

ARTIST'S STATEMENT

"FABRICATIONS - Torments and Treasures from the Metaphysical & Material Worlds of Sharon Kilfoy"

Wisconsin Arts Board Lobby 2007

I believe that a human essence "lingers" on the clothing and objects that we wear, especially those items that we treasure. In these fabric collages, which I call "Fabrications" I am trying to show the link between those material objects and the less tangible, albeit very real, metaphysical states of existence we experience and the human relationships we forge.

As my work evolves, it becomes increasingly more self-revelatory and autobiographical. This feels like a natural evolution for me. Many of the objects in these pieces are family heirlooms. They are mixed with garage sale finds and gifts from friends. Part of my message is that there is real beauty in the detritus of ordinary life.

The "*Torments*" referred to in the title of the show are my own "dark nights of the soul" which have all-too-often been catalyzed by the illusions and delusions of lost love and lovers who betray. These are said to be opportunities for the soul to grow and for us to discover who we really are.

The "*Treasures*" referred to in the title of the show are members of my family, especially my children, those gifts from the universe who also provide deep lessons of the soul and help us avoid mediocrity.

In choosing titles for individual pieces, I have borrowed liberally from various poets, especially Pablo Neruda, whose work I return to, again and again.

Thank you for your interest in my work. Within the next year, I plan to reopen the Williamson Street Art Center, where I teach art. Please contact me if you would like me to make a piece of art from your own treasures, or guide you in making your own.