

## Elizabeth Medrano

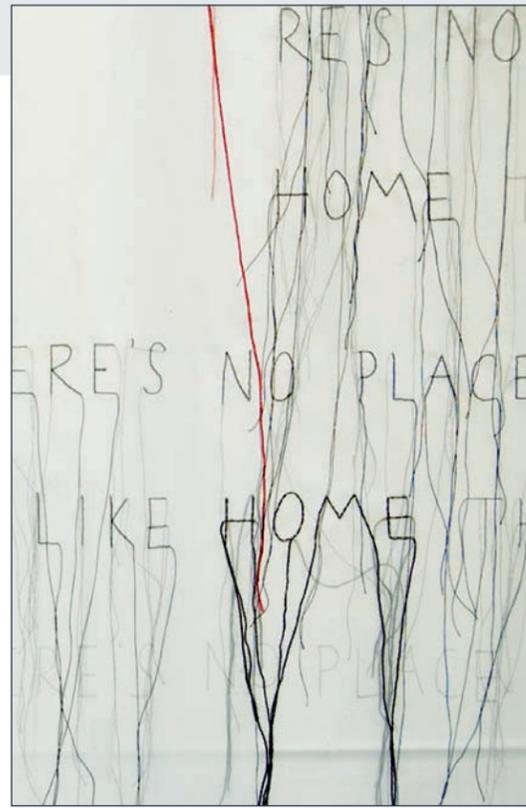


The juxtapositions of objects seen in Medrano's rocks series reveal narratives about personal relational situations and are an investigation into a social theory of rocks: of visual metaphors, myths and archetypal stories deconstructing textures, emotions, and interactions. These structures engender social interactions, taking measure, responding.

In *Working With Threads and Scars*, Medrano slightly departs from the interacting juxtaposition of rocks seen in her paintings and drawings to discrete organizations of forming shelters or portals as an associative entity: groupings form relationships and make connections that conjure a story of relationships, experiences, joy and pain. They sew time together, making a delicate, scrolling loop structure around a life/lives, reifying foundations of memories, ebbing and flowing through time.

Elizabeth Medrano is a mixed-media sculptor / painter living and working in San Francisco. She received a BFA from the Philadelphia College of Art and earned her MFA at California State University, SF, as the Distinguished Graduate in Sculpture. Elizabeth exhibits her work throughout the Bay Area.

## Elaine Michaud



I think of my home as a place of comfort and also as a reflection of my values. It feeds my spirit as well as housing me. My home of origin is a place dear to my heart that I still go back to—mostly for the people—my family and friends—but also for the place itself and the memories it holds—my memories and the memories of my ancestors.

There is this need/desire to be there and the knowledge, too, that I carry home within—place/no place. In my search to find a place where I belong, I abide. Transparency is a way of acknowledging this layeredness of seeking: memories, relationships, identity, time. Ultimately, and as a survival mechanism, we carry "home" within us.

Elaine Michaud is a visual artist and graphic designer. Born in Vermont, she resides in San Francisco and received her MFA from San Francisco State University. She has exhibited her work throughout the Bay Area and has been an artist in residence at Dorland Mountain Artists Colony. Her work has addressed the nature of family relationships and childhood experience, and the symbolism of flowers and forms in nature. She uses image, word and metaphor to open up meaning and understanding, exploring issues of family, identity, and the natural environment.

