

# TRELLIS

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**TRELLIS** is a body of work rooted in garden, landscape, memories of women gardeners and their desire to shape and to share their landscapes.

This installation started growing over 75 years ago with six hand-stitched and appliquéd quilt strips made by my maternal grandmother, Sara Bower Chase. I inherited them when I was 12 years old. I have been moving my grandmother's quilt-top pieces from home to home, first as a child, now as an adult. There was never enough work completed by my grandmother to "finish" the quilt that my mother remembers seeing as a little girl laid out on a bed for contemplation. Beginning in 2002 **TRELLIS** became my fabric garden project in "collaboration" with the grandmother I remember on her knees, deadheading her clove-scented petunias.

There are one hundred and eighty-five scrolls, measuring from four to nine feet in length. Each scroll is six inches wide and suspended from six-inch rods.

The scrolls are made from combinations of felted wool, cotton and silk fabric, printed, painted, discharged, dyed, and appliquéd. The printing process is woodcut (oil based ink) and gelatin plate printing (water based ink), wet clay printmaking, silkscreen and stamping. The scrolls are further embellished with Chinese ink, water color, printed paper, sea glass, shells, buttons, window screen, driftwood and overlays of silk or polyester. I have used a sewing machine to draw on the scrolls. One scroll of a tree has two branches made from wire, discharged cotton, felted wool and beeswax. All dangle and move in the air.

I have moved to Maine and continue to add to **TRELLIS**. What began as a rooted garden encompasses my present pond landscape with the addition of reeds, cattails, dragonflies, heron, and other flora and fauna, wafting in the breeze. Imbedded in each scroll are memories of joy and sorrow, friendship, love and story.

The foyer of the Leura Hill Eastman Performing Arts Center is the first space large enough to encompass the entire installation.