

## ART QUILTS XIX ARTIST SPOTLIGHT INTERVIEW 2014

Artist: Barbara Hall

The Exhibit Art Quilts XIX Permission to Play *Storytelling Art Quilts* at Chandler Center of the Arts Gallery. Exhibit Dates are November 7, 2014 to January 17, 2015.

Fiber Artist Barbara Hall creates art quilts from a studio attached to her house in Tucson, Arizona. She combines her artwork “The Woman Who Sings to the Fish” with a mythology storytelling folk tale. Barbara creates a relationship with the environment, fiber art and written story. Her inquisitive explorations evolve into an artistic approach by personal experience and is sent forward to the art enthusiasts. Barbara states “Believing in my creative power has been transformative in how I live my life. Art is an integrated part of my daily life.”

**When did your journey start in creating Art Quilts?** “I started making art quilts about 20 years ago, but in the last 10 years have worked consistently in this medium. I did not know what I was doing when I started, and then, discovered a whole art quilt community out there to learn from. I began reading about and looking at art quilts in books. The more I saw, the more I wanted to do this. My first art quilt was of the red rocks near Sedona, where I lived with my children for several years. I spent quite a few years doing paper collages and loved the fluidity of that process and now I use it with fabric.”

**Why Fiber Art?** “I love having this art practice of looking intensely at color, shapes, lines in fabric. I see cloth differently than I did before I began using it as a medium for artistic expression.”

**Has your art technique changed since starting?** “It has changed dramatically because I originally was working from a very traditional quilting place. I discovered fusing and painting on cloth that is a looser and more spontaneous method of working for me. I also learned to believe in myself as an artist and trust my process. Of course, I learned from all the teachers that I studied with, as well as, the other women in the two fiber art groups that I belong to. Visiting galleries and museums, always inspires me and gives me new ideas.”

**Artist statement:** “My art work connects me to the generations of our grandmothers and mothers who often expressed their dreams, passions and emotions in the fabric that they pieced together into quilts.”

### **Quilt Artist Barbara Hall information:**

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Artist Spotlight by Denise A. Currier Curator/Juror

Artist image included: Photograph courtesy of Richard Barber