

Monika Kinner, Artist

1742 East Heights, Saskatoon, SK Canada. S7J 3B9 306.612.3519 Monika@MySweetPrairie.ca

Artist Statement

I am a land-based textile artist specializing in embroidery. My creations are heavily influenced by my passion for the landscape, sourced from my own photographs of the Canadian Prairie. Masterfully combining the techniques of freemotion machine and freestyle handwork, I have explored the intricacies of prairie flora with needle and thread since 2009. Since 2022, my practice has expanded to include analog photographic processes, mixed media, and sonic field recordings as I explore my relationship with plants.

Website

www.MySweetPrairie.ca Instagram @ Monika_Kinner

Gallery Representation

Yvette Moore Gallery, Moose Jaw SK
The Saskatchewan Craft Council Boutique, Saskatoon, SK
The MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina, SK
Handmade House, Saskatoon, SK

Education & Residencies

Sonic Field Recording, Girls Twiddling Knobs w Isobel Anderson, UK 2025
Biophilium Summer Artist Residency (International): “Germinate” 2024, “Species” 2025, “Mortem” (upcoming)
Bachelor of Social Work, 1993 University of Regina
Early Childhood Development II, 1990 at SIAST, Saskatoon

Awards, Grants & Scholarships

Biophilium 2026 Artist Residency Scholarship
SKArts 2025 Independent Artist Grant, *The Thelma Pepper Project*
SKArts 2024 Microgrant for Artist Residency with Biophillium
Canada Council for the Arts 2023-2024 Research and Creation for Visual Arts grant
SKArts Artists in Schools Project Grant 2022 Artist Partner with Humboldt Public School
SKArts Artists in Schools Development Grant 2021 Artist Partner with Humboldt Public School
Quilt Canada National Show 2018. 2nd place, cash prize for Postcard Challenge
Focus on Fibre Art Association Canada 2018
1st place, cash award in Original Needlework Design for *Fields of Gold*
2nd place, cash award in Small Innovative Wall Quilts for *#MeToo*
Focus on Fibre Art Association Canada 2016
3rd place, cash award in Original Surface Design *She's Blooming!*
Viewer's Choice Award for *She's Blooming!*
SKArts Emerging Visual Artist Grant 2015
Focus on Fibre Art Association Canada 2014
1st Place & cash award for Prairie City, Best of Category & cash award for Prairie City
2nd Place & cash award for Where Sunlight Falls
Viewers' Choice Award for Prairie City
Saskatoon Quilters Guild Annual Scholarship \$500 for USCAD Fibre Art classes (2011/2012)

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Exhibitions by Invitation / Curated / Juried

- 2026 *Prairie Fibre - Full Circles*. Saskatchewan Craft Council Gallery, Saskatoon SK (group)
- 2025 *Knowing You Are There*. Art Gallery of Swift Current, Swift Current SK (group)
- 2025 *Next of Kin*. The Gallery at Frances Morrison Central Library, Saskatoon SK (solo)
- 2025 *Women Gathering*. Thimble Gallery, Winnipeg MB (solo)
- 2022 *Rooted*. SK Craft Council Gallery, Saskatoon SK Handmade House Anniversary Exhibition
- 2019 *Bridging*. Government House, Regina. Artists Workshop member exhibition (group)
- 2019 *Scythia*. 9th Biennial International Textile Exhibition, Ukraine (group)
- 2018 *Vistas*. Ukrainian Museum of Canada Gallery (solo)
- 2018 *Gathering Places*. Frances Morrison Library Gallery (solo)
- 2017 *Winter Light*. Void Gallery, Saskatoon (group)
- 2017 *Common Threads*. Manitoba Fibre Festival (group)
- 2016, 2017, 2018, 2020, 2021, 2026 *Art Now!* SaskGalleries Showcase, represented by SCC
- 2017 *Homeland*. Station Arts, Rosthern SK (solo)
- 2016 *In Between / Dazwischen*. Switzerland (group)
- 2016-2018 *Threadworks*. Touring group Exhibition, Embroiderers Association of Canada
- 2016 *Flora*. Hues, Saskatoon SK (solo)
- 2015 *Ceramics & Stitchery*. Shervin Smith Art Gallery, Melfort SK (collaboration)
- 2014 *Heart to Hand*. Handmade House Showcase Gallery, Saskatoon SK (solo)
- 2014 *Prairies*, Focus on Fibre Art Association biennial touring exhibition (group)
- 2013, 2015 *Dimensions*. Saskatchewan Fine Craft biennial touring exhibition (group)
- 2013 *My Sweet Prairie*. Small Works Series - Prairie Ink, Winnipeg MB (solo)
- 2012, 2013 *Little Gems*. The Mix Gallery, Saskatoon SK (group)
- 2012 *National Juried Show*. Quilt Canada, Halifax, NS (group)
- 2012 *Seeds*. SK Craft Council, Affinity Gallery Saskatoon, SK (group)

