What Students Say

Introduction
Mary Lane

Last spring I contacted the students who had applied for the 2011 ATA International Student Award to see if they would be interested in writing about the ways they think about, and approach tapestry. I put together a series of questions to get the juices flowing and let them know that these questions were just a catalyst. I wanted them to talk about what is most important to them as artists, and what they thought should be emphasized in the sphere of contemporary tapestry. The questions covered a broad range of topics including:

How does tapestry fit within your entire artistic practice?
How do you feel about the slowness of tapestry making?
How important is process to you?
Does tapestry’s history influence your work?
Does the concept of “truth to materials” operate in your approach to tapestry?
How do the hand, head and heart intersect in your artwork?
Do you think the concept of kitsch relates to tapestry?
Does the notion of hybrid practice relate to your work?
Do you consider yourself an artist, a crafts person, both, neither, something else?
Do you consider your choice to focus on making objects to be a lifestyle choice?
Do you see your work functioning as a social or political object?
What do you think some of tapestry’s unrealized, or under realized potentials are?
How do you think tapestry can be successfully promoted?
What services, programming etc. would be most useful to you as a tapestry artist?

Click here to read what they said…

Erika Diazoni
Susan Weir
Melissa Wong