

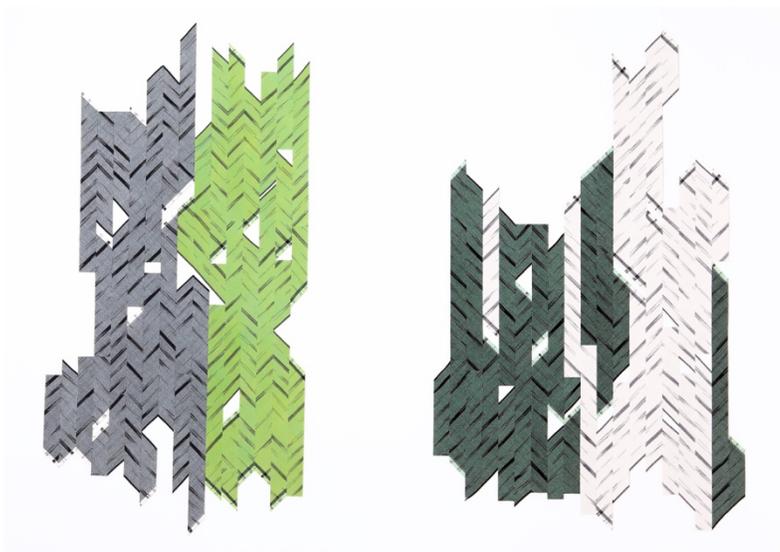
# REYNOLDS GALLERY

**ANDREA DONNELLY**

*Theorems and Poems*

November 3 - December 22, 2017

Opening Reception  
Friday, November 3  
7 - 9 pm



*History of a People #1 (left), 2017, silk and cotton thread, canvas, dye, PVA, 55 ½ x 28 inches*  
*History of a People #2 (right), 2017, silk and cotton thread, canvas, dye, PVA, 53 ½ x 33 inches*  
Photograph by David Hale

Reynolds Gallery is pleased to announce Andrea Donnelly's first solo exhibition with the gallery entitled *Theorems and Poems*. The show opens with an artist reception on Friday, November 3 from 7 - 9 pm and continues through December 22, 2017.

In *Theorems and Poems*, Donnelly presents a new body of work paralleling the formulaic yet poetic nature of loom weaving and literature. Through weaving, unraveling, and reweaving cloth, she employs a systematic process to create her own language with pigmented thread. The formulaic and textual qualities of poetry become abstracted, manifesting as geometric compositions. Her dizzyingly delicate touch amplifies the textural elements within her process, conveying dimensional, lyrical expressions. Donnelly also exhibits recent milkweed works in which she incorporates collected milkweed pods into colorful woven patterns, furthering their organic nature. In a 2017 artist statement, she notes:

*Cloth is a powerful conduit for the subtleties of our human experience. I make cloths with great presence and great vulnerability, investigating psychological and literal relationships between our physical bodies and the world we inhabit through the act of weaving by hand.*

*The intricate and time-consuming processes used to transform thread to cloth are the conceptual backbone of my work. I touch every inch of thread in the woven-painting-object-artifacts I create, imbedding imagery and forming figures locked within textile structure. I paint woven cloth, only to take it apart then weave it again. Through unraveling and rebuilding this visual language I excavate deeper meanings in the collaboration of tool, material, and intention.*

*In this exhibition, I explore the qualities of textile and woven cloth as a language that can act as both window and mirror, looking deeper into both sides of our internal human experience: systems of rationality, science and logic, and the deeper subconscious seat of wisdom and creativity. The works represent both of these aspects, and create their own language and logic on an individual and collective level: subliminal messages that speak alone, as well as build upon each other.*

Donnelly received her Bachelor of Art and Design and BA in Psychology from North Carolina State University, and later earned a MFA in Fiber Arts from VCU (2006, 2010). She has exhibited at the Philadelphia Art Alliance, PA; Artspace Gallery, Raleigh, NC; Light Art + Design, Chapel Hill, NC; National Building Museum, Washington, DC; Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art, Virginia Beach, VA; Taubman Museum, Roanoke, VA; Penland Gallery, Penland, NC; Museum Rijswijk, Netherlands; and the Textile Arts Center, Brooklyn, NY; among others. She recently mounted her first solo museum exhibition at The North Carolina Museum of Art in Raleigh, and will be included in the VCU Institute for Contemporary Art inaugural exhibition in Richmond. Her work is held in several private and public collections, including Capital One and Federal Reserve Bank, Richmond, VA, and The North Carolina Museum of Art. She received a Theresa Pollak Prize for Excellence in the Arts (2015), a Brandford/Elliott Award (2014), and a Windgate Fellowship Project Grant (2015). She currently lives and works in Richmond, VA.

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