ELIZABETH LEACH GALLERY
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ANNA VON MERTENS

BORN
1973 Boston, MA

EDUCATION
2000 MFA, California College of Arts and Crafts, San Francisco, CA
1995 BA, magna cum laude, Brown University, Providence, RI

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS
2026 *The Brightness of Stars*, Dana Center Galleries, Saint Anselm College, Manchester, NH
Magic, Drive-by Projects, Watertwon, MA
The Data at Hand: Data Physicalizations of Earth and Space, Mills College Art Museum, Okland, CA
2024 *Elements and Objects*, Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland, OR
2023 *Henrietta Leavitt: A Life Spent Looking*, Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH
Glass, Metal, Thread: Building our Observable World, University Galleries of Illinois State University, Normal, IL
2022 *Altogether Elsewhere*, The Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, Boston, MA
2020 *Nature and Other Relationships,* Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland, OR
[IN]Finite, Archer Gallery, Clark College, Vancouver, WA
2018 *Measure,* Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
Color: A Love Story, University Gallery, Mass Lowell, Lowell, MA
2017 *Shape/View,* Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland, OR
2014 *Above, between and in,* Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland, OR
2013 *Gold! And Other Fallen Empires,* Boston Center for the Arts, Boston, MA
What Could Be, Crisp-Ellert Art Museum, Flagler College, Saint Augustine, FL
2011 *Portraits,* Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland, OR
2010 *Dawn and Dusk,* ProjectRoom, Lincoln, NB
2009 *Portraits*, Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, NY
As the Stars Go By, Thacher Gallery, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, CA
2008 *Endings,* Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, NY
While, OKOK Gallery, Seattle, WA
Look to the Heavens, Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland, OR
2007 *Burned out by the Rising Sun,* University Art Museum, California State University, Long Beach, CA
2006 *As the Stars Go By*, Jack Hanley Gallery, San Francisco, CA
2005 *Suggested North Points*, University Art Museum, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
Black and White, Shades of Gray, Lizabeth Oliveria Gallery, Los Angeles, CA
2004 *Point of View,* Mills College Art Museum, Oakland, CA
West and East, J.P. Morgan Chase Project Space, San Francisco, CA (Curated by Arnold J. Kemp)
2003 *MATRIX 207/Suggested North Points*, Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA
2002 *Introductions 2002,* Gallery Paule Anglim, San Francisco, CA
2001 *Via,* Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA
Migrations, Project Space, Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS
2026 *Contemporary Textiles*, Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland, OR
OBJECTS: USA, The Museum of Craft and Design, San Francisco, CA

2023 *Parallax: Framing the Cosmos*, The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

2022 *Ground/Field/Edge*, Drive-by Projects, Watertown, MA
The Sun, The Moon, & Stars, North Seattle College Art Gallery, Seattle, WA

2020 *Never Done: 100 Years of Women in Politics and Beyond,* The Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum and Art Gallery at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY
Objects USA, R & Company Gallery, New York, NY, Curated by Glenn Adamson
Radical Tradition: American Quilts and Social Change, Toledo Museum of Art, Toledo, OH
The Poetics of the Moon, North Seattle College Art Gallery
[IN] Finite, Archer Gallery, Clark College, Vancouver, WA

2019 *Afterlives of the Black Atlantic,* Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH
Shaina Gates and Anna Von Mertens (two-person exhibition), Sharon Arts Center Gallery, Peterborough, NH

2018 *Mirror Mirrored* curated by Corwin Levi, Austin Public Library, Austin TX
The Sheltering Sky, Palo Alto Art Center, Palo Alto, CA
Seeing is Understanding, Wayne State University, Detroit, MI
Becoming American, San Juan Island National Historic Park, Friday Harbor, WA (curated by Fionn Meade)
Way Bay, Berkley Art Museum, Berkley, CA

2017 *Another Time*, Handwerker Gallery, Ithaca College, Ithaca, NY
Storyline: The Contemporary Quilt, Houston Center for Contemporary Craft, Houston, TX
Cloud Headed, Gallery 51, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts, North Adams, MA
Whipstitch: the State of Contemporary Textiles, Ann Arbor Art Center, Ann Arbor, MI

