

Merle Axelrad Serlin

<http://www.AxelradArt.com>

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Merle Axelrad Serlin is an artist whose primary medium is fabric. Her “groundbreaking style”, as described in the Sacramento Bee, “includes layering, piecing and sewing over tiny bits of fabric (sometimes as small as a quarter-inch) that she has often painted or dyed herself to fit the color scheme and textures of the subject”. Comfortable with both realistic and abstract images, Ms. Serlin has had much critical acclaim for her series of collages depicting California landscapes. Her work was recently praised by John Becker, editor of Public Art Review, at the 2001 Americans for the Arts conference in New York City. Ms. Serlin works out of her studio in The Building at 10th and R Streets in downtown Sacramento CA. Her studio is on the second floor of the Art Foundry Gallery. She typically hosts an Open Studio on the Second Saturday of every month from 6-9 PM.

Education

University of California, Berkeley, Master of Architecture, 1979

Architectural Association, London, England, Extension Graduate Studies, 1978-79

University of California, Berkeley, B.A. Political Science, 1976

Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y., Dual Degree Program / Government and Fine Arts, 1972-75

Academic Awards: John K. Branner Traveling Fellowship; Eisner Prize for Design Excellence

Grants and Public Commissions

Sacramento City Hall, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 2004

Laguna Honda Hospital, San Francisco Arts Commission, 2002

Visual Arts Fellowship, City and County of Sacramento, 2002

California Environmental Protection Agency, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 1999

New Works Award Grant, Sacramento Metropolitan Arts Commission, 1998

Professional / Business Affiliations and Appointments

Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA)	1999-present
River City Quilt Guild, Community Outreach in Schools	1996-present
Art Docent, Crocker Riverside and Sutterville Elementary Schools	1996-2003
Instructor, American River College, Dept. of Interior Design	1996
Coalition of Women in Environmental Design (CWED)	1994-present
President, CWED, North Central Chapter	1995
Broadway Corridor Planning Task Force	1994-1999
Land Park Community Association, Land Use	1992-present
Licensed Architect, State of California #C14758	1983-present

Selected Publications

Viewpoint, a focus on unique local artists
KVIE Channel 6, Sacramento PBS, July 2005

“Merle Axelrad Serlin, Art and its Many Faces” by Melanie Light
The New Land Park Monthly, May 2004

“Architectural Collage, Merle Axelrad Serlin stitches her way to happiness” by Cecily Hastings
Inside the City, January 2004

“Best Reason to Visit the New Cal/EPA Building – Collection of Serlin Quilts”
Sacramento News and Review, Sept. 20, 2001

“Sacramento Public Art Gets National Recognition”
The Greater Sacramento Arts Reporter, Sept/Oct 2001

“Public Art Dedication Draws a Collage of Artists” by Daniel Hurtado
Downtown Happenings, Sept. 2001

“A California Treasure: Merle Axelrad Serlin” by Louise Thompson Schiele
Studio Art Quilt Associates, Summer 2001

“Local Artist Paints with Fabric” by Judie Panneton
Valley Community Newspapers, March 8, 2001

“Fragile Locales Hang in Stitches” by Patricia Beach Smith
Sacramento Bee, Dec. 24, 2000

“California on a Thread” by Tim White
Sacramento News and Review, Nov. 30, 2000

“A Stitch in Time” by Maureen Allen
Inside the City, November, 2000

“A Natural – Art is at the Center of the New Cal-EPA Building” by J.T. Long
Comstock’s Business, October, 2000

“Artful Pasta, An Artist Who Would Rather Quilt than Cook” by Kira O’Donnell
Sacramento Magazine, August, 2000

“Quilts as Art”, by Stephen O’Mara
Inside the City, June, 2000

“Textile Shows Share a Few Common Threads” by Patricia Beach Smith
Sacramento Bee, July 25, 1999

“Crocker Riverside Students Piece Together Memories” by Collette Knittel
Valley Community Newspapers, June 10, 1999

Selected Exhibitions

Open Studio, Second Saturday of every month, 1021 R Street, Sacramento, CA	1999-present
“Miniatures & Masterpieces”, at Art Foundry Gallery (group show)	Winter 2004
Art Foundry Gallery (group show, Sacramento, CA)	Winter 2003

"The Gift of Art" at Art Foundry Gallery (group show), Sacramento, CA	Winter 2002
"California Treasures" at Art Foundry Gallery (one-person show), Sacramento, CA	Autumn 2000
Art Furniture Salon, Center for Contemporary Art (group show), Sacramento, CA	Winter 2000
"Prayers for the Millennium" at Passages (group show), Sutter Creek, CA	Autumn 1999
"The Spirit of it All" at Passages (group show), Sutter Creek, CA	Summer 1999
"Layers", at New Artworks Fine Arts Gallery (group show), Fair Oaks, CA	Summer 1999
Artist in Residence at Shriners' Hospital (one-person show), Sacramento, CA	Summer 1999
"A New Leaf" at WEAVEworks Gallery (one-person show), Sacramento, CA	Spring 1999
"Fabrications" at SMUD Art Gallery (one person show), Sacramento, CA	Winter 1999
Art Furniture Salon, Center for Contemporary Art (group show), Sacramento, CA	Winter 1998
"Entrée Libre", a Gallery for Contemporary Functional Art, New York, NY	Winter 1998
Constructions Specifications Institute "Profair 98", San Francisco, CA	Winter 1998
Pacific International Quilt Festival (group show), Santa Clara, CA	Autumn 1998

Selected Installations

City Hall, Sacramento, CA (building under construction)
Laguna Honda Hospital, San Francisco, CA (building under construction)
Runyon, Saltzman, Einhorn, Sacramento, CA
Wareham Development, Emeryville, CA
California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal-EPA), Sacramento, CA
Women Escaping a Violent Environment (WEAVE), Sacramento, CA
El Camino Hospital, San Jose, CA
University of California at Davis Medical Facilities, Sacramento, CA
Kaiser Permanente Medical Facilities, Sacramento and Walnut Creek, CA
St. Joseph's Hospital, Phoenix, AZ