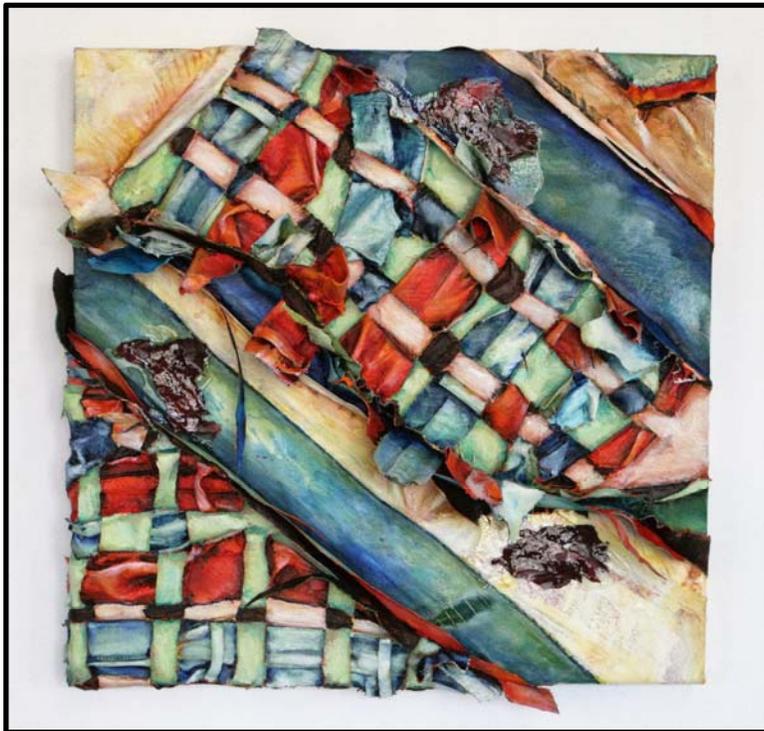


Mingled Mediums: Christina Massey



Interwoven 13, mixed media

- **07.07.17 - 10.01.17**
- **Opening Reception:**
Second Friday, July 14,
6 - 8pm

Christina Massey is a Brooklyn, New York-based artist whose approach straddles the boundaries of painting and sculpture. Her work is highly intuitive, reacting to the materials and building upon them as the work evolves. Massey's sensitivity to materials, form, and process, draws inspiration from textiles and re-purposed products. She combines acrylic, watercolor, and oil paintings with fiber art techniques such as quilting, knotting, and hand stitching to create dynamic work which indulges the senses, overloading them with an

abundance of texture, color, and pattern. Incorporating found materials such as clothing, wire, and thread, she adds purpose and meaning, often touching on various political or social topics. The canvases in this gallery includes clothing donated from Wall Street employees directly following the Bail Outs of 2008. The clothing signifies the influence that money has on the greater Art World, often dictating what is and isn't exhibited and created.

Massey's process involves constant deconstruction and reconstruction. She will frequently cut and tear the canvases, removing them from their stretcher bars and reusing parts of one to begin another. Some of her canvases have been re-purposed many times over. In this way, her body of work is a conversation with itself - a visual dialogue chronicling her creative endeavors. One series

leads to another, the past always present in the current and future works. The sculptural paintings tell a story, documenting her progression as an artist and questioning the finality of art.

I'll combine new canvas and other elements as needed for the current work, sometimes leaving the surface of the old painting as it once was, sometimes adding more paint on top of it, but still leaving it identifiable as the previous artwork. It's a process of constantly constructing and deconstructing, always building upon the old for the new. - Christina Massey



Interwoven 7, Mixed media

Though destroying old work is not always an easy task, her priority is the creation of the new piece. If a new project will benefit in some way from the destruction of an old one, she will do what needs to be done, and finds that the most difficult pieces to create often become her favorites. In doing so, there is history present in every piece.

Defining the instance she began approaching her work in this way as a “lightbulb moment,” this process was precisely what she needed. She found purpose and meaning surpassing anything she had previously known, stumbling upon this approach after pressure to make a last-minute deadline required her to repurpose work. She fell in love with this new, challenging method of beginning pieces, and has been doing so ever since. “It’s a

philosophical approach to creating,” says Massey, “the letting go in order to move forward.”

The Noyes Arts Garage of Stockton University: www.artsgarageac.com (609) 626-3805
The Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University: www.noyesmuseum.org (609) 626-3420
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