

BRIDGETTE MAYER GALLERY

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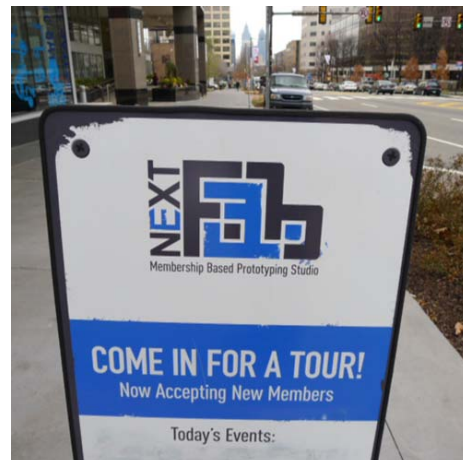
Shelley Spector: Part 1 NextFab Studio Tour

Posted by [amze](#) on March 26th, 2012 | [2 comments](#)



[Shelley Spector](#)'s a philadelphia-based artist whose multi-disciplinary practice has been on our radar for a while, and her latest exhibition [Dreck Groove](#) (image of the artist riding a bike in her exhibition below) presented a perfect excuse to learn more about her process. Shelley was only too happy to invite us on a tour of her exhibition and her studio, which for the time being is as an artist in residence at [NextFab Studios](#).

A post focusing on the [Dreck Groove](#) exhibition will closely follow this one.



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For those of you who are unfamiliar, [NextFab Studio](#) is AMAZING! ..I'm getting ahead of myself, in their own words,

[NextFab Studio](#) is a membership-based, high-tech workshop and prototyping center- it's Philadelphia's "gym for innovators". ..[O]ur 4400 square foot facility opened in January of 2010, and provides comfortable, clean, and safe workspaces with hand tools, 3D printers, computer controlled machine tools, software, and electronics workbenches. Expert instructors and a community of collaborators are on hand to help you problem-solve and achieve your vision. NextFab Studio has everything necessary for you to invent, repair, create, and innovate!



And the great folks at [NextFab](#) asked Spector to be the prototype for their Artist in Residence program. This was not just a lucky golden ticket, Spector's [process](#) was well suited to communitarian learning environment, and it goes without saying that she made great use of all the crazy futuristic rapid prototyping equipment.

[Shelley Spector: Part 2 Dreck Groove at Breadboard](#)

Posted by [amze](#) on March 26th, 2012 | [Leave a comment](#)

Following the tour of NextFab, [Shelley Spector](#) led the way to her recent exhibition *Dreck Groove* at the [EKG Exhibition Space](#). As discussed ([here](#)), Spector produced the body of work for this exhibition as the [Breadboard Artist-in-Residence](#) at [NextFab Studio](#). Breadboard for those of you not from Philadelphia, is an arts and technology program at the [University City Science Center](#). specifically Breadboard's mission calls for,



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[Programing] that facilitates cross-disciplinary art exhibits, community outreach initiatives and special programs offering public access to a new generation of fabrication technology and workspace in an effort to empower individuals and convene communities around creative applications of technology.

This exhibition certainly fits that bill on a number of levels.



The press release describes *Dreck Groove* as,

[A] collection of embroideries on fabric