

HILLARY LISA STEEL

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A textile artist, researcher, and teacher, I specialize in ikat and shibori resist-dye techniques and handweaving. I weave simple linear elements—threads—into whole cloth, which I further manipulate into its final form. I am influenced by textile traditions from around the world.



EDUCATION AND WORK

- Textile Study and Research**
 - *Jaspe rebozo* weaving with Evaristo Borboa Casas & Rubén Núñez Serrano, Tenancingo, State of Mexico, MX (2007–present)
 - Study trips to Côte d'Ivoire (1992), Peru (2017, 1999), Chile (1999)
- Faculty Member (Visual Arts)**
 - The Potomac School, VA (1999–2025)
 - Kennedy High School, MD (1997–1999)
 - Maryland College of Art and Design (1995–1998)
 - The Ellis School, PA (1991–1994)
 - Pittsburgh High School for Creative & Performing Arts (1986–1994)
- Artist in Residence**
 - Maryland State Arts Council (1995–2004)
 - Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (1987–1995)
- MA in Teaching**
 - Maryland Institute, College of Art, Baltimore, MD (1997)
- Post-Baccalaureate Studies**
 - Fine Arts and Studio Arts, University of Pittsburgh, PA (1986–1988)
 - Shibori Dyeing, Arrowmont School, TN (1986)
 - Kasuri Dyeing, Penland School, NC (1985)
 - Textile Design, SUNY College @ Buffalo, NY (1980–1981)
- BA**
 - SUNY @ Buffalo, NY, *cum laude* (1980)

PUBLICATIONS

- Steel, Hillary, and Chloe O'Connor. "Interwoven: The Mexican Jaspe Rebozo." *Surface Design Journal*, Summer 2025.
- Steel, Hillary. *Ikat Traditions: The Mexican Jaspe Rebozo*. Self-published, H. Steel. 2024.
- Davis, Virginia, and Hillary Steel. "The Rebozo: A Mexican Tradition." *Fiberarts*, Aug. 2008, p. 60-61.
- Davis, Virginia, and Hillary Steel. "Don Evaristo Borboa Casas, Master Weaver." Video, created 2008, uploaded 30 October 2020, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-N1DcZrIEJk>.

SELECTED CONFERENCES AND TALKS

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| Hajji Baba Club, NY , "Interwoven: Preserving and Documenting the Jaspe (Ikat) Rebozo Tradition in Tenancingo, Mexico" | Mar. 2026 |
| Peters Valley School of Craft, NJ , Artist in Residence | Nov. 2025 |
| Rutgers University—Camden, NJ
Guest Speaker, Visiting Artist Program, Dep't of Visual, Media & Performing Arts | Oct. 2024 |

George Washington University and Textile Museum, DC	
Rug & Textile Appreciation Morning: "Ikat Traditions: The Mexican Jaspe Rebozo"	July 2024
Docent Presentation, "Ikat: A Comparative Look from Three Continents"	Feb. 2024
Textile History Forum, Marshfield, VT, "Ikat Traditions: The Mexican Jaspe Rebozo"	July 2023
Textile Study Group of New York, NY, "Thread by Thread"	Oct. 2018
International Hajji Baba Society, "Ikat/Jaspe: A Comparative Look"	Feb. 2018
Conferencia en el Arte del Jaspe y el Rebozo, Museo Franz Mayer, Mexico City, MX	
"Designing for the Jaspe Rebozo"	2015, 2013
Workshop at Museo Textil Oaxaca, "Ikat de Urdimbre"	Aug. 2015
1st Encuentro de Textiles Meso-Americanos, Oaxaca, MX	2014
"Ikat/Jaspe: A Comparative Look at Process and Design from Three Continents"	

SELECTED AWARDS AND GRANTS

Creative Crafts Council, Strathmore Art Center, Rockville, MD	
FiberArts Study Group Award, "Innovative Use of Materials" (2023) 1 st Place Fiber (2023)	
2 nd Place Fiber (2021) Best of Show (2019) 1 st Place Fiber (2019) Best of Show (2017)	
1 st Place Fiber (2017) "Geometry in Art" (1998)	
Williamsburg Art and Historical Center, NY	2021
Achievement Award, "Togetherness and Oneness"	
Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County, MD	2020
FY21 Artists & Scholars Project Grant	
James Renwick Alliance and Artomatic 2.0, Top 10 in Crafts	2020
Maryland State Arts Council, Individual Artist Award	FY 2018, 2007, 2001

