

Suzi Ballenger
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Artist Statement:

Childhood memories of visiting my grandparents small farm in northwestern Ohio always revives my senses of earth, gardens, machinery/tractors, animals, silos, and freedom. My grandmother, born in 1899, wove pine needle trivets among many other handwork activities as she aged. When she was in her late 90's, she wove new ones and gave them to me and my 3 siblings. The use of pine needles in this handwoven work echoes the preservation of rhythmic movement that is homage to my grandmother's pragmatic activity. She was a quiet force who was raised with a firm belief in women's education and independence.

Biography:

Born and raised in Indiana, Suzi Ballenger, MFA, is a Rhode Island fiber artist and educator known for thinking outside the box. She has a curiosity for material that stimulates her language of craft; believing the fullest expression of a fiber can be realized through observation, rhythm, and structure. This communication breaks boundaries to reveal unexpected beauty and inspiration between the edges.

Exhibitions:

2023 *35th Anniversary Exhibit: 19 on Paper*, Bristol Art Museum, Bristol, RI
2023 *Tensions: New Directions in Fiber Art*, Bristol Art Museum, Bristol, RI
2023 *Inspired Craft*, Little Compton Historical Society, Little Compton, RI
2023 *Transitions*, Chatahoochie Weavers Guild, Georgia.
2022 *With Paper*, Pawtucket Arts Collaborative, Pawtucket, RI