2016 *Crafting the Future,* Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland, OR
Mirror Mirrored: Grimms 'Through the Looking Glass, Sharon Arts Center Gallery, Peterborough, NH

2015 The National Museum of Art, Architecture and Design, Oslo, Norway
University of Wyoming Art Museum, Laramie, WY
BODE, Bergen, Norway

2014 *Fail-Safe: Discomforts Close to Home,* Craft Alliance, St. Louis, MO
Fail-Safe: Discomforts Close to Home, HAP Gallery, Portland, OR

2013 *Uncontainable Portraits,* Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Linde Family wing for Contemporary Art, Boston, MA
2013 Rijswijk Textile Biennial, Museum Rijswijk, Netherlands
Beyond Vision: messages from the holographic universe, Salisbury University Art Galleries, Salisbury, MD

2012 *Data Deluge,* Ballroom Marfa, Marfa, TX
40 Under 40: Craft Futures, Renwick Gallery at the Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC
The 2012 deCordova Biennial, deCordova Sculpture Park and Museum, Lincoln, MA
At the Edge: Recent Acquisitions, Berkeley Art Museum, Berkeley, CA

2011 *The Shape of the Problem*, Elizabeth Leach Gallery, Portland, OR
Art/Sewn, FiveMyles, Brooklyn, NY

2010 *Cosmic: Artists Consider Astronomy*, Sun Valley Center for the Arts, Sun Valley, ID
Oakland Art Gallery, Oakland, CA

2009 *Post Memory: Makeshift Memorials in Contemporary Art*, Curated by Yaelle Amir, Elizabeth Foundation for the Arts, New York, NY
Arp's Atlas of Peculiar Galaxies, Schneider Museum of Art, Ashland, OR
Transpositions, Curated by Laura Janku, Hosfelt Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2008 *Multi-Part Art: Contemporary Works in the Collection,* Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
In the Private Eye, Ise Cultural Foundation, New York, NY (Curated by Yaelle Amir)
Making History, Jeff Bailey Gallery, New York, NY (Curated by Yaelle Amir)
Building Steam, Grossman Gallery, Lafayette College, Easton, PA (Curated by Mike Homer)

2007 *Artists of Invention: A Century of CCA,* Oakland Museum of California, Oakland, CA *Material Pursuits,* Fleming Museum, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT
Coming Up: New Work from Recent Graduates of the California College of the Arts, Elizabeth Leach Gallery**,** Portland, OR (Curated by Lawrence Rinder)
Contexture, Space 301**,** Mobile, AL

2006 *Prevailing Climate*, Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, NY
The Searchers, White Box, New York, NY (Curated by Patricia Maloney)
Juxtapositions (2): View-Vista-Perspective, Sara Meltzer Gallery, New York, NY
*Pulse 2006, 1708 Gallery Biennial***,** 1708 Gallery, Richmond, VA
*Softly Threatening: Artwork of the Modern Domestic***,** Bumbershoot Arts Festival, Seattle Center**,** Seattle, WA

2005 *Bay Area Now 4***,** Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, San Francisco, CA
*Mental Maps***,** Dorsky Gallery Curatorial Programs, Long Island City, New York, (Curated by Kate Green)
*Practice Makes Perfect: Bay Area Conceptual Craft***,** Southern Exposure, San Francisco, CA

2004 *Topographies***,** Pasadena Museum of California Art**,** Pasadena, CA
*Astonishing Knowledge***,** Center for Curatorial Studies Museum, Bard College, Annandale-on-Hudson, NY, (Curated by Claire Barliant)
*Topographies***,** San Francisco Art Institute Walter and McBean Gallery**,** San Francisco, CA

2003 *Preservation,* Artists Space, New York, NY, (Digital exhibition curated by Hillary Wiedemann)
*Sewn Together***,** Gregory Lind Gallery, San Francisco, CA
Close Calls: An Exhibition of California Art, Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA

