Texas Commission on the Arts; the National Endowment for the Arts, the Kinder Foundation; the Morgan Foundation; Windgate Charitable Foundation; and the Wortham Foundation. HCCC is a member of the Houston Museum District and the Midtown Arts District.

For more information, call 713-529-4848 or visit www.crafthouston.org. Find HCCC on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram @CraftHouston.

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