

Cheri Kopp

Cheri Kopp, Seattle-based mixed-media artist, repurposes unconventional materials (found objects, recyclables, curios, trash, leftovers and castoffs) to tell sociopolitical and personal stories.

Juried Group Shows:

- Eco Art – Sammamish Arts Council – June-September 2009 – Sammamish, WA
Mostly Organic, Can't Top Vegan and You Are What You Eat juried selections for show
- Recycled Art and Fashion Show, 7th annual – The RE Store – April/May/June 2009 – Seattle, WA
Faded Glory – juried selection for show
- ReArt Recycled Art and Fashion Show, 8th annual – The RE Store – April 2009 – Bellingham, WA
Mostly Organic – juried selection for show
- Salvage Art Contest, 4th annual – Second Use Building Supplies – September 2008 – Seattle, Washington
You Are What You Eat – winner of the special juried prize
- Recycled Art and Fashion Show, 6th annual – The RE Store – April/May 2008 – Seattle, WA
God Bless (Patriotism without Rigidity) – juried selection for show
- Recycled Art and Fashion Show, 5th annual – The RE Store – October/November 2006 – Seattle, WA
You Are What You Eat – juried selection for show

Other Group Shows:

- Salvage Art Contest, 5th annual – Second Use Building Supplies – September 2009 – Seattle, Washington
- Art of the Written Word, inaugural - Lowell Art Works – July/August 2008 – Everett, WA
2 pieces shown
- Waste Not, Want Not, 3rd annual – Sleeping Lady Mountain Retreat – April/May 2009 – Leavenworth, WA
Forest of Tomorrow? shown
- Political Reflections – C Art Gallery – January/March 2009 – Seattle, WA
4 pieces shown
- Breasts of the Northwest, 2nd annual - Lowell Art Works – November/December 2008 – Everett, WA
2 pieces shown
- One More Time! Recycled Art Show, inaugural – Lowell Art Works – October/November 2008 – Everett, WA
3 pieces shown
- Chehalis Crazy Dayz Recycled Art Show, inaugural – Wildtrout Gallery – August 2008 – Chehalis, WA
Seattle's Center: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle – voted by viewers as “Most Creative”
- Think Green Event, 2nd annual – Salvage Studio – March 2008 – Edmonds, WA
challenge event, components provided - produced *Seattle's Center: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle*
- Quilters Anonymous Show, 25th annual – March 2006 – Monroe, WA
Got Any Paisley? Go Fish – honorable mention, individual pieced (small/medium)
- Quilters Anonymous Show, 24th annual – March 2005 – Monroe, WA
Every Boy Should Have a Little Pink in his Life – second place, group (all techniques)

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Artist's Statement:

My interest in creating treasures from trash started in 8th grade when I created a mosaic out of leftover bits of broken mirror from the local Riverton, Wyoming glass shop. That image of a sailboat on turbulent seas was selected as art project of the year. That was my first show (it hung in the school library for years) and my first sale.

For years, I've accumulated stuff that might otherwise become garbage. It started with plastic bottle caps and lids and my general annoyance that the vessels could be recycled, but not the tops. I began saving with visions of art cars dancing in my head. Those visions led to others (no art car, yet) – they now come frequently, often with titles and stories. My stash of materials has grown to include many other forms of plastic, wood, metal, glass, paper, fabric, rubber, plant material, electronica, etc. The works that emerge are mixed media mosaics and assemblages that share a 3D sculptural quality and, usually, have some underlying message. This isn't a far cry from my quilting past of telling stories with fabric where the more different fabrics, the better!

As I continue to explore my identity as an artist, my esthetic is becoming clearer – it's about living lightly on the planet. I'm also compelled to express my ideological voice. I'm slowly realizing many of my visions.

Background Information:

Cheri Kopp's artwork and quilts have been exhibited in numerous group shows in Western Washington. Her works incorporating trash have been selected for several juried recycled art shows. *You Are What You Eat* received the Juror's Choice Award in the 2008 Salvage Art Contest at Second Use Building Supplies. Her quilts, *Got Any Paisley? Go Fish* and *Every Boy Should Have a Little Pink in his Life* and assemblage *Seattle's Center: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle* have received viewer's choice awards in local shows.

Cheri Kopp was born in Athens, Ohio in 1960 and currently resides in Seattle, Washington. A (mostly) self-taught artist, she credits her junior high school art teacher with inspiring her spark to create and her supportive husband for reigniting that fire in her as an adult.

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