



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Marketing and Communications

Press Release

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Textiles With Socio-Political Content Go on View at Ramapo College

MAHWAH, N.J. -- *Identity, Textured*, an exhibition by Linda Friedman Schmidt, opens on Wednesday, January 31, in the Pascal Gallery of the Berrie Center for Performing and Visual Arts. There will be an opening reception from 5 to 7 p.m. The exhibition continues on view through March 2.

Linda Friedman Schmidt is a self-taught artist who creates inventive figurative artworks from discarded clothing. Using a method inspired by hooked rugs, the artist employs an unusual approach to address personal and societal issues. The exhibition at Ramapo touches upon numerous subjects from immigration to the Holocaust.

The artist states the following about her work:

“My activist artwork is an outcry for peace and unity, a reminder that we share common humanity, that no human beings are disposable, that all human beings are of infinite worth. Using discarded clothing as my paint enables me to dismantle the world and piece it together differently, to create unity from diversity, to metaphorically repair and refashion a world torn apart, to combine the energy of many into something of beauty, vitality and hope. Just as fabrics of different colors and prints can mesh beautifully, so can different races, religions, and ethnicities if we give them a chance.”

Schmidt’s work has been shown in numerous museums and galleries including the Allentown Art Museum, Morris Museum, Jersey City Museum, Montclair Art Museum, Monmouth Museum, Attleboro Art Museum, Alexandria Museum of Art, Koehnline Museum of Art, Loveland Museum, Cahoon Museum of American Art, Saint Mary’s College Museum of Art, Fuller Craft Museum, the American Folk Art Museum, and the San Jose Museum of Quilts and Textiles.

This project is supported in part by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, a Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. The Pascal Gallery is located in the Berrie

Center for Performing and Visual Arts on the Ramapo College campus. Gallery hours are Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 1 to 5 p.m. and Wednesday from 1 to 7 p.m.

For more information, please contact Sydney Jenkins at 201-684-7147.

Photo: *Linda Friedman Schmidt, Weeding, 2016, discarded clothing*

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college. Ranked among the top colleges in the region by College Choice and recognized by, among others, U.S. News & World Report, Princeton Review, Colleges of Distinction and, also designated by Victory Media as a "Military Friendly College," Ramapo College is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include business, education, nursing and social work. In addition, the College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels, and offers graduate programs leading to degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education.