

Artist Statement:

Laura Boban explores notions of the American dream, belonging, and consumption as it relates to fulfillment and exterior projections of happiness within her fiber and installation work. Memories of framed Norman Rockwell prints, hockey games on the TV, and shelves lined with dolls and figurines are reimagined to create a visual language where normative becomes blurry and ambiguous, and where the perceived sameness of suburbia becomes unpredictable and exuberant. The process of abstraction—tracing, fragmenting, and silhouetting—is an off-path route, or *queering*, used to generate new possibilities and fluid forms of image-making within her practice.

Bio:

Laura Boban is a first year graduate student in the Craft / Material Studies program at Virginia Commonwealth University. In 2008 she received her BFA in art education and studio arts at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Before starting her MFA she was a high school art teacher for ten years for Chicago Public Schools. She has presented curriculum at the National Art Education Association Conference and participated in various teacher programs at the Museum of Contemporary Art Chicago.

Website statement 3/7/2019

Memories of framed Norman Rockwell prints, hockey games on the TV, and shelves lined with dolls and figurines are reimagined to create a visual language where normative becomes blurry and ambiguous, and where the perceived sameness of suburbia becomes unpredictable and exuberant. Colorful fiber forms and silhouettes are cut out, pieced together, and embellished as a way to defamiliarize and transform what is normal.

My work is a process of defamiliarizing and transforming what is normal through fiber-based sculpture and installations. Material culture from my midwest, suburban upbringing is translated into colorful fiber forms and silhouettes that have been cut out, pieced together, and embellished. Memories of framed Norman Rockwell prints, hockey games on the TV, and shelves lined with dolls and figurines are reimagined to create a visual language where

normative becomes blurry and ambiguous, and where the perceived sameness of suburbia becomes unpredictable and exuberant.

The process of abstraction—tracing, fragmenting, and silhouetting—is an off-path route, or %queering%, used to generate new possibilities and fluid forms of image-making within my practice.

Through fiber-based installation I explore notions of the American dream, belonging, and consumption as they relate to exterior projections of happiness and identity formation. Memories of framed Norman Rockwell prints, hockey games on the TV, and shelves lined with dolls and figurines are reimaged to create a visual language where normative becomes blurry and ambiguous, and where the perceived sameness of suburbia becomes unpredictable and exuberant. The process of abstraction—tracing, fragmenting, and silhouetting—is an off-path route, or %queering%, used to generate new possibilities and fluid forms of image-making within my practice.