

# HEATHER GAUDIO FINE ART

66 Elm Street, New Canaan, CT 06840 p 203 801 9590 f 203 801 9580 heathergaudiofineart.com

## CLARA NARTEY

Nartey uses stitching and embroidery thread to create richly colorful and symbolic portraits of African American women. Born and raised in Ghana, Nartey moved to the United States with her husband, her artistic practice arriving in a circuitous manner. After earning her MBA, she worked in finance for several years. As a break from crunching numbers, Nartey explored her creativity with embroidery and stitching, skills she learned from her mother. The economic downturn of 2008 led to a shift in her career, which fortuitously allowed Nartey to delve deep into her artistic investigations with the sewing machine. What began as a creative pastime developed into an original artistic output generated by richly saturated works in thread and fabric.

## SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

### SOLO

- 2022 *The Joy of Living*, Heather Gaudio Fine Art PROJECTS, New Canaan, CT
- 2021 *Windows and Mirrors*, Dana Art Gallery, Wellesley, MA
- 2019 *Drawn with Threads*, Milford Public Library, Milford, CT
- 2016 *Reflections – Stitched Drawings*, Atticus Bookstore & Cafe, New Haven, CT

### GROUP

- 2022 *Visions 2022*, Visions Museum of Textile Art, San Diego, CA  
*Harmony*, Broadway Galleries, Alexandria, VA  
*Haven*, International Quilt Festival, Houston, TX  
*All Things Being*, Crown Gallery, Bridgeport, CT  
*The Language of Color*, Charter Oak Cultural Center, Hartford, CT  
*Art Quilt Elements 2022*, Wayne Art Center, Wayne, PA
- 2021 *Social Fabric – Black History in Fiber Arts*, Morris Museum, Morristown, NJ  
*The Art of Independence*, Galleries at Workspace, Manchester, CT  
*Form, Not Function*, Carnegie Center for Art & History, New Albany, IN
- 2020 *Gone But Never Forgotten: Remembering Those Lost to Police Brutality*, Textile Museum, Minneapolis, MN  
*Local Color: Rails, Rivers, Roads*, Slater Memorial Museum, Norwich, CT & Windsor Art Center, Windsor, CT
- 2019 *Thread Count*, Hartford Fine Art Gallery, Hartford, CT
- 2018 *Local Color: Inspired by Science*, Windham Textile & History Museum, Willimantic, CT & Windsor Art Center, Windsor, CT & Zahn Gallery, Middlesex, CT
- 2017 *Locally Inspired*, Windham Textile & History Museum, Willimantic, CT  
*The Council Show - 2017*, Indian Hill Country Club, Newington, CT  
*Local Color: CT Stories*, Slater Memorial Museum, Norwich, CT
- 2016 *34th Annual New Legacies Contemporary Art Quilts*, Ft. Collins, CO  
*Local Color: CT Stories*, CT Hospice & Guilford Art Center, Guilford, CT  
*Currents*, Brush Art Gallery & Studios, Lowell, MA
- 2015 *Out of The Loop – 2015*, West Hartford Art League, West Hartford, CT  
*A Show of Hands*, Spectrum Gallery, Centerbrook, CT  
*An Art Quilt Exhibition*, Mashpee Chamber of Commerce, Mashpee, Cape Cod, MA

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- Collage – It's An Adventure*, Spectrum Gallery, Centerbrook, CT  
*The Council Show*, Trinity-on-Main Stockman Gallery, New Britain, CT  
2014 *MODERN SPIN: CONtemporary TEXTiles in an Historic Mill*, Narrows Center for The Arts,  
Fall River, MA  
*The Council Show*, Cave a Vin Bistro and Gallery, New Haven, CT  
*Festival Arts Show*, Spectrum Gallery, Centerbrook, CT  
*Hand Dyed*, Visions Art Museum, San Diego, CA

## HONORS & AWARDS

Joan Coderre Award for Painting: - Excellence in Color

## SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

- 2020 Yuzna, J, "Gone But Never Forgotten: Remembering Those Lost to Police Brutality",  
ArtForum, web  
Nartey, C, "Reimagining Feminine Beauty Standards", Art Quilting Studio Magazine, Winter  
2019 Nartey, C, *Drawn with Threads: What A Textile Art Exhibition Can Teach Us About Our Creative  
Potential*, Thirteen Thirty Press  
Nartey, C, "Local Color: Inspired by Science, A regional exhibit of Studio Art Quilts  
Associates", Quilting Arts Magazine, June/July 2019 | Issue 99  
2018 SAQA Member Gallery: "Rhyme or Reason", SAQA Journal 2018, Vol 28. No.4  
2016 34th Annual New Legacies: "Contemporary Art Quilts", Machine Quilting Unlimited, 2016  
"Nartey At Atticus", New Haven Register, Press Release  
2015 Sider, S, *1000 Quilt Inspirations*, Beverly, MA, Quarry Books, page 90, Print  
Centerbrook's Spectrum Gallery Presents Fiber Show, Middletown Press, Press Release;  
Online

## PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA)  
Connecticut Women Artists (CWA)