

ARTIST'S STATEMENTS

I have been producing art since the early 80's. Works in primarily textile-based art forms gave way to assemblage work by the mid-90's, and textiles now represent an essential vocabulary that interacts with new and found elements introduced into the composition.

Each piece is an "engine" (in the Buddhist sense) or nexus for a situation or concept I am grappling with. That it comes out with image or sculptural space doesn't essentially matter, then matters very much.

Most work develops in series, as I move through conceptual, philosophical and emotional aspects of a unifying theme. Thus, the Heraldry series features small works relating to a renaissance bodice design, and a large work stemming from a work of poetry I read that spurred the series.

Most of my time is spent as an art professional in textile conservation and Collections management. This more custodial role informs my perspective in art making. I maintain my art as a most vital essential dialog with the world, and I truly enjoy sharing it with you, my community.

- *Joyce Ertel Hulbert, Art at Bucci's, Assemblages, August 25 – September 21, 2007.*

I enter my art from a place of distillation. It is not so much my observations of the world outside, but rather how that world informs, transforms, and effects my "self", my inner world, that becomes the true source of my work. The visions of the deeply personal will, I believe, exhibit the widely universal.

I am developing two bodies of work concurrently that differ primarily in process. Pictorial tapestry is about mastery, narrative, and technique, and is the vehicle I employ to portray subject matter of life-changing and mythic proportion. Collage offers to me the opportunity of more spontaneity of process, and thus is appropriate for more intuitive and visceral responses to the world. All of my work explores the metaphoric and symbolic meanings of textiles, the body, and objects of nature.

The tapestry grows from a life process of writing, drawing, dyeing, and weaving, and usually involves several years' commitment to create the final piece, woven from wool, silk, and metal thread. Connection with this ancient process of weaving adds content and context to the work. In the collage there is much layering of materials. This is emblematic of the many layers of perception we bring to our way of knowing - conscious and sub-conscious, felt or seen. A transparent veil of silk is often incorporated, the veil between the visible and inner or other worlds. On this veil words form or objects stand suspended, in the moment before we look within and see the further workings beyond or within us.

Joyce Hulbert has been exhibiting in national and international exhibitions for the past 14 years, and her art and articles published in numerous books, catalogs, and magazines. She is also the owner of Joyce Hulbert Tapestry and Textile Restoration offering restoration, conservation, and mounting of ancient, antique, and contemporary textile art.

- *Joyce Ertel Hulbert*, FiberScene.com