

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

April 27, 2015

Media Contact:

Alana Quinn, Senior Program Associate

Cultural Programs of the National Academy of Sciences

202-334-2415; aquinn@nas.edu

New Quilt Exhibition Inspired by Periodic Table to Open at NAS

WASHINGTON – Cultural Programs of the National Academy of Sciences announces “Radical Elements,” an exhibition featuring 40 contemporary art quilts, each inspired by a different element from the periodic table. It opens May 20 and will remain on view through Oct. 19, 2015, at the National Academy of Sciences.

Organized by Studio Art Quilt Associates (SAQA), the works in this exhibition relate to the elements in unique and witty ways and take quilting beyond the usual materials of fabric and thread. Materials used range from duct tape and aluminum foil to keyboard keys and dining utensils. Curator Jill Rumoshosky Werner writes, “In a relatively short period of time, the field of art quilting ha[s] undergone a fundamental change. The primary focus ha[s] shifted from decorating the surface of a quilted wall hanging to a much broader acceptance of ideas, styles, and materials.” It is her hope that this exhibition will expand perceptions and possibilities for both the viewing public and for future artists.

Nobel prize-winning chemist (1981) and NAS member Roald Hoffmann states, “It’s not the scientific, chemical theme of ‘Radical Elements’ which draws this remarkable show of art quilts close to contemporary science. No, it is the twin spirits of experiment and ingenuity that suffuse the quilts before us, and shape the link between art and science.”

Studio Art Quilt Associates, Inc., (www.saq.com) is an international non-profit organization dedicated to informing the public about the continuing achievements of the art quilt movement. SAQA's 3,300 members include artists, collectors, curators, art dealers and corporate sponsors. Since its founding more than 25 years ago, SAQA has mounted juried exhibitions featuring the work of members at museums and galleries throughout the world.

“Radical Elements” will be on exhibit at the NAS Building, located at 2101 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. The galleries are open weekdays between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. A photo ID is required.

The **Cultural Programs of the National Academy of Sciences** sponsors exhibitions, discussion forums, theatrical readings, and other events that explore relationships among the arts and sciences. For more information, call 202-334-2436 or visit www.cpnas.org. The National Academy of Sciences is a private, nonprofit institution that recognizes achievement in science by election to membership, and -- with the National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine, and National Research Council -- provides science, technology, and health policy advice to the federal government and other organizations.

(Continues on page 2)

Images from the exhibition:



Regina V. Benson, *We Can See It Now (Gadolinium)*, 2013, 36 x 22 inches



Jeannie Palmer Moore, *The Salt Flats (Sodium)*, 2013, 36 x 22 inches



Susan Else, *Cold Message (Mercury)*, 2013, 24 x 13 x 13 inches



Gay E. Lasher, *Last Rays (Aluminum)*, 2013, 36 x 22 inches

For print-quality images, contact Alana Quinn, 202-334-2415, aquinn@nas.edu

###