

SARAH SHEPARD

GALLERY & ART ADVISORY

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Marin Country Mart 2245 Larkspur Landing Circle  
Larkspur CA 94939

Diane DallasKidd

*Pattern In Relief*

May 12 - June 14, 2020

Opening Reception: Saturday, May 14, 2-4pm

Diane DallasKidd is a Bay Area-based artist whose work addresses the boundaries of craft and contemporary art. Using the language of traditional textile techniques as a foundation, DallasKidd's work is both exploration and meditation on the primal act of making things. Working in multiple series at a time, the artist explores fundamental human phenomena--nostalgia, sentimentality and record keeping.

For her second solo show at the gallery DallasKidd has made a new body of work from her ongoing *Roots* and *Tracing Waves* series as well as developed a new series entitled *Kasuri*. Based on the Japanese form of *Ikat*, *Kasuri* is an ancient weaving and dye technique that uses a resistance method applied directly to yarns in order to create woven patterns. Her surface substrate begins as a chaotic network of linen yarn applied to wood panels in indiscriminate clumps and is then gessoed into a flat but topographically rough surface. From here she applies paint directly onto the thread using a tonal palette that creates the illusion of a woven grid, while her threads remain in disarray just underneath the paint's surface. Similar to the iconic blurred effect of *Kasuri*, these new works blur the line between textile and painting. Inspired by hand-woven materials from her mother's country of origin, these works are a continuation of her inquiry into the evocative nature of fabric and the deep relationship between humans, textiles, comfort and care.

Complimenting DallasKidd's new series *Kasuri*, she has made several pieces from both *Roots* and *Tracing Waves*. Tied with overhand knots of linen threads and then painted with acrylic, threads are unmoored from the woven grid or knitted structure and hang loosely in intermingling groups. Linked together through a series of basic knots, these works reference the simplicity of bringing disparate elements together through the act of knot tying--a practice both universal and historical, linking humankind together through space and time. Inspired by the tide schedule, DallasKidd began her *Tracing Waves* series in 2017, tracking the data from the NOAA site where she can observe water levels down to the minute. Working in increments of 12 minutes over the 24 hour rotation cycle, she uses thread and paper to trace water level data. DallasKidd's series *Tracing Waves* is an ongoing documentation of Bay Area tide levels. Weaving on a loom can mimic the movement of a wave - DallasKidd wanted to connect that feeling to something concrete while giving space to the weight of the thread and the natural way that it falls between two points. The resulting works are a specific record of the earth's systems, a reminder of rising sea levels and a topographical impression of the water's surface.



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BIO:

Born and raised in San Francisco, she graduated from San Francisco State University with a BFA in Textile Art. She traveled to Japan to continue studies under Tsuyoshi Kuno, a 4th generation master dyer who adapted centuries old dyeing techniques to create new material for avant-garde designers and high end theatrical productions. Learning from artists who push creative boundaries while honoring traditional process continues to influence DallasKidd's own artwork. She works in a range of media including painting, textile based work and ink on paper. She was a 2019 Facility Artist at 1240 Minnesota Street Studios and has exhibited at the Marin Museum of Contemporary Art, Root Division and galleries throughout the United States.

For more information contact sarah@sarahshepardgallery.com or 917-375-2720.

Image: © Diane DallasKidd, *Indigo Square*, 2021, linen thread, acrylic paint, wood panel, 60 x 60 in. All rights reserved.