



[FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE] DALLAS, TX, August 12 – September 20, 2019– The Cliff Gallery of Mountain View College Is honored to present *The B-Side Redux*, works by Ellen Frances Tuchman.

Complex tales intricately woven of nostalgia, exploring the poetry of color and the marking of time distinguishes my work. Ephemera and souvenirs weave associative paths between past and present. An idealized world battles pop culture. Beneath the pretty veneer and couture beading lays some hard truths. I spin geometric modernism into a painted form that is assemblage, textiles, and drawing. It is something different; something delicate and fragile, beautiful and most of all, tough as nails.

The B-Side paintings encompass many dueling myths and the frailties in our relationships. As Rhett Miller sang “Murder or a Heart Attack”, I used talismans and double entendre to manage pains still lurking. My paintings are a counterpoint to mass production with their luscious patterning and surface embellishments, immediately throwing them into a conversation about the decorative, the value of beauty, high-low art, women’s handwork, femininity and male potency. I explore thematic conceits and plays-on-words, preferring to use ‘forbidden’ materials as pigment on a translucent Mylar ground. Many pieces are intentionally sentimental, telling universal stories with paint, sewing, and much ornament.

Artist Bio:

Ellen Frances Tuchman is a Southern California native, a child of Disney and Technicolor, living in Dallas for the past 35 years. She has exhibited widely since graduating as a textile major from California College of the Arts (CCAC) in 1976. That essence is a thru line in all her work — from the heavily beaded ephemera she layers into narratives to her exuberant, abstract paper quill paintings that clearly were influenced by the LA light and space movement she grew up with. Fetish finish and a wonderment, even an innocence, resides in her obsessively detailed paintings. Pigments of beads, sequins, nail polish, acrylic, colored pencils, eye shadow, or thread cavort — contradicting traditional expectations about fine art materials and crafting. Women's needlework is elevated to high art with her contemporary takes on the unrelenting stimuli in modern life.

Tuchman's work is unique, a precursor to current surface, textile, and materialism trends seen in painting. She is a featured artist in Texas Artists Now, by Catherine Ansporn. Public collections include the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Lancaster Hotel, Houston, the Federal Reserve Branch in Houston, the Harris County Courthouse, Pasadena, TX and the Harold Simmons Foundation, Dallas. Her work is frequently seen in Houston, where she's been represented by koelsch haus gallery since 2003. Her most recent solo exhibit in Dallas was *COUNT THE HOURS*, at Barry Whistler Gallery in 2017.

RECEPTION:

September 6, 7:00 – 9:00pm, Cliff Gallery

ARTIST GALLERY TALK:

September 12, 12:30 – 2:00pm, Cliff Gallery

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[Website](#) [Directions](#)

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