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

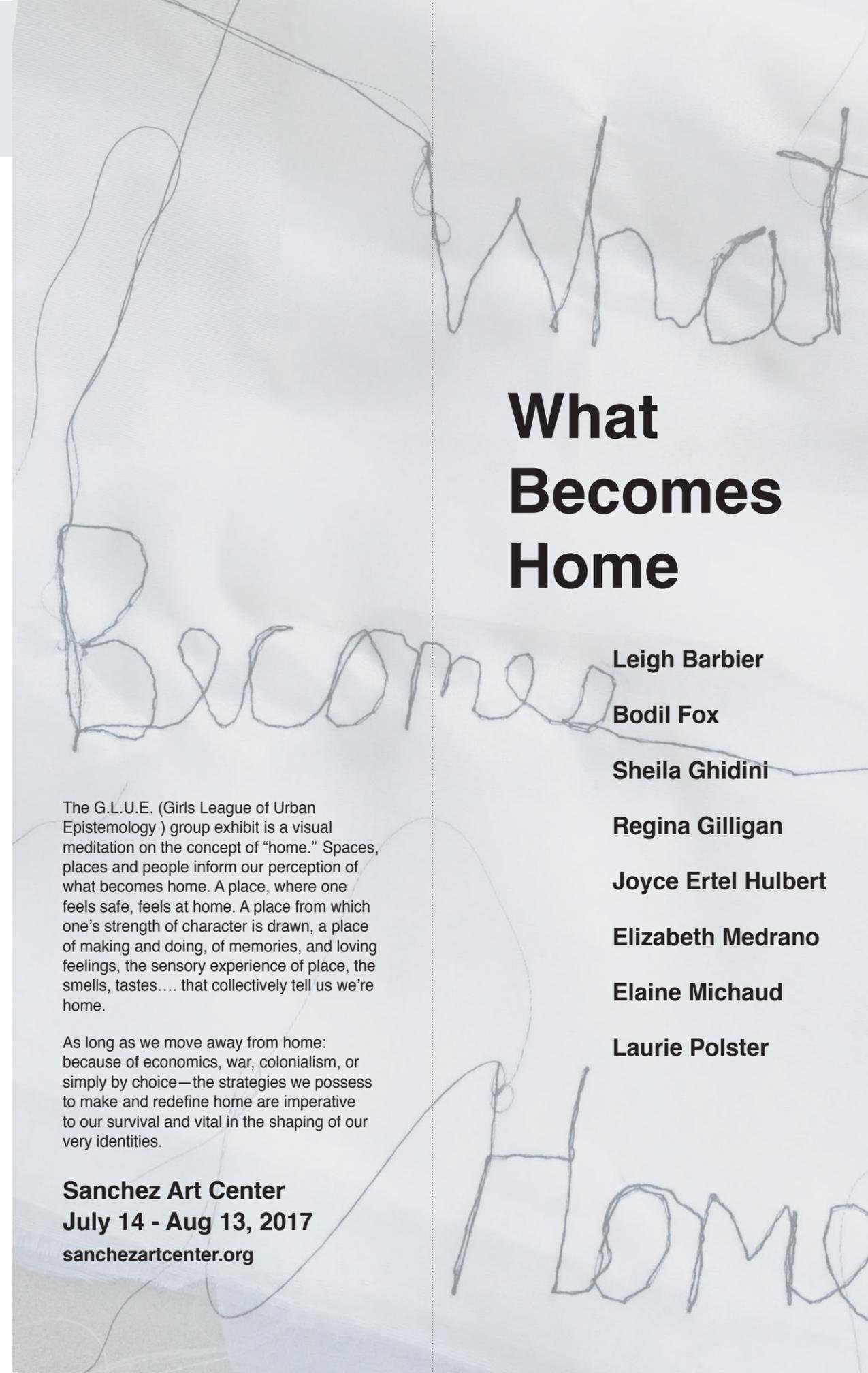
## Laurie Polster



Food is a basic sustenance forming a connection to people and place. Sourced and prepared in certain ways, the ingredients, textures, smells, tools and utensils, all combine in the physical process of making. Sharing meals with family and friends can define a central aspect of home, no matter where home may be at any given time.

This work incorporates my grandmother's handwritten recipes, along with one from my mother, saved in an old metal card file. Some cards are so stained with food spills that parts of the text are almost illegible, a testament to constant usage over many years. The physical process of writing and re-writing the recipes, following in my grandmother's and mother's handwriting, listening to the sounds, became a meditation on time, place, and the people I carry with me as home.

Laurie Polster is a cross-disciplinary visual artist and vocalist/composer working in video, performance, installations, sound projects, sculpture, and image/text pieces. Her work addresses issues relating to culture, memory, sustainability, and identity and representation, shedding light on critical linkages in human understanding and ecosystems.



# What Becomes Home

Leigh Barbier

Bodil Fox

Sheila Ghidini

Regina Gilligan

Joyce Ertel Hulbert

Elizabeth Medrano

Elaine Michaud

Laurie Polster

The G.L.U.E. (Girls League of Urban Epistemology) group exhibit is a visual meditation on the concept of "home." Spaces, places and people inform our perception of what becomes home. A place, where one feels safe, feels at home. A place from which one's strength of character is drawn, a place of making and doing, of memories, and loving feelings, the sensory experience of place, the smells, tastes.... that collectively tell us we're home.

As long as we move away from home: because of economics, war, colonialism, or simply by choice—the strategies we possess to make and redefine home are imperative to our survival and vital in the shaping of our very identities.

**Sanchez Art Center**  
**July 14 - Aug 13, 2017**  
[sanchezartcenter.org](http://sanchezartcenter.org)

## Leigh Barbier



The sculpture I have created, *Mother of Florine*, is a portrait of my mother told through the lens of my imagination. While Florine is a mythical character in my story, a half human-half monster who expresses the shadow side of myself, *Mother of Florine* is also a mythical character who reflects the shadow side of my mother. Florine is capable of grafting useful objects and natural elements onto her body which add to her powers as well as expressing her feelings of inadequacy. *Mother of Florine* can garner strength and stature from the care and control of masculine energy. She has grown one male head after another onto her person until she has become a totem of phallic energy.

