



Miniature Cityscapes in a Monumental World

You Are Here, a solo exhibition of recent works by textile artist Ann Cofta, features a number of hand sewn quilts and miniature embroidery pieces, as well as works on paper. In this debut show, the artist reflects on the iconic city structures, in whose presence we live our lives, that create stability and continuity in an ever-changing world.



With landscapes and cityscapes, there is a natural tendency to try to locate the subject; what neighborhood, street or vantage point does it represent? Like a map that tries to give you a sense of place, this body of work hints at locations you have likely glimpsed or visited throughout the city. The title *You Are Here* affirms the experience of a personal connection related to these familiar places.

Cofta works in a variety of media, experimenting and shifting as needed to work through an idea or vision. Fabrics are pieced, layered and hand quilted to create buildings and skylines. For some of her smaller works, embroidery is instrumental in creating a surface texture with dimension. At times the combination of beads and stitching produce a relief form that emerges from the flat surface. Her tunnel books push the boundaries of the cityscape into the third dimension, and her use of scale invites the viewer in for a miniature glimpse of the skyline through the base of a water tower, or from under an elevated train.

There is a linear progression to her ideas, each one joined to the next in some way, marking the passing of time; the minor and major changes and shifts in our external landscape as well as in our own lives. Each piece is its own individual artwork, but they are all part of a larger concept, connecting past to present to future.



Born in New York City, Cofta has lived abroad, and traveled extensively throughout the United States, primarily by car. She has taught art in New York City for the past 23 years after receiving her MA in Art and Art Education from Teachers College, Columbia University. She lives in Queens and has a studio in Greenpoint, Brooklyn. You can see more art on her website: anncofta.com or on Instagram @anncofta

Cofta's work has been featured in multiple group exhibitions in galleries throughout the Tri-State area, including The Painting Center in Manhattan; 440 Gallery, Site: Brooklyn Gallery, and La Bodega Gallery in Brooklyn; Plaxall Gallery and Flushing Town Hall in Queens; Catalyst Gallery in Beacon, NY; Gold Coast Arts Center in Great Neck, NY; and Loft Artists Association Gallery in Stamford, CT. This fall she was the recipient of a 360 Residency from Holes in the Wall Collective, based in New York City.

You Are Here, a solo show of works by Ann Cofta, curated by June Kosloff, is presented by Yashar Gallery at 276 Greenpoint Avenue, Brooklyn. Gallery hours are Saturday-Sunday 1-4pm, and by appointment. The exhibit will be on view from October 28 – November 13. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, November 2, from 5-8pm. For further information, contact Ann Cofta at anncofta@gmail.com or (347) 461-1970.

Top image: *Water Tower I*, wool felt, beads and thread

Middle image: *Long Island City Sunset II*, fabric with hand quilting, appliqué and embroidery

Bottom images: *Tunnel Books III, IV, V and I*, gouache on paper

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