

# Buffalo Arts Studio

Tri-Main Center  
2495 Main Street, Suite 500  
Buffalo, NY 14214  
(716) 833-4450  
www.buffaloartsstudio.org  
Gallery hours: Tuesday - Friday 11am-5pm, Saturday 10am-2pm



Ani Hoover is a professional artist working in the field for over 20 years. Her process embraces recycled materials and decidedly low-tech methods for creating art. Hoover's work is in the collection of the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, the Burchfield Penney Art Center, the University of Buffalo's Anderson Gallery, in addition to many public and private collections in Western New York and around the country. Her work has been exhibited widely throughout Western New York, including solo exhibits at the Castellani Art Museum in 2006, The University of Buffalo in 2009 and Hallwalls Contemporary Art Center in 2014. Hoover credits her Grandma, Blanche E. Pennebaker (1921-2006) for instilling in her a love for making things and for reminding her that beautiful things can be made from Red Heart Yarn.

Major support provided by: The Cameron and Jane Baird Foundation, Children's Foundation, Community Foundation, Erie County Cultural Funding, Open Buffalo, Lawley Insurance, M&T Bank, NYSCA, the John R. Oishei Foundation, and WNY Regional Economic Development Council. Additional exhibition support provided by: Amherst St. Wine & Liquor, Ashker's, Brimg Art Buffalo and individual donors. This program is funded by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; administered by Arts Services Initiative of Western New York.



Ani Hoover  
Solo Exhibition: *Craft Art Field Day*  
September 23 to November 7, 2016  
Opening Reception: Friday, September 23, 2016

*Field day: an outdoor meeting or social gathering; a time of extraordinary pleasure or opportunity*

Ani Hoover's exhibition *Craft Art Field Day* embraces the full spirit of its title. For *Craft Art Field Day*, Hoover draws inspiration from her earliest art-making experiences, most of which involved yarn or fabric. Hoover cuts, sews, crochets, and weaves simple materials to make large-scale two and three-dimensional pieces that are both contemporary and nostalgic. *Craft Art Field Day* is a celebration of the pleasure of trying something new as well as the comfort of revisiting the familiar. The exhibit builds on the goals of BAS's Project Space Initiative (PSI), which aims to highlight the dynamic processes of artists and art-making while engaging new audiences in diverse and meaningful ways.

Hoover amplifies the power of both the process and the end product through scale and repetition. A wall of potholders, a garden of felt flowers, and a seven-foot tall crocheted vessel fill the gallery. The giant "Square Weave" loom invites viewers to engage their whole body while weaving, and the finished weavings become impressive aesthetic objects open to new configurations and reimagined uses. In other works, Hoover applies traditional craft techniques to non-traditional materials. She embraces the unpredictability of working with reclaimed, recycled, and donated materials. Hoover accepts the irregular appearance of text on plastic packaging or the variation from the different brands of cereal bags she uses for quilting. These material realities remind the viewer of the objects' origins and emphasize the transformative actions of the artist.

In conjunction with the exhibit *Craft Art Field Day*, Hoover invites visitors into the process with a series of hands-on activities derived from her own practice. The artist will be onsite to discuss her process and guide visitors through their own craft art field day using processes similar to those Hoover employs in her work.

Family Craft Day; Saturday, September 24, 2016, 1-3 pm

Family Craft Day: Saturday, October 15, 2016, 1-3 pm

Retro Family Craft Night: Friday, October 28, 2016, 5-8 pm (Part of M&T Fourth Friday @ Tri-Main Center)



*Studio Flowers*,  
2016, industrial  
felt



*Potholder  
Sampler*, 2016,  
cotton



*Big Thumb*, 2016, industrial felt