

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 to present)

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

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-month exhibition

SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2024 *The Haggadah: Old and New*, The Bernard Heller Museum, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion

2023 *NEVER FORGET: A Holocaust Awareness Exhibition*, Prairie State College, Chicago Heights, IL

2023 *Out of the Narrows*, Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley

2021 *The Roundness Project*, an online 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

2024 "Zoom, Look, Listen!" An online class on the Hebrew Bible as reflected in artist's tapestries. It is designed, administered, and taught by artist in collaboration with and under the supervision of Rabbi Max Weiss.

2024 *My Tasks as Content Curator and Editor of "Out of the Narrows"*, The Bernard Heller Museum HUC

2022 *A Thousand Jewish Tapestries*, Illinois Prairie Weavers Guild, Lombard, IL.

2021, 2022 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 *Creativity in Uncertain Times*, The Jewish Art Salon (JAS), NY, NY. An international panel discussion series, selected artist

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

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

2016 Panel discussion moderated by Art Critic and School of the Art Institute (SAIC) Professor James Yood. Spertus Institute; selected participant

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

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

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

AWARDS

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

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

2020 Temple Har Zion, River Forest, IL (Commissioned ten-piece series on the Sinai story for sanctuary entrance)

2015 Chicago History Museum (Three tapestries)

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)