WHAT IS UNCOMMON THREAD?
Where the worlds of contemporary art, fashion, and craft collide, there is Uncommon Thread. Showcasing exceptional design and artistry through wearable art, Uncommon Thread is a national juried art event and competition dedicated to being a unique platform for artists and designers to present their work and giving audiences a one-of-a-kind visual experience with this exciting art form. Baton Rouge Gallery (BRG) is honored to give this program - originally founded and presented by Culture Candy - new life and bring it to the gallery this Fall with an eye towards the future. Dating back to 2007, Uncommon Thread has been synonymous with innovative presentations of wearable art, working with design professionals, choreographers, dancers, make up artists, stylists, and musicians. Over the years, more than 200 works of wearable art from across the U.S. have walked this unconventional runway.

THE EVENT
On Saturday, September 21, 2019, BRG will host the culmination of the Uncommon Thread jurying process when the work of finalists will be featured in a truly unique presentation before hundreds. An evening of art, live performances, and fashion, Uncommon Thread will be a multisensory event like few other in the region. The event will be held at BRG inside BREC’s (the Parks and Recreation Department of East Baton Rouge) historic City Park at 1515 Dalrymple Drive.
This will be a ticketed event. Artists selected by the juror to participate in Uncommon Thread will receive two (2) complimentary tickets to the event. Collaborative works will receive two (2) tickets total.

ELIGIBILITY
All artists over the age of 18, who are living and working inside the United States (and its territories), are eligible to submit works for the exhibition’s juror to consider for inclusion.

IMPORTANT DATES
Submission deadline: August 1, 2019
Notification via email: by August 15, 2019
Deadline for delivery of work: September 5, 2019
Uncommon Thread event: September 21, 2019
Pick-up Artwork: beginning September 22, 2019
All uncollections works after October 10 will assess a $10 storage fee per day. Any work not picked up from Baton Rouge Gallery by November 1, 2019 will be considered abandoned and the property of BRG.

SALES
All artists are encouraged to make their work available for purchase. BRGCCA will manage the sales of artwork at the Sept. 21 event and online (following the event). Artists will receive 50% commission on work sold during or as direct result of the event. Checks will be mailed to the artist’s address included in their original application.

SPECIAL GUEST JUROR – GRACE DuVAL
Past jurors for Uncommon Thread have included former Vera Wang designer Suzanne Perron, Garments of Paradise author and art historian Susan Ryan, sculptor Loren Schwerr, Fiber Arts Magazine editor Liz Good, and fashion designer Anthony Ryan Auld.
In 2019, BRG is proud to have one of wearable art’s most exciting American artists, Grace DuVal, serving as Special Guest Juror for Uncommon Thread: Essomonia.
Based in Chicago, IL, Grace DuVal is a wearable artist, maker, and photographer. Her wearable art designs have been featured in exhibitions both across the U.S. and internationally, most recently at World of WearableArt in Wellington, NZ (where her Mind the Synaptic Gap won the 2018 Dame Suzie Moncrieff Award). She has also collaborated on projects with Disney, Hot Topic, and Her Universe and had her work featured in Rolling Stone, The Atlantic, Paper Magazine, Bustle, Jezebel, HelloGiggles, and beyond.
DuVal is also a four-time Uncommon Thread participant and took home Best in Show honors in 2008 and 2015.
Works will be judged anonymously on the following criteria: 1) conceptual & aesthetic quality; 2) relevance and consistency with Uncommon Thread’s 2019 theme; 3) feasibility of display; 4) overall artistic merit. The juror will not see the artist’s name or home city during the judging process. The juror will not comment on any one specific application once the jurying has concluded.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Artists submitting work for consideration may do so one of two ways: either online at http://www.batrounegallery.org/uncommon-thread/ or via mail (delivered to the gallery’s street address). All submissions must be received by the gallery by midnight on August 1, 2019.
Artists may submit up to three completed works to be considered for inclusion in Uncommon Thread. Artists may submit up to three additional view images/videos for single works, but should submit no more than three works total. If an artist deems it necessary to submit additional images/videos, they may email them to info@batrounegallery.org along with your entry number and name. Application fee will cover the submission of all three works being submitted. Images/videos submitted must represent the finished, completed works the entrant wishes to have featured and should be no more than five years old. BRG reserves the right to use any images submitted for promotional purposes (exhibition catalogues, etc.). Artists submitting works via the Entrythingy system must follow the instructions presented in their entirety. Artists submitting via mail should send one CD to BRG that includes the following: a current resume, artist statement, bio, image list (which details the title(s), dimensions, media employed and year of completion for each work being submitted) and up to three works to be considered. Artists are encouraged to keep submissions to JPEG, MOV and MP4 files. Videos showing how artwork moves when worn is encouraged, though not required. Artists are also asked to answer the question “How did you find out about this exhibition?”.
THIS YEAR’S THEME: ESSOMENIA
Uncommon Thread has traditionally asked designers to focus their work on a specific theme, typically one that plays off of the mission, character, and feel of its presentation venue. This tradition continues with this year’s competition.
Contemporary art, in many ways, often has its eye on the future, even when exploring the present. With this in mind, we are proud to announce the theme for 2019’s Uncommon Thread is “Essomenia,” an 18th century term meaning “to show things as they will be in the future.”
We invite designers and artists to make the unimaginable tangible (and wearable) while setting their sights on the world that lies ahead. Whether inspired to look 20 years down the road or 200 years into the future, Uncommon Thread wants to know what you foresee. How might technology, the environment, the political climate, interpersonal relations, or other realities change or impact other changes? What might be commonplace for our great-grandchildren that most can’t even fathom today? Can your “essomenic” design simultaneously tell us something about our collective today and our tomorrow?

