

Debra Smith

Education

2002 Associate in Applied Science, Accessories Design; F.I.T, NY, NY

1993 BFA. Fiber Major; Kansas City Art Institute, Kansas City, MO

1992 Italian Academy of Fashion & Design; Lorenzo de Medici, Florence Italy

Selected Solo and Two-Person Exhibitions

2026 Balancing Act, Kathryn Markel Fine Art, New York, NY

2026 Walking In Traffic & Beyond, Solo, Blanden Art Museum, Fort Dodge, IA

2025 Walking In Traffic, Haw Contemporary, Solo, Kansas City, MO

2024 Seeking Balance, Nick Ryan Gallery, Solo, Boulder, CO

2021 Staged Presence, Anteroom, Corsicana, TX

2021 Memory Trace, STOREFRONT, Corsicana, TX

2020 Seeking Balance, Kathryn Markel Fine Art, New York, NY

2020 Shifting Vision, solo, Puerh, Brooklyn, NY

2019 Seeking Balance, Haw Contemporary, solo, Kansas City, MO

2017 Fallowing The Thread, Kathryn Markel Fine Art, New York, NY

2017 Memory Trace, Studios INC, Kansas City, MO

2017 Recent Work, Olson-Larsen Gallery, West Des Moines, IA

2017 Recent Work, HAW Contemporary, Kansas City, MO

2016 The Thread You Fallow, Daum Museum, Sedalia, MO

2016 Women's Work: Points of View, Volland Store Art Center, KS

2015 Shifting Territory, Solo, Markel Fine Art, New York, NY

2014 New Work, Olson-Larsen Gallery, West Des Moines, IA
2014 Shifting Territory, HAW Contemporary, Kansas City, MO
2013 Release of Time, Post & Beam Gallery, Berkley, CA
2012 In-between Spaces, Solo, Isaac's Gallery, Roswell, NM
2011 New Work, Olson-Larsen Gallery, West Des Moines, IA
2010 New work, Solo, Roswell Museum & Art Center, Roswell, NM
2009 Textile Show, Olson-Larsen Gallery, West Des Moines, IA
2008 Looking to the Left, solo, Julie Saul Gallery, New York, NY
2008 New Work, Solo, Olsen-Larsen Gallery, West Des Moines, IA
2008 Looking to the Left, Solo, Dolphin Gallery, Kansas City, MO
2005 New Work, Pearl Gallery, Kansas City, MO

Selected Group Exhibitions

2026 Recent Works Group Show, Method & Concept, Naples, FL
2025 Pieced Together: Bruce Price & Debra Smith, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art at Frasier, Boulder, CO
2024 New Works, Method & Concept, Naples, FL
2024 Winter Sampler, Olson Larsen Galleries, West Des Moines, IA
2022 River Of Good Flow / New Works, Method & Concept, Naples, FL
2021 ReDefine, Olson Larsen Galleries, West Des Moines, IA
2020 Monochromatic, Olson Larsen Gallery, West Des Moines, IA
2019 Synesthesia: Collaboration of Senses, Studios INC, Kansas City, MO
2019 40th Anniversary Exhibition, Olson Larsen Gallery, West Des Moines, IA
2019 Loose Group, HAW Contemporary, Kansas City, MO

