

Meet your makers

Tucson artist creates colorful 3D fiber wall sculptures

Tamara Scott-Anderson has been working as an artist for more than 30 years

- [Gloria Knott](#)

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Tucson artist Tamara Scott-Anderson creates 3D wall decor using fabrics, textiles and beads. This piece is called "Two Lights."

Photos by Pedro Romano

If it feels like Tamara Scott-Anderson's artwork is popping out at you, that's because it is.

Scott-Anderson, an artist for more than three decades, has taken to creating 3D wall decor from all kinds of fabrics, textiles and beads.

“I started out as a weaver and that kind of thing,” the Tucson artist says. “And I developed this — what I call fiber wall sculptures — on my own.”

It all began with a piece of hardware cloth made from thin strips of metal.

“It kind of set me off and I’ve been doing it ever since,” she says.

“My stuff appeals to people who like texture, who don’t necessarily want something behind glass,” Scott-Anderson says. “Houses with big windows — you get glares and you can’t appreciate it.”

Scott-Anderson’s work tends to be very colorful and is especially detailed when you see it up close.

She says she’s always liked florals, though she’s trying to get a bit more abstract. To gain inspiration, she’ll sometimes take photographs or skims through Pinterest.



This is a closeup of "Two Lights" by Tamara Scott-Anderson. "My work appeals to people who like texture," she says.

"Then I look at my fabrics to see what I have and what colors might be used," she says. "If I'm doing a piece on hardware cloth, then I have to decide the size and shape of that."

From there, she'll paint the hardware cloth and start weaving her materials through.

"After most of the canvas, so to speak, is woven, I'll start embellishing with ribbons or trims, adding stitching, adding the beads," she says.



Artist Tamara Scott-Anderson has been using recycled materials to create 3D wall decor. This piece is called "World In Trouble."

Scott-Anderson's creative journey started as an art student at the University of Arizona.

"When I was doing my undergraduate work, I was in a sculpture class. I had done a macrame piece and it was very free form," she says. "My instructor said,

"This is interesting — I think you should explore this a little more."



Tamara Scott-Anderson has been an artist for more than 35 years.

Although she went to college for art, Scott-Anderson never took an art class in high school. But she says she had been interested in art since she was a teen.

“In junior high, my grandmother lived next door to a woman who was an art teacher and she would let me come over and try out stuff that she was doing with her classes,” she says. “That’s what kind of got me interested, even though I didn’t do a whole lot of that until I got to college and I had to pick a major.”

Scott-Anderson previously worked as an art teacher and also owned a furniture and design store. She's now two years into retirement and focusing more on making and selling her art.

Recently, she's been using recycled materials — jewelry donated by friends or fabric she stumbles upon along a downtown street, for example.

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Recently, she's been using recycled materials — jewelry donated by friends or fabric she stumbles upon along a downtown street, for example.

“It's that whole consciousness in cleaning up the environment,” she says. “This is stuff that could go to a landfill, so I'm going to repurpose it. That's been a new focus for me.”



This detail shot shows some of the materials artist Tamara Scott-Anderson used to create "World In Trouble."

Find the art

Find Tamara Scott-Anderson's art at tamaraartist.com