

BERIT ENGEN

Fine-arts weaver

b. 1955, Oslo, Norway; lives and works in Oak Park, IL, USA

Currently working on her project *WEFT and D'RASH – A Thousand Jewish Tapestries*; (2007-present)

SOLO EXHIBITONS

2020 *The Book of Ruth and the Beauty of Biblical Minimalism*, Oak Park Public Library (OPPL), Oak Park, IL

2015 The Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley, South Bend, IN; invitational one-month exhibition

2012-2013 *Woof and D'rash: Weaving the Jewish Experience*, Spertus Institute, Chicago, IL; invitational six-months exhibition

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2021 *The Roundness Project*, an on-line exhibit, Winnipeg, Canada; invited artist

2019 *Expressions of Defiance*, Reynolds Whitney Art Gallery at Northern Illinois University; invitational one-month exhibition in connection with NIU's presentation of *Defiant Requiem: Verdi at Terezin*

2018 *What We Carry*, Janice Charnach Gallery, The JCC of Metropolitan Detroit, MI

2016-2017 *Voices of Wisdom*; Midwest Jewish Artists Lab (MJAL), Spertus Institute, Chicago, IL; invitational six-month exhibition

SELECTED ARTIST TALKS AND EVENTS

2021 OPEN HOUSE CHICAGO 21: Presentation of ten commissioned tapestries at Temple Har Zion, River Forest, IL as part of the Chicago Architecture Center's annual public event (OHC)

2021 *uN'taneh Tokef – Prayer Without Grey*, Yom Kippur, Oak Park Temple (OPT), Oak Park IL

2021 The Jewish Art Salon (JAS): New York-based international panel discussion series *Creativity in Uncertain Times*; selected artist

2021 *Inspired by M'gillat Rut: The Beauty of Biblical Minimalism*, Anshe Emet Synagogue, Chicago, IL

2020 Artist Talk; OPPL, Oak Park, IL

2019 The Kaplan Center's *Jewish Liturgical Music Conference*, Chicago, IL; guest artist

2019 *Givat ha'Aralot – Found in Translation*, Chicago Jewish Historical Society

2018 *Book of Psalms – The Companion*, Temple Har Zion, River Forest, IL

2017 *Modim – And a Match Made in Heaven, Trondheim, and Skokie*, Temple Emanuel, Chicago, IL

2017 *The Joseph Story – A Very Long Shalsholet*, OPT, Oak Park, IL

2016 Panel discussion on the exhibition *Voices and Wisdom* with Art Critic and School of the Art Institute (SAIC) Professor James Yood. Spertus Institute, Chicago, IL; selected participant

2016 *Scandinavia and Chicago – How Nature, Architecture and Design Have Influenced My Work*, League of Women Designers, Chicago, IL

2015 *Love, Rivalry, and Murder, He Spoke*, MJAL Conference, Milwaukee, WI

2015 *Weaving a Life: Norway, Chicago, and Judaism*, Chicago History Museum, Chicago, IL

2013 Taped interview for Spertus website with Curator Ilana Segal, Spertus Institute, Chicago, IL

2011 Artist Talk / Demonstration of Techniques; Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY

AWARDS

2015 Selected participant to MJAL, Spertus Institute, Chicago, IL. (A Covenant Foundation supported initiative)

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

2020 Temple Har Zion, River Forest, IL; Commissioned ten-piece series for sanctuary entrance

2015 Chicago History Museum

PUBLICATIONS

Content Curator and Coeditor of *Out of the Narrows: The Artists' Haggadah* (Blurb, 2021; Barnes and Nobles, 2021)

ARTICLES / INTERVIEWS

In Geveb – A Journal of Yiddish Studies: *Weaving in Yiddish* (Interview, October 2018)

Rookie Mag: Editor's Letter (November 2018)

Lilith Magazine: *Tapestries Sacred and Profane* (Article, Fall 2014)