

FELLOW

NORMA MINKOWITZ

Born 1937, in New York, NY. Lives in Westport, CT. Attended Cooper Union Art School, New York, NY (certificate 1958). National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship (1986). Connecticut Commission on the Arts Purchase Award (1992), Fellowship (2002). Most recent solo exhibition, Bellas Artes Gallery, Santa Fe, NM (2003). Group exhibitions, "Threads on the Edge: The Daphne Farago Collection," Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (2002); "Triennial 9, Form and Contents: Corporal Identity: Body Language," Museum für Angewandte Kunst, Frankfurt, Germany (2003). Guest curator, "Transcending Process: Contemporary Fiber," Brookfield Craft Center, CT (through October 12, 2003).



"I have always been interested in linear elements. When I was young, I spent many hours drawing with pen and ink and learning to crochet at my mother's side. She gave me all kinds of encouragement, as well as scraps of fiber, and I taught myself to manipulate the threads into sculptural forms. It was not until the 1970s that my love for drawing merged with my fascination with fiber.

"While in college I was influenced by the masterful line drawings of Albrecht Dürer, and I now find that the threads and wires that I use mimic the cross-hatching and irregularities of pen-and-ink drawing. I seek mystery in the shadows of my work. Process

becomes part of the content, and structure and surface are achieved at the same time. I want the openness to convey energy, while retaining implications of containment and psychological complexity. I invite the viewer to interpret and contemplate the meaning of my art. I still draw, but with fiber.

"The American Craft Council and its magazine have played an important role in my career. One of the first galleries I exhibited at was the Council's America House, and my first museum show was curated by Paul Smith in 1974, at the Museum of Contemporary Crafts. I am honored to be recognized as a Fellow."

Boy in a Puddle, 2002, fiber, acrylic paint, resin, 8 by 21 by 12 inches, collection of Ray Kelly. Photos/Joseph Kugliesky.

