

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Jan Myers-Newbury was born Janice Louise Myers in 1950, in Greenville, Pennsylvania. The fact that she has been living in western Pennsylvania for the last 30 years, though, is accounted for by coincidence, love and marriage.

Jan graduated from high school in West Des Moines, Iowa, and earned a BA in Religion and Asian Studies from St. Olaf College in 1972. After graduation she moved to Minneapolis and used her expensive degree to jumpstart a career in waitressing, taking classes toward a BFA in printmaking from the University of Minnesota Studio Arts Department. In 1976 she entered a graduate program in the U of M Design Department, and received her MA degree in 1979. It was while pursuing this degree that she was introduced to Josef Albers' theories on color, and subsequently made the first body of pieced quilts from fabrics hand dyed in graded color and value sequences.

Jan is known for her lyrical geometric pieced quilts using *shibori* fabrics of her creation. All of the dyeing techniques that she employs in her work are self-taught and the result of experimentation. She has exhibited and taught nationally and internationally for 35 years, been included in fifteen QUILT NATIONAL exhibits, and in 1993 won QN's Best of Show Award. Her work is in the permanent collections of the International Quilt Study Center & Museum (IQSCM) here at UNL, the Museum of Arts and Design in NYC, the Minneapolis Institute of the Arts, the National Quilt Museum in Paducah, KY, and the Minnesota Historical Society. Over 300 of Jan's quilts are included in corporate and private collections throughout the United States. In 1999, her quilt *Depth of Field III: A Plane View* was selected as one of the 20th Century's 100 Best Quilts. It is now part of the IQSCM collection.

Jan is a member of the Fiberarts Guild of Pittsburgh, sponsoring organization of the exhibition *Fiberart International*, and she served as board member, president, and chair of *Fiberart International* in 1997. She served on the board of directors of the Surface Design Association from 1999 through 2005.

In 1999 Jan was an artist presenter at the Third International Shibori Symposium in Santiago, Chile. She has spent 30+ years teaching itinerantly, and it was while teaching at Haystack Mountain School of Crafts in 1986 that she met her future husband, Sam Newbury. Currently her teaching is confined to occasional workshops in places both familiar and sublime. Her studio is in her home: dyeing in the basement and designing and sewing in her third floor walk-up aerie.