

# Art

## Sculptor weaves beauty in Delaware

By Edward J. Sozanski  
INQUIRER ART CRITIC

**C**raftsmanship in art may have lost a lot of ground to strategies that don't require it, but, like painting, it isn't dead yet.

Rachel Selekman's small exhibition at the Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts in Wilmington affirms the continued value and appeal of the tangible, beautifully made object.

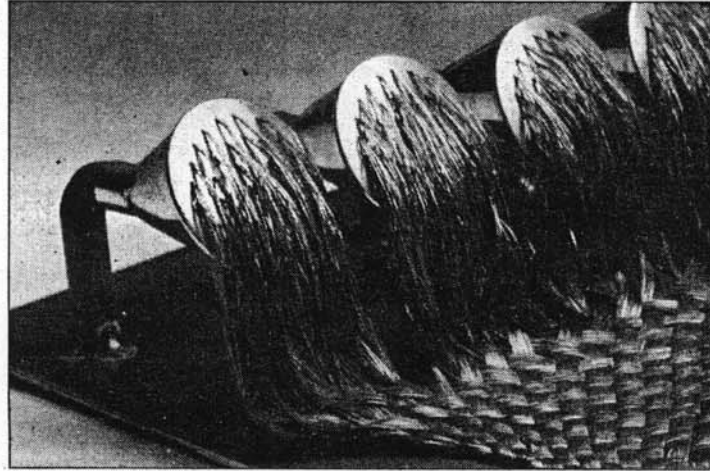
Selekman is a fiber artist, but not one who relies exclusively on textile materials. The two most powerful and beguiling sculptures in her show combine metallic threads woven into small mats with brass spray heads from watering cans.

In these two pieces, the glossy blue and green threads appear to emerge from the spray heads, then weave themselves into shiny mats that rest on steel platforms.

The materials contrast strongly but also complement each other, while the metaphorical intensity of the image makes a lasting impression.

Selekman's show includes several fabric sculptures extrapolated from metal purse-frames and another that grows out of an embroidery hoop.

But these more expressly feminine inventions don't pack nearly as much punch as the durable sculptures in which fabric and metal carry equal weight.



"Woven Spray" is one of Rachel Selekman's more beguiling sculptures on display at Delaware Center for the Contemporary Arts, Wilmington.

200 S. Madison St., Wilmington. 10 to 6 Tuesdays through Fridays, to 8 Wednesdays; 10 to 5 Saturdays, 1 to 5 Sundays. Through Aug. 26.  
302-656-6466 or [www.thedcca.org](http://www.thedcca.org).

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