Curatorial

2017 Winter Light, Void Gallery Saskatoon SK

2015 Our Prairie in Fibre, Guest Curator for SK Craft Council Gallery, Saskatoon SK.

Juried Catalogues

9th International Biennial Textile Art Exhibition, Ukraine, *Scythia* 2019

Embroiderers Association of Canada, *Threadworks* 2016

Focus on Fibre Art Assoc. Biennial, *Prairies* 2014, *My Heritage* 2016, *Climate Change* 2018

SK Fine Craft Biennial *Dimensions* 2013, *Dimensions* 2015

Canadian Quilters Association National Show, 2012

Community Projects & Partnerships

WP Fraser Herbarium USASK, Saskatoon Open Door Society, The Mothers' Centre, Children's Discovery Museum, Sask Craft Council in partnership with Broadway Business Improvement District, Saskatoon Fringe Festival, Artist in Schools, Ukrainian Museum of Canada, Artist in Schools (Humboldt).

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Memberships

Artists' Workshop Saskatoon, juried member 2018 - 2023
Saskatchewan Craft Council, Professional Juried member since 2010
Saskatoon Quilters' Guild 2008-2013 serving three years on the Program Committee
Embroiderers Association of Canada 2012 - 2015
Focus on Fibre Art Association (Canada) since 2013

Publications

UPPERCASE (Canada/International) 2017 Issue 31 *Murals & More*, p.54
Stitchillo (Canada) 2017. Encyclopedia of Inspiration UPPERCASE. Artist interview pp 292-299. Cover art feature.
Stitch with the Embroiderers Guild (UK) 2017. #105 Artist Feature 'From Sketch to Stitch'
A Needle Pulling Thread (Canada), Winter 2017 Artist Review no.3 p 836
A Needle Pulling Thread (Canada) Fall 2016 Artist Review no.2 p 96
A Needle Pulling Thread (Canada) Summer 2016 Artist Review no.1 p.84
The Encyclopedia of Embroidery Art by Pauline Brown (UK) 2nd Edition 2016 Full page feature p. 134
Stitch with the Embroiderers Guild (UK) 2016 #102 Editor Curated Gallery p. Inside back cover
Embroidery Canada, Winter 2015/2016 Article: Embroidered Postcards
NORO Magazine (US) *Stitching the Prairie* Artist Interview, Issue #7 Fall/Winter 2015. pp. 16-19
Machine Quilting Unlimited (US) *Painting the Prairie* Artist Spotlight Nov/Dec 2015 pp 68-72
Stitch (United Kingdom) *Let the Yarn Speak* Article, Issue #94 April/May 2015. pp. 26-28
Stitch (United Kingdom) *From Sketch to Stitch* Artist Feature, Issue #93 Feb/March 2015. pp. 18-21
Quilters Connection Magazine (Canada) *Fibre Art Postcards* article Dec 2014. pp. 18-22
Fiber Art Now (US) *From Humble Beginnings* curated by editor for Flora & Fauna issue. Summer 2013
Embroidery Canada Magazine *Exploring the Prairies in Thread* Artist Feature pp. 12-14. Summer 2013
Mastering the Art of Embroidery: Tutorials, Techniques, & Modern Applications by Sophie Long, (UK). 6 images of my work were curated for this 200 page resource guide book. Published 2013
A Needle Pulling Thread Magazine (Canada)
Artist Profile 'My Sweet Prairie: A Love Story' pp 30, 31, 32. Spring 2012
Snips n Snails Embroidered Quilt pattern published & chosen for cover, Summer 2011
Quilter's Connection Magazine (Canada) Fibre art featured in issues #6, #8, #11, #12 (2010-2012).

Online Interviews / Features

Wonderfil Specialty Threads (Canada) <https://share.google/FFz1bOpY08yBSt8n7> 2024
Textile Artist .org (International) <https://share.google/RyF12QBAifh9VzZXG> 2024
Citizens of Craft podcast, (Canada) <https://youtu.be/Y-eSqAD7mmk?si=4apibTi3SQgP0r6O> 2018
Midwest Fiber Arts Trails, (USA) <https://www.midwestfiberartstrails.org/monika-kinner-whalen-sweet-prairie/> 2014
Janome Life (Canada) 2012
<https://janomelife.wordpress.com/2012/10/29/spotlight-on-janome-customer-monika-kinner-whalen-of-saskatoon-sk/>