

# Ruth Marshall

917 915 2367

[rmmarshall@icloud.com](mailto:rmmarshall@icloud.com)

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

## **Artist Biography**

Ruth Marshall was born and raised in Melbourne, Australia. She received her Bachelor of Fine Arts from Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology, where a multi-disciplinary approach to study was encouraged. In 1993 she was awarded the Anne & Gordon Samstag International Visual Arts Scholarship, a generous sponsor in promoting overseas education of Australian visual arts students. Upon graduating in 1995 with a Master of Fine Arts degree from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, New York City, Ruth joined the Exhibit, Graphic and Design Department at the Wildlife Conservation Society, more commonly known as the Bronx Zoo. The experience of working for more than a dozen years as an exhibit sculptor provided opportunities to study first hand a world renowned animal collection as well as contemporary conservation strategies. In 2002 Ruth was the first artist invited to have her artwork represented by Dam,Stuhltrager Gallery, now based in Berlin, Germany. She currently resides in New York City where she teaches fine art drawing part time for the Film and Animation Department at the School of Visual Arts.

Ruth is devoted to creating her internationally renowned, unique one-of-a-kind hand knitted pelts of endangered animals. The knitted textile is the fine art medium through which her intricate intarsia and fair isle artworks are designed. These are the results of months of research and interpretation from collections in various natural history institutions, museums and zoos. She holds regular workshops and lectures on her knitted designs, as well as her journey through art and animal conservation.

## **Artist Professional Biography**

Ruth Marshall hand knits pelts of exotic endangered animals. Each of her one-of-a-kind textiles represents an individual animal she spends months researching at various institutions.

Marshall has worked extensively with the Bronx Zoo and The Museum of Natural History in New York City. Marshall's textiles have been exhibited at top museums including MASS Art in Boston, Museum of Arts & Design in NYC, The Textile Museum in Washington DC, Indiana State Museum, San Jose Museum, Scottsdale Museum and Hunterdon Museum. Marshall's first solo museum exhibition at Maine Museum of Art occurred April - June, 2012. An established fine artist, Marshall often lectures and leads workshops as well as teaching at The School of Visual Arts in New York City. In recent years, Marshall has been an increasingly sought after guest artist and has participated in residencies at MAD Museum in New York City, Wave Hill in the Bronx, RSPProjects in Berlin, Germany and Montsalvat in Melbourne, Australia. Her work has widely been covered in the press including articles in The New York Times, VOGUE Knitting, New York Daily News, and Surface Design Magazine. She has featured in book publications, "Craft Activism", released in 2011 by Random House, "Textiles: The Art of Mankind", by Mary Schoeser, Thames & Hudson, as well as her own book, "Vanished into Stitches", published by Createspace and available on Amazon. Future exhibitions over the course of the next year, (2013-2014), include Montsalvat, center for the arts in Melbourne, Australia, the Australian Consulate in New York City, the Brooklyn Botanical Garden and The Arsenal, Central Park, New York City.

## **Artist Statement**

"My art is related to and bound by a fascination with animals. Exploring the precarious balance of our human relationship to nature reacquaints society to the exotic world that we are in danger of losing. My work aims to communicate all the inherent drama in nature's loss, to respect the impressive will of the wild kingdom, and to fuel the search for survival.

The twenty-first century is gripped by the predicament of habitat loss and species decline. There is an urgent desire in me to say new things about this disappearing world and to contribute to the efforts to help wild animals and wild places endure.

Through the study of science, nature, and a high level of craftsmanship utilizing the knitted textile as a fine art medium, I am devoted to telling the stories of individual animals who have been forgotten, lost, or who are in danger of becoming so." Ruth Marshall 2013