

Woolpunk

[www.woolpunk.com](http://www.woolpunk.com)

Born in Summit, New Jersey, 1971.

Lives and works in Jersey City, NJ

#### EDUCATION

2001 Mason Gross School of the Arts, Rutgers University, MFA

2001 Douglas College, Rutgers University, Women's Studies Certificate

1993 Catholic University, Washington, DC., BA in Studio Art

#### HONORS

2019 Sponsored Exhibitors Room, 14C Art Fair, Jersey City, NJ

2019 New Jersey Arts Annual- Craft, Montclair Art Museum, NJ

2018 Advisory Board Committee, Apple Tree House, City of Jersey City, NJ

2017 Visual Arts Committee, Jersey City Arts Council, NJ

2016 Advisory Board Committee, Educational Arts Team, Jersey City, NJ

2014 Guest Lecturer, JerseyScapes, New Jersey City University, NJ

2013 Robinhood Foundation Grant, Hoboken Museum, NJ

2011 Woman of Action Award for PSE&G Mural Program, Jersey City, NJ

2011 "Grant Street..", Collection of Hudson County Community College, NJ

2010 "Pacific Court", Collection of Jersey City Museum, NJ

2009 \_gaia Residency Program, NJ

2008 New Jersey Arts Annual, NJ

2007 Guest Lecturer with Paddy Johnson, Jersey City Museum, NJ

2007 Guest Lecturer and Curator, Pace University, NYC

2007 Guest Panelist, Lateral Attitudes, Raritan Valley College, NJ

2005 New Jersey Public Radio State of the Arts: Artist of the Month

2005 Guest Panelist, Circa Craft, Jersey City Museum, NJ

2005 New Jersey Arts Annual- Crafts, Jersey City Museum, NJ

2004 "Cast" Collection of Casaterra Residency Program, Puglia, Italy

2004 Geraldine Dodge and Fine Arts Work Center Grant Award, MA

2004 Casaterra Residency Program, Italy

2004 Goldman and Sachs Arts Grant Award, NJ

2004 Puffin Foundation Artist Award, NJ

1999-01 Teaching Assistantship, Rutgers University, NJ

1994-95 Artist in Residence, RC Volunteers, Pine Ridge Indian Reservation

#### SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

2019 Rm 820, 14CArt Fair, Hyatt Regency, Jersey City, NJ

Ivy Brown, George Billis, Jonathan Levine, Curators

2015 Gimme Shelter Project, Windows at Columbus, Jersey City, NJ.

Eileen Ferara, Curator

2014 Gimme Shelter Project, Owen Grundy Pier, Jersey City, NJ  
Luca Cusolito, Curator  
2013-14 Tornado II, South Mountain Conservancy Wildflower Sculpture Park, South Orange, NJ  
2011 Love Your River Project, Pierro Gallery, South Orange, NJ.  
Sandy Martiny, Curator  
2010 Interference, Lion Brand Yarn Studio, NY  
2009 Water falls., Hunterdon Museum, Clinton, NJ  
Mary Birmingham, Curator  
2008 Threads, Object and Thought Gallery, Denver, Colorado  
2007 Knot Constructs, The Garage, Jersey City, NJ.  
Margaret Murphy, Curator  
2006 Communal Ties, City Hall, Jersey City, NJ  
2005 Bound, Jersey City Museum, NJ.  
Rocio Aranda-Alvarado,PHD., Curator  
2003 Shroud Series, Salve Regina Gallery, Washington DC  
2002 Re-Form, Brunswick Window, Jersey City, NJ, Roger Sayre, Curator  
2001 Knitting Lessons, Mason Gross Galleries, New Brunswick, NJ

#### SELECTED GROUP EXHIBITIONS

2019 Mauled in America, Off Space, Canton Glarus, Switzerland, Fred Fleisher, Curator  
2019 New Directions in Fiber Art, Montclair Art Museum, NJ  
2019 Ingenious Prospects, Novado Gallery, Jersey City, NJ  
2018 Morir Sonando, Knock Down Center, NY, Alex Santana, Curator  
2018 Maurice Sendak School Art Auction, NY, Chris Bors, Curator  
2017 The Matrix, Long Island City University, NY, Fred Fleisher, Curator  
2017 Quantum Overdrive, Hudson County Community College, NJ  
Fred Fleisher, Curator  
2016 La Storia, Casa Colombo Center for the Arts, NJ  
2016 Contemporary Hudson, Hudson Community College, NJ  
Laurie Riccadonna, Curator  
2015 The Big Show, Art Factory, Paterson, NJ, Matt Gosser, Curator  
2015 Threads, Art Factory, Paterson, NJ, Lillian Ribiero, Curator  
2014 Jerseyscapes, NJCU University, NJ. Midori Yoshimoto, Curator  
2012 Perception Shifts, Stockton College, NJ. Heather Gibson, Curator  
2012 Digital Weavings: Pat Lay & Michelle Vitale Loughlin, Woolpunkstudios, Jersey City, NJ  
2011-12 Value of Water, St John Cathedral, NY. Fredericka Foster, Curator  
2011 Home, \_gaia, NJCU University, NJ. Doris Cacoilo, Curator  
2011 Aljira Auction, Aljira: A Center for Contemporary Art, Newark, NJ  
2010 Emerging Patterns, Arts Council of Morris, NJ  
2010 Natural Selections, Greylocke Arts, North Adams, MA  
2010 (Re)Fashioning Fiber, Green Spaces, NY. Abigail Doan, Curator

