

*Artist Statement: Mary McFerran*

Textiles, embroidery and multi media are my favored mediums. Drawing, as mark making and space defining, remains at the core of my work. I feel comfortable working with materials that have been familiar to me since childhood and they offer me an artistic freedom I don't feel with pure painting and printmaking. I am also interested in the story telling and memories that they conjure up for me.

Research aids my practice as it pushes me to reach beyond myself. Two recent art installations began with research and evolved into multi media works. Clarissa Pinkola Estes' analysis of fairytales and archetype in "Women Who Run with the Wolves," inspired my installation, "Wolves, Brides and Fairytales" and my own genealogy research evolved into "The Ancestor Museum."

I have an enduring devotion for Louise Bourgeois for her compelling work with autobiography, drawings, fabric and installations. I love Tracy Emin's irreverent drawings and feminist work and Agnes Martin for her joy in imperfection.