2019 Through The Lens, Studios INC., Kansas City, MO

2018 Wolves, Magic Mirror, & Spinning Wheels: The Anatomy of The Fairy Tale, Everhart Museum, Scranton, PA

2018 Mirror Mirrored: Grimms Through the Looking Glass, Sharon Arts Center, Peterborough, NH

2018 Kansas City Flat File, H&R Block Art Space, Kansas City, MO

2017 Summer Show, HAW Contemporary, Kansas City, MO

2017 Domestic Disturbances, 490 Atlantic Gallery, New York, NY

2017 Fellows Show, Studios INC., Kansas City, MO

2016 Elmhurst Art Museum, New American Paintings: Midwest Edition, Elmhurst, IL.

2016 Mirror Mirrored, Washington Project for The Arts, DC

2015 Materialities: Contemporary Textile Art, Sandra J. Blain Gallery at Arromont, TN

2015 Rijswijk Textile Biennial, Rijswijk Museum, The Netherlands

2015 Look & Listen, DUSK, Saint Chamas, France

2014 DUSK Open Studios Exhibit, Pencil Factory, Greenpoint Brooklyn

2013 Spring Revival: a group exhibition, Markel Fine Art, New York, NY

2012 Women of Focus on Fiber 2012, UMKC Gallery, Kansas City, MO

2012 Women to Watch 2012, KC Jewish Museum, Kansas City, MO

2011 Push, Dolphin Gallery, Kansas City. MO

2011 Somewhere, Dolphin Gallery, Kansas City, MO

2011 Group Show, Dolphin Gallery, Kansas City, MO

2010 Fellows Show, Isaac's Gallery, Roswell, NM

2010 Selections from The Kansas City Collection, Cocoon Gallery, Kansas City MO

2010 Kansas City Flat Files, H&R Block Art Space, Kansas City, MO

2010 Group Show, Dolphin Gallery, Kansas City, MO
2009 Group Show, Dolphin Gallery, Kansas City, MO
2008 Kansas City Flat Files, H&R Block Art Space, Kansas City, MO
2007 Group Show, Dolphin Gallery, Kansas City, MO
2006 New Work, Olson-Larsen Gallery, West Des Moines, IA
2005 Kansas City Flat Files, H&R Block Art Space, Kansas City, MO
2004 Group Show, Davidson Gallery, Brisbane, Australia

Selected Projects and Honors

2020 R.A.I.R., Roswell Artist in Residence Program (July-Sept)
2020 100 West Corsicana, Artist Residency (February 2020)
2018 New American Paintings, No. 137
2018 Mirror Mirrored, 28 contemporary artists twist on Grimm's Fairy Tales, book
2015 Rijswijk Textile Biennial, Rijswijk Museum, The Netherlands
2015 New American Paintings, No. 119, Pg.128-131
2014 One of 160 artists from 26 countries chosen to be in new publication *TextileART around the world*
2013 Award winner at: In.ter.face, 17th International Surface Design Exhibition, Southwest School of Art, San Antonio Texas
2012 Women to Watch 2012: Focus on Fiber, National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC
2011 Studio Assistant for Jason Pollen, Penland School of Art & Craft
2010 The Kansas City Collection, a competitive juried art collection organized by The Collectors Fund, Kansas City, MO
2009 R.A.I.R., Roswell Artist in Residence Program (Sept. 2009-Sept. 2010)

2008 Creative Capital Professional Development Workshop & Retreat, Kansas City, MO

2008 Featured lecturer at Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, MO

2007 Featured lecturer for the New York Textile Society, New York, NY

Selected Collections

Anderson Museum Of Contemporary Art, Roswell, NM

Blanden Memorial Art Museum, Fort Dodge, IA

Daum Museum Of Contemporary Art, Sedalia MO

Marinna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, Manhattan, KS

Harvest Moon Holdings, Bentonville, AK

Lockton Companies

Emprise Bank, Wichita, KS

Collection of Christy and Bill Gautreaux

Hallmark Corporation, Kansas City, MO

Sprint Corporation, Kansas City, MO

Shook Hardy & Bacon, Kansas City, MO

Selected Commissions

KC Current Clubhouse, Two Pieced Vintage Textiles, Worlds First Female Soccer Stadium, KC, MO

American Century Inc., 16 X 12 foot hand dyed, pieced organza textile for corporate entryway, Kansas City, MO

Marsh USA, Three large scale textiles for the Kansas City, MO International Corporate Headquarters.

Blue Cross Blue Shield, five pieced silk textiles, Kansas City, MO

Selected Publications

2026 DesignKC, “A Moments Pause”, Spring Issue, page 302

2023 Beach Museum of Art, Art Byte: Separate Conversations

2018 New American Paintings #137

2016 Where Love & Need Are One: The Work of Donna Sharrett & Debra M Smith, Exhibition catalog and essay By Tanya Hartman

2015 RIJSWIJK Textile Biennale Catalog, Page 74-77

2015 Textiles Around The World, (book) by Ellen Baker, page 45

2015 New American Paintings #119, (book) pages 128-131

2014 Elizabeth Kirsch, Kansas City Star, Debra M Smith, September 18, page 16

2014 Kate Hackman, The Kansas City Collection, 2014-2015, pages 30-31

2012 Vanessa Kahin, In-Between Spaces, VISION Magazine, (cover), Page 4

2010 Blair Schulman. KCArtistLink, Artist Profile / Meet Our Artists

2010 Dana Self, The Kansas City Collection, 2009-2010, pages 36-37

2008 Elizabeth Kirsch, Kansas City Star, Debra M Smith, Looking to the Left

2007 Nancy Corwin, Surface Design Journal, “Uncovering the Surface: SDA Conference Exhibitions”

2007 Janelle Meador, REVIEW (cover) Artist Profile, June, pages 26-28

2005 Susie Lulaki, REVIEW, Debra Smith at The Pearl, September, pages 50-516