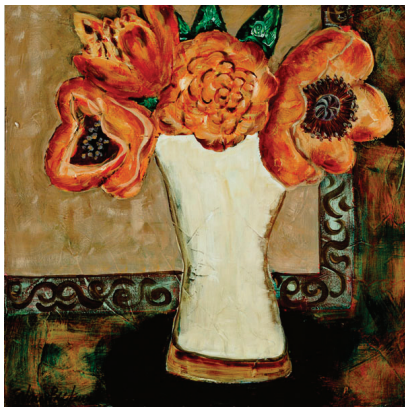


meet the artist

Sarah VanBeckum



Born in 1954 in Hartford, Wisconsin, Sarah Van Beckum displayed an early interest in design and textiles. As a child, she would imagine fabric patterns in her head and then transfer them to paper. With the guidance of a renowned textile designer, Sarah's skills in silkscreen printing developed quickly, becoming an integral source of all her future creative endeavors.

In addition to screen-printing, Sarah's artwork incorporates many creative skills that she has acquired throughout years of study in the United States, France and Mexico. This multicultural background gives a unique flavor to her artwork. Her professional work has varied from dressmaking and tailoring to teaching high school Spanish and French. Four years ago, Sarah opened a studio where she began marketing her own artwork, and this has been the most rewarding period of her career thus far.

Sarah's collages consist of materials that she creates herself. "I start my work by dying Goya rice paper, which is quite fibrous and will withstand dye baths without disintegrating. I then silkscreen or stamp-print a variety of found objects to create background interest and texture. Collage, hand-painting with gouache, and finally stitching with metallic threads constitute some of the final applications." Sarah exhibits her work in galleries across the United States and Europe. She is in the permanent collections of many corporations, including Merrill Lynch and Kohler Co. Sarah's work is displayed in many private and corporate collections nationally and internationally.