2002 *Maps and Charts***,** Penrose Gallery, Tyler School of Art**,** Philadelphia, PA
Conceptual Color: In Albers' Afterimage, The Museum of Art and History, Santa Cruz, CA
High Tech/Low Tech Hybrids: Art in a Digital Age, Bedford Gallery, Walnut Creek, CA
Night Skies and Imaginary Coordinates: The Artist as Navigator, Palo Alto Art Center, Palo Alto, CA
Commission 02, San Francisco Arts Commission Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2001 *Emerge***,** GenArtSF, San Francisco, CA
Mapping, Works Gallery, San Jose, CA
Body: Inner and Outer Landscapes, Balazo Gallery, San Francisco, CA

2000 *Bay Area Selections: The Annual Ernie Kim Award***,** Richmond Art Center, Richmond, California (juried two-person show)
Point of Departure, California College of the Arts MFA Exhibition, San Francisco, CA
It Can Change, 2000, 3012 Harrison, Oakland, CA (three-person show curated by John Hoppin and Anthony Marcellini)

AWARDS

2022 Alfred P. Sloan Foundation grant for her upcoming book *Attention Is Discovery: Responding to the Life of Henrietta Leavitt* to be published by MIT Press in Fall 2024
2021 Smithsonian Research Fellowship
2010 United States Artists Fellowship
2007 Louis Comfort Tiffany Foundation Biennial Award recipient
2002 Artist in Residence, New Hampshire Committee Fellowship, The MacDowell Colony, Peterborough, NH
2001 Lead Artist for the Artist Residency Program, San Francisco Arts Education Project, San Francisco, CA
Affiliate Artist, Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, CA
2000 M.F.A. Studio Award Recipient, Headlands Center for the Arts, Sausalito, California

SELECTED COLLECTIONS

Frances Young Tang Teaching Museum, Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY
Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, Boston, MA
Museum of Art, Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, RI
Berkley Art Museum, Berkley, CA
Smithsonian American Art Museum's Renwick Gallery, Washington, D.C.
RISD Museum, Providence, RI
Robert Hull Fleming Museum. University of Vermont, Burlington, VT
International Quilt Study Center & Museum, Lincoln, NE
Allen Memorial Art Museum, Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH

