

DIANA WEYMAR

Uncommon Threads: The Tweets of Molly Jong-Fast

September 9 – October 8, 2022

Opening Reception: Friday, September 9, 6-8pm

The act of sewing is a process of emotional repair. – Louise Bourgeois

Planthouse is pleased to present ***Diana Weymar, Uncommon Threads: The Tweets of Molly Jong-Fast.***

Diana Weymar's embroidery functions as a political tapestry, one that historicizes the recent past and reflects our current culture. Paradox is central to the work, as Weymar synthesizes pithy and biting political tweets with charming, nostalgic fabrics, handkerchiefs, and doilies that often possess ornate floral patterns and lacework. The result is equally tragic and satirical, a representation of our current political climate.

In *Uncommon Threads*, Weymar focuses her stitching and attention on the language of Molly Jong-Fast, a journalist and political commentator who uses her voice to question, challenge, and reckon with our current political climate. Although tweets may disappear from our screen, fading into the abyss of cyber-space, Weymar's threaded stories allow us to consider our current context, the power of dissent, and what it means to live through political uncertainty.

An 80-page catalog accompanies the exhibition.

Diana Weymar is an artist and activist. She grew up in the wilderness of Northern British Columbia, studied creative writing at Princeton University, and worked in film in New York City.

She has worked on projects with Build Peace (in Nicosia, Bogota, Zurich, and Belfast), the Arts Council of Princeton, the Nantucket Atheneum, the W.E.B. Du Bois Center at UMass Amherst, the University of Puget Sound, The Zen Hospice Project (San Francisco), the Peddie School, Open Arts Space (Damascus, Syria), Trans Tipping Point Project (Victoria, BC), New York Textile Month, Textile Arts Center (Brooklyn, NY), The Wing (NYC and SF), Alabama Chanin, and Alison Cornyn's *Incorrigibles* project, as well as Syrian journalist and activist Mansour Omari. She is a judge / presenter for *All Stitched Up* at the University of Puget Sound.

Diana is the creator and curator of *Interwoven Stories* and *The Tiny Pricks Project*, both of which are open for public participation. Her work has been exhibited and collected in the United States and Canada.

Planthouse

55 West 28th Street, Parlor Floor, New York, NY 10001

GALLERY HOURS

Tuesday-Saturday 12-6 PM – By Appointment – info@planthouse.net

Tel: (212) 564-5502

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***Come Closer, Look Away* 2016 – 2018**

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Come Closer, Look Away, a collection of 13 textile pieces, examines the use of imagery to inspire activism and connect us to the suffering of others.

The original photographs, from traditional news sources such as *The New York Times* and *NPR*, are of humanitarian crises but are very hard to look at closely. Stitching is a way of spending time with the images. The textiles used for this series range from distressed cotton infant dresses to folded hankies. This translation of photographs into objects with texture and elements of hand stitching is designed to encourage the viewer to come closer when they are tempted to look away. The delicate nature of the stitching and the softness of textile is in direct contrast with the harsh reality captured in the photographs.

1. *Ebola Healthcare Workers*
2. *Sheets Drying on Clothesline*, Photo: Dominique Faget / AFP Getty Images
3. *Blanket on patient, healthcare worker, plastic chair*
4. *Samaritan's Purse diphtheria clinic*, (2 patients on bed), Photo: Allison Joyce for *NPR*
5. *Seeking safety as battle enters Mosul*, Photo: Ahmed Jadhah
6. *Pick-up truck, Ebola patient, healthcare worker*
7. *The Year In Pictures, 2017*, Photo: Tomas Munita for *The New York Times*
8. June 8, 1992, Trang Bang, South Vietnam, (AP photo / Nick Ut File)
9. *Alan Kurdi, Syrian drowned, September 2, 2015*, Photo: Carter Nilufer Demir, Dogan News Agency via AFP
10. *One Patient on Bed*, Allison Joyce for *NPR*
11. *Gold Miners Breathe The Dust; Fall III: 'They Did Not Give Me Nothing'*
NPR October 2015, Photo: Thom Pierce
12. *Syrian Girl in Camp*, Photo: anonymous volunteer worker
13. *1993 Famine in Sudan*, Photo: Kevin Carter

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