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

	~ SOLO	^ INVITATIONAL	* JURIED
The Delaplaine Arts Center, Frederick, MD, "2026 National Juried Exhibition" *			May–July 2026
Ceres Gallery, New York, NY, "Traces and Testimonies" *			Jan. 2026
"Connections, Textile Study Group of NY" *			Mar.–Apr. 2023
SPACE Gallery, Pittsburgh, PA, "Celebrating 45 Years of CAPA: Alumni and Faculty" *			Aug. 2025–Jan. 2026
The Mexican Cultural Institute, DC			
"Interwoven: Hillary Steel in Conversation with the Weavers of Tenancingo" ~			Feb.–May 2025
Creative Crafts Council, Strathmore Mansion, North Bethesda, MD			
35 th Biennial Exhibition, Mar.–May 2025 *			34 th Biennial Exhibition, May–July 2023 *
33 rd Biennial Exhibition, May–July 2021 *			32 nd Biennial Exhibition, June–Aug. 2019 *
31 st Biennial Exhibition, 2017 *			
DC Commission for the Arts and Humanities, DC, "DC Art Now 2024" ^			Sept.–Dec. 2024
O'Hanlon Center for the Arts, Mill Valley, CA, "Women Artists Making Their Mark 2024" *			July–Oct. 2024
The Delaware Contemporary, Wilmington, DE, "Shapeshifters" ^			June–Aug 2024
Maryland State Arts Council, with MD State Office of Comptroller, Annapolis, MD			
"Art in Treasured Spaces" Exhibition *			Mar.–June 2024
Waverly Street Gallery, Bethesda, MD, INVITATIONAL 2024 ^			Feb.–Mar. 2024
McLean Project for the Arts, VA, "MPA Inspires: A Weekend of Collecting and Connecting" ^			Nov. 2023
El Barrio Artspace, P.S.109, NY, "Roots, Textile Study Group of NY" *			May 2023

U.S. Department of State, Art in Embassies Program

Ambassador's Residence, Guinea (2022–25) ^ Ambassador's Residence, Peru (2018–21) ^
Ambassador's Residence, Mexico (2016–18) ^ Ambassador's Residence, Albania (2005–08) ^
Ambassador's Residence, Thailand (2002–04) ^ Ambassador's Residence, Romania (1999–01) ^
"Survey of American Fiber," Taiwan (1996–99) ^

HerStory, Manhattan Arts International online exhibition * Feb.–Mar. 2022, June–Aug. 2018
Williamsburg Art and Historical Center, Brooklyn, NY, "Clay and Textile" ^ Sept.–Oct. 2022
IAA @ Hillyer Gallery, DC "Tikkun Olam–Repair the World" ~ Apr.–May 2022
"Rise 2020: Hillyer Newly Selected Artists" ^ Feb.–Mar. 2020
International Association of Art-USA Virtual Member Exhibition, "Untitled" * Apr. 2022
Virtual Member Exhibition, World Art Day Apr. 2020
Gallery B, Bethesda, MD, "Paying Attention," Works by Hillary Steel & Elaine Wilson ~ Oct.–Nov. 2021
Maryland Regional Virtual Exhibition Series #1: Capital Region, Aug.–Oct. '21 ^
Williamsburg Art and Historical Center, NY, "Togetherness and Oneness" ^ May–July 2021
Sculptor's Alliance (virtual), "On Being," curated by Kim Power * Jan.–Feb. 2021
Academy of Arts & Design, Tsinghua Univ. & China Nat'l Arts and Crafts Society (virtual)
"From Lausanne to Beijing," The 11th International Fiber Art Biennale * Dec. 2020–Mar. 2021
Joan Hisaoka Healing Arts Gallery, DC, "Material Woman" ^ Jan.–Mar. 2020
Westbeth Gallery & TSGNY, NY, "The Gold Standard of Textile and Fiber Art" * Feb. 2020
University of Maryland, MD, Biennial Maryland Regional Juried Art Exhibition
4th Biennial (Dec. 2019–March 2020) * 1st Biennial (Aug.–Oct. 2011) *

WORK HELD IN PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

- DC, Maryland, Virginia** • DC Commission on the Arts, Art Bank; George Washington University Textile Museum; The Waterfront Center; James Renwick Alliance; Renwick Gallery, Smithsonian Museum of American Art
- Pennsylvania** • Duquesne University, A.J. Palumbo Center, Pittsburgh; H&R Block, Monroeville; Presbyterian-University Hospital, Pittsburgh; Mercer, Meidinger and Hansen, Inc., One Mellon Bank Center, Pittsburgh
- Texas** • The Hall Group, Frisco International
- International** • US Consulate, Tijuana, Mexico; US Embassy, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