NUDITY RESTRICTION
All works should be constructed in a way that prevents the exposure of a model’s genitalia or chest. If an artist or collaborative team is unsure if their work would meet this requirement, they are invited to consult with BRG before applying.

BEST IN SHOW AWARD
The work selected by Uncommon Thread’s juror as “Best in Show” following the full Uncommon Thread presentation on September 21 will be awarded a $1,000 cash prize, courtesy of Uncommon Thread’s sponsors.

UNCOMMON THREAD PRODUCTION
BRG will be responsible for the production of Uncommon Thread as a one-night exhibition/performance. Artists are responsible for providing special needs their work might require for presentation. BRG will plan and execute the event in order to offer a cohesive, dynamic and engaging presentation that is aligned with the mission of Uncommon Thread and BRG. By submitting work for inclusion, artists agree to cooperate fully with the gallery on matters concerning production and the presentation of their work(s). Finalists selected for inclusion in Uncommon Thread will be consulted on hair, makeup, and model selection upon notification of their work(s) being selected for the event.

APPLICATION FEE
Each application must be accompanied by a non-refundable $30 application fee. Artists completing their application online will be able to pay via PayPal. Artists submitting work via mail must include a check/money order payable to Baton Rouge Gallery for $30, along with their submission CD.

SHIPPING/DELIVERY
Shipping/delivery of selected works to and from Baton Rouge Gallery are the responsibility of the artist. BRG is not responsible or liable for any damage resulting from the transit of works. Artists shipping works to the gallery are responsible for securing adequate insurance during transit to and from the gallery, if they so choose. While works are on BRG’s premises, they will be insured for the full declared value or sale price. Artists shipping work(s) to BRG should have an account with the shipping provider of their choice and should plan to make arrangements with said company for the pickup of any unsold works. BRG will not pay for shipping, either to or from BRG, of any works.
All selected work must be received by BRG no later than 6pm on September 5, 2019. BRG reserves the right to disqualify any work not received by this date. Artists unable to deliver their work in person must make their own arrangements to ensure that any selected works are delivered to BRG by this date.

AGREEMENT
By submitting work to be considered for inclusion in Uncommon Thread, the artist agrees to all conditions stated within this document. Any questions or concerns regarding submitting works and/or any stipulations set forth within this document must be discussed with BRG prior to submitting works. Once works have been submitted, artists have agreed to cooperate with all guidelines set forth herein. If the artist is aware of any reason that a selected work cannot be delivered to BRG by the stated deadline, the artist must notify BRG within seven days of notification.

ABOUT BATON ROUGE GALLERY – CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY ART
Baton Rouge Gallery - center for contemporary art (“BRG”) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. BRG is one of America’s longest-standing artist cooperative galleries, having first opened its doors in 1966. Today, celebrating more than 50 years of exhibitions and programming, the gallery boasts an artist member roster of over 50 of the region’s best visual artists. In addition to regular exhibitions featuring its artist members, BRG also hosts juried exhibitions and features a diverse and engaging programming calendar. Support for BRG is provided by private individuals as well as public and private organizations. Contact BRG for more details.

tel: 225.383.1470  address: 1515 Dalrymple Dr., Baton Rouge, LA, 70808