



MARY VANDERGRAFT
FIBER BOOTH #86

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Mary Vandergraft envisions her Masterwork piece as a hand dyed silk quilted wall hanging. A fabric weaver for more than 30 years, Vandergraft uses the colors of nature as inspiration to create her unique fabric pieces.

Vandergraft has been a textile artist since she was four years old and started making doll clothes. The vibrant sunsets and sunrises of Southern Idaho, where she grew up, provide inspiration for her color pallet. Fabric stimulates almost all of her senses, but especially her visual and tactile ones. She began weaving fabric in the early 1970s and later, while living in Saudi Arabia, she learned to Batik.

Upon returning to the US she ended up in Chapel Hill, North Carolina and in September of 1986 attended a

workshop to learn silk painting. The sensuous iridescence of the silk and the way it took the dyes had her hooked! Vandergraft began making and marketing silk scarves and clothing, selling them at fine craft shows and one-of-a-kind boutiques throughout the US. She eventually began making interior pieces such as wall hangings, screens, banners and kites and recently installed two large box kites at the Albert Eye Research Center at Duke University Medical Center in Durham, NC.