BIBLIOGRAPHY

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McQuaid, Cate. Cosmic images, captured in quilts, The Boston Globe, Friday, January 11, 2019, G2.
Roberts, Jennifer L. Open Span, Measure exhibition catalog, Radcliffe Institute, Harvard University, 2018.
Levi, Corwin. Measure: Anna Von Mertens, Arts New England, Nov/Dec 2018, p. 58.
Babür, Oset. Looking at the Cosmos through a Feminine Lens, Harvard Magazine, posted 11/8/2018.
Walsh, Colleen. Stitching Together the Stars, The Harvard Gazette, posted 12/13/2018.
Bell, Nicholas R. Nation Building: Craft and Contemporary American Culture, Bloomsbury Publishing, New York, 2016
Stockton, Nick. The Art of Sewing Science into Beautiful Quilts, Wired.com, posted 9/10/2014.
Auch, Monika. State of the Crafts, Textiel Plus, Number 229, 2014, p. 6-9.
McQuaid, Cate. *Great Moments, iconic portraits-in stitches,* Boston Globe, June 5, 2013, page G4
Maycumber, Beth. *Beneath a Thread of Stars,* Site 95, Journal 02-02, p. 28 -33
Ulaby, Neda. *Are All Young Artists 'Pst-9/11' Artists?,* NPR, Weekend Editions Sunday, September, 9, 2012
Jared Bowen Visits The deCordova Beinnial, WGBH, February 8, 2012
Baker, Matthew Reed, *Welcome Back deCordova Biennial,* Boston Daily, January 20, 2012
Cotter, Holland, "*Art/Sewn*: Tradition, Innovation, Expression," The New York Times, April 28, 2011
Motley, John, "Drawn to the Light," The Oregonian, January 14, 2011, pp 37-38.
Hemmings, Jessica, "Anna Von Mertens: Emanations in Cloth," Surface Design, Fall 2010, pp 12 - 15
Mizota, Sharon. "Artist's Profile: Anna Von Mertens," Art Ltd., May 2007, p. 71.
LaBate, Lynn. "Under Starry Skies," Burned Out by the Rising Sun exhibition brochure essay, University Art Museum, Cal State Long Beach, 2007.
Hemmings, Jessica. "Reeling in the Years," Selvedge, issue number 15, p. 58-61.
Bing, Alison. "Watch This Space: SF's Art Stars," 7 x 7, May 2007, p. 107.
Amir, Yaelle. Review of As the Stars Go By at Jack Hanley Gallery, ArtUS, Jan/Feb 2007, issue number 16, p. 18.
Hung, Shu & Joseph Magliaro, editors. By Hand: The Use of Craft in Contemporary Art. New York: Princeton Architectural Press, 2007, p. 154-159.
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Cotter, Holland. "Art in Review: Prevailing Climate," New York Times, Friday, August 11, 2006, B30.
Maloney, Patricia. "About the Searchers," The Searchers exhibition brochure essay, White Box, New York, 2006.
Zuckerman Jacobson, Heidi. Belief & Doubt catalog essay, Aspen Art Museum, 2006, p. 16.
Green, Kate. Mental Maps exhibition brochure essay, Dorsky Gallery Curatorial Programs, Long Island City, NY, 2005.
Woodward, Josef. "Anna Von Mertens at University Art Museum, UCSB," Artweek, October 2005, p. 18.
Donelan, Charles. "Sewn Together," The Independent, July 21, 2005, p. 49.
Matthews, Lydia. "Homespun Ideas: Reinterpreting Craft in Contemporary Culture," Practice Makes Perfect: Bay Area Conceptual Craft catalog essay, Southern Exposure, San Francisco, 2005.
Golonu, Berin. Bay Area Now 4 catalog essay, Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, 2005, p. 76-77.
Baker, Kenneth. "Review, BAN4," San Francisco Chronicle, Saturday, July 30, 2005.
Hemmings, Jessica. "Anna Von Mertens: Black & White, Shades of Gray," Embroidery,

July/August 2005, p. 51.
Huston, Johnny Ray. “Snapshots,” The San Francisco Bay Guardian, July 13, 2005, p. 38.
Knight, Christopher. “A Debate Put to Rest,” Los Angeles Times, Friday, February 18, 2005, E29.
Orden, Abraham. “Circus Without a Tent,” www.artnet.com, February 2005.
Hemmings, Jessica. “Anna Von Mertens: Conceptual Craft,” Surface Design Journal, Volume 29, No. 2, Winter 2005, p. 26-29.
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Parker, Susan. “Existential Quilting? Yes, and Von Mertens does it,” Oakland Tribune, Friday, August 29, 2003, living section, p. 1.
Baker, Kenneth. “Artist Anna Von Mertens has quilting down to a science at the Berkeley Art Museum,” San Francisco Chronicle, Saturday, August 9, 2003, D1.
Baker, Kenneth. “New Threads at Lind,” San Francisco Chronicle, Saturday, April 12, 2003, D10.
Bing, Alison. “Sew Complex,” SFGate.com, April 10 – 16, 2003.
Westbrook, Linsey. “Sewn Together: Graphic Uses of Thread,” Critic’s Choice, The San Francisco Bay Guardian, April 2, 2003, p. 77.
Koppman, Debra. “Sewn Together: Graphic Uses of Thread,” Previews, Artweek, March 2003, p. 25.
Rapko, John. “Night Skies and Imaginary Coordinates: The Artist as Navigator at the Palo Alto Art Center,” Artweek, September 2002, Vol. 33, Issue 7, p. 13-14.
Fowle, Kate. “San Francisco,” Contemporary, June/July/August 2002, p. 116.
Wetter, Terri D. “Brave New Works: Making Art in the Digital Age,” Diablo Arts Magazine, April - June 2002, p. 16-20.
Spalding, David. “Anna Von Mertens at Southern Exposure,” Artweek, April 2001, p. 19-20.