

Margaret Couch Cogswell

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I have been making books for over 14 years. Although over the course of my career I have journeyed from weaving to ceramics, fabric collage, and now books, certain themes and materials have stayed the same. Cloth, thread, color and pattern have been constant connectors through the years. My conviction that our greatest rewards often come from simple, everyday objects and moments is a recurring theme. Additionally, communicating with people through the objects I make continues to be the primary and sustaining focus of my work.

I was a slow reader as a child and had a hard time sitting still, but loved books as objects and as containers for pictures- the visual spark that took me on imaginary trips. I also loved the idea that books contained knowledge, even if I could not access that knowledge through the book form. I work in books because of this interactive quality they offer. I want viewers to have a sensory experience through handling, wearing and playing with my books.

I am currently a Resident Artist at Penland School of Crafts.