2009 New Look, Same Great Taste, Jersey City Museum, NJ,  
 Rocio Aranda-Alvarado, PHD., Curator  
 2009 Uncommon Threads, Seton Hall University, Jeanne Brasile, Curator  
 2009 Money!, ABC NO RIO, NY, Vandana Jain & Doris Cacoilo, Curators  
 2008 Your Documents Please, Arts & Crafts Museum, Japan; Galerie Kurt I'm Hirsch,  
 Berlin among others, Daniel Georges & Rumi Tsuda, Curators  
 2008 Of The Cloth, Shore Institute of Contemporary Art, Long Branch, NJ  
 2008 Sprawl, NJ Arts Annual, Jersey City Museum, NJ. Catalogue  
 2008 Sculptoure, The Shore Institute of Contemporary Art, Long Branch, NJ  
 2007 This Is That, Pace University, Westchester & Manhattan, NY  
 2007 Lateral Attitudes, Raritan Comm. College, NJ, Tom Mc Glynn, Curator  
 2007 Noah's Ark, Shore Institute of Art, NJ. Brendan Carroll, Curator  
 2006 Faculty Exhibition, Newark Museum, NJ  
 2006 The Sum of All Parts, The Hogar Collection, Brooklyn, NY  
 2005 (K)nots, NJCUniversity, NJ  
 2005 Contemporary Drawing, Brookdale Community College, NJ  
 Aaron Williams, Curator  
 2004 Nomadic Poets, Casaterra, Italy  
 2004 AV Club, Victory Hall, Jersey City, NJ

#### SELECTED PRESS & PUBLICATIONS

2019 I Can't See the Stars featured work, @DailyTrumpet, Jonathan Horowitz, Curator  
 2019 *New Directions...* Exhibit Catalog, Montclair Art Museum, NJ  
 2018 "In Conversation with Alex Santana: On Curating Morir Sonando.." Jasmin Hernandez,  
 gallerygurls.tumblr.com  
 2018 "Morir Sonando", Editors of ARTnews, artnews.com  
 2017 "The Matrix" Long Island City University Exhibit Catalog  
 2017 "Protest Quilt with Bazooka...", Chris Barth, DailySoundandFury.com  
 2016 "La Storia: Jen Mazza, Laurie Riccadonna and Michelle Vitale", Paddy  
 Johnson,artfcity.com  
 2016 "Michelle Vitale...", chichpeaJC, www.chicpeajc.com  
 2015 "As Artists We Protest Everyday..." Becky Nickolls, artistscribes.com  
 2015 "Michelle Vitale..", Branding..Podcast with Susan Newman  
 2015 "Choosing a..", featured at Parsons School of Design, intergratedstudioce.wordpress  
 2015 "Gimme Shelter Project", Push Pause, Verizon Fios Channel 1  
 2015 "Gimme Shelter Stitch In" featured on Channel 12 News  
 2015 "A Stitch In Time Can...", Matthew Speiser, Jersey Journal  
 2015 "Jersey City Artist..", Summer Dawn Hortillosa, Jersey Journal  
 2013 "Colorful Life Returns to Jersey City", Brendan Carroll, Hyperallic  
 2013 "Oral Histories of Sandy", Tammy La Groce, New York Times  
 2012 "Value of Water", St John Divine Cathedral, World Policy Blog  
 2012 "Value of Water", St John Divine Cathedral, Vimeo

2012 "Newly Opened Woolpunk.." Summer Dawn Hortillosa, Jersey Journal

2011 "Former Jersey City..." Brendan Carroll, Jersey City Independent

2010 "Woolpunk Extraordinaire", Abigail Doan blog

2009 "New Meanings..", Sabrina Gschwandter, Interweave Magazine

2009 "Family Skills..", Hildy York, Surface Design Journal

2009 "Home Sweet Home", Jessica Hemmings, Embroidery Magazine

2009 Sprawl Exhibition Catalog, Rocio Aranda-Alvarado PHD

2007 "This Is That", Patty Johnson, Art F City

2007 *Lateral Attitudes* Exhibition Catalog, Tom McGlynn

2006 *(K)nots* Exhibition Catalog, Michelle Vitale

2006 *Circa Craft* Exhibition Catalog, Rocio Aranda-Alvarado, PHD

2005 "State of the Arts", NJN Radio, Peter Shea

2005 "Taking Art To The Streets", Jersey City Magazine, Peter Zinsil

2005 "Shrouds Series No 2", Featured in Puffin Foundation Catalog

"The resonance in Michelle Vitale's work results from her willingness to layer and integrate visual and physical components, image and architecture, photography and traditional craft, environmental conscience and unconventional colorful installation. Vitale is an artist in mid-reach, and a big and brave reach it is, testing a number of creative possibilities".

Hildreth York, Surface Design Journal, 2009

Woolpunk (aka Michelle Vitale) is an American artist born in Summit, NJ in 1971. Woolpunk, inspired by an immigrant seamstress grandmother who sewed American flags for a living, machine knits fiber installations, quilts sculptures and embroiders photographs. She has created large-scale site specific forms for a variety of institutions including the Cathedral of St John the Divine in Manhattan, Hunterdon Museum in Clinton, New Jersey, Lion Brand Yarn Studio in Manhattan, and Casaterra Artist Residency in Puglia, Italy. Her work has been exhibited at The Arts and Crafts Museum in Itami, Japan, ABC No Rio in Manhattan, and Galerie Kurt I'm Hirsch in Berlin, Germany. Woolpunk has been highlighted in several publications including Surface Design Journal and Embroidery Magazine. She has received grants from the Puffin Foundation, Goldman Sachs, Geraldine Dodge Foundation, The Fine Arts Work Center, among others.