For the exhibit at Sanchez I have created a new sculpture to pair with *Mother of Florine*. This one is *Father of Florine*. The piece is based on the shadow side of my father, which is the source of his creativity. *Father of Florine* hibernates for long periods in the densest and darkest of caves only to reemerge with immense perceptual powers of the Other.

The combination of mother, father love, energy and support is what becomes home to me and has been and always will be the foundation for my creativity.

## Bodil Fox



*Re-creating Home* is inspired by immigration. In particular, I am intrigued by the Syrian immigration into Europe, the migration of “workers” to the City of Richmond during WWII, and my own immigration to America by myself at age 17.

Many immigrants, including myself, arrived with only the most essential items such as clothing and a few select treasures of photos, jewelry, or books. Tucked away in our suitcases, these precious possessions can quickly disappear during the journey and so may at times be sewn into our clothes in hidden pockets. Such pockets, as well as unique words that reflect the physical and emotional impact of the journey, have been incorporated into *Re-creating Home*. They are a reflection of who we are, where we come from, and what we treasure. They are the foundation for re-creating our new home.

Bodil Fox  
[www.bodilfox.com](http://www.bodilfox.com)

*Special thanks to Montalvo Arts Center, Lucas Artists Residency, for providing the time and place to create this artwork.*

## Sheila Ghidini



Chairs have served as a leitmotif in many of the works I have completed over the years. I find them compelling images of absence and presence. I'm drawn to working with the fundamental aspects = this mini-architecture and its inherent relationship to the body and place.

Sheila Ghidini was born in Connecticut and has lived in San Francisco since 1988. She attended Hartford Art School, University of Hartford in Connecticut and did graduate work at Cranbrook Academy of Art in Michigan. She completed an M.F.A. in sculpture at the University of California, Berkeley, receiving the Sylvan and Pam Coleman Memorial Fellowship. She was an artist-in residence at The Headlands Center for the Arts and The American Academy in Rome. She has received grants from the Wallace Alexander Gerbode Foundation, the Krasner-Pollack Foundation, the San Francisco Arts Commission, the Marcelle Labaudt Memorial Fund, Rockefeller Foundation and the Connecticut Commission on the Arts. She is represented by Chandra Cerrito Contemporary in Oakland, CA.

## Regina Gilligan



*Community/Peace, Prospering* is a “story quilt”. It is my existential offering of comfort to those driven from their homes by war and oppression. Its title is divined from the IChing. Woven from the pages of *Forced Out, The Agony of the Refugee in our Time* by Kismaric/Shawcross, the images are merged and indistinct, just as my/our focus is on the ever growing and ongoing plight of the refugee and the homeless.

For me, home is a sanctuary where one can feel safe, nurture and be nurtured, a repository of our relationships, the arrangement of things, the smells, tastes, textures collectively telling me, I'm home. At this moment, 60 million people are on the move desperately pondering this question and driven to find a home where they can be secure and survive and prosper.

Regina Gilligan works in mixed media and installation. Her work has been inspired by place, people and the events of our times. She has worked in theater, design, taught art and children's musical theater. She has collaborated with visual artists, choreographers, musicians and community groups, and has been awarded grants and artist residencies.

## Joyce Ertel Hulbert



In tandem with her focused work in art conservation, Joyce creates artwork in series informed by an embracing and contemplative passion for the natural world. Poetry, yoga, the language of signs and symbols, Buddhist art and philosophy, ancient and historic textile studies, and the garden are current sourcework. Joyce creates artwork at the interface of painting, weaving, assemblage, and sculpture.

In addition to many national and regional exhibitions, Joyce has the distinction of being featured twice in *FiberArt International*, based in Pittsburgh, PA. She has had teaching assistantships at the Arrowmont School of Crafts (1986), Haystack Mountain School of Crafts (1989, 2012 - w/ Jack Lenor Larsen Scholarship), and artist residencies at Kala Art Institute, Berkeley, CA and Azule Art Residency, Hot Springs, NC. Her career as a textile artist began when she completed a 9 month apprenticeship in Gobelin tapestry technique at the Scheuer Tapestry Studio in New York City in 1982 – she continued there as studio weaver and dyer through 1985. Her art and art conservation studio is in Berkeley, CA.

[www.joyce-ertel-hulbert.com](http://www.joyce-ertel-hulbert.com)