

WEFAN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

***WEFAN*, An Exhibition of Textiles and Fibre**

Opening Reception: Saturday, May 24th from 4-6pm

Lov Art is pleased to announce *WEFAN*, an exhibition of textile and fibre-based art, opening May 24, 2025, at The Hughes Memorial Library in West Cornwall, Connecticut. The show will run through Saturday June 28th.

Bringing together twelve artists whose practices span generations and geographies, *WEFAN* explores the woven form as both structure and symbol, expressing themes of interrelation and connectivity through this tactile medium. Artists include: Dorothy Gill Barnes, Julia Bland, Dee Clements, Dominic DiMare, Marion Hildebrandt, Kat Howard, Sue Lawty, Norma Minkowitz, Judy Mulford, Ed Rossbach, Maris Van Vlack, and Masako Yoshida. Each engages the intimate materiality of fiber with remarkable ingenuity, pushing the notion of weaving into new territories of form and meaning.

At the heart of the exhibition are several works by Ed Rossbach, master ‘basket-manipulator’ and pioneering force in contemporary fibre. Rossbach’s fearless exploration of unorthodox materials, ranging from newspaper to nylon, quieted any debates around the hierarchical distinctions between craft and fine art. His playful nods to pop culture, combined with skillful renderings of age-old weaving traditions, positioned him as a singular figure; one who, as quoted by Elissa Auther in the exhibition catalog for Lynne Cooke’s *Woven Histories*, described his practice as probing “what the machine could do and what the machine could not do.”

Carrying this inventive spirit forward is Dee Clements, a Chicago-based artist and fellow graduate of Cranbrook Academy of Art, where Rossbach also earned his MFA. Clements creates wildly amorphous forms using dyed and painted reed. Her sculptural baskets summon the viewer from across the room, and while deeply personal, Clements’ forms function as vessels in every sense: open, charged, and ready to receive the stories viewers carry with them.

Similarly working at the intersection of material experimentation and narrative, Julia Bland’s piece, *The Chase*, is both rigorous and intuitive, incorporating stitching, weaving, knotting, and dyeing to arrive at a totemic and immersive composition. Bland’s textural wall hanging reveals that her time on the loom is as much about mark-making as it is about building a structure for visual thinking, one through which she draws image out of absence. Her surfaces puncture the legacy of the grid, offering a kaleidoscope of ruptures, zigzags, and asymmetries that challenge our expectations of order, perception, and pattern.

The title of the show draws from Old English, a language dating back to the 5th century, and means “to weave”. This etymology underscores the exhibition’s focus: to trace the enduring resonance of woven forms across time, culture, and material practice. Set within the historic charm of The Hughes Memorial Library in West Cornwall, *WEFAN* offers an immersive encounter with material and making, a compelling invitation to reflect on the ties that bind us.

EXHIBITION	OF	TEXTILES	&	FIBRE
5.24.25 - 6.28.25	HUGHES	MEMORIAL LIBRARY	WEST CORNWALL	CT
IG: @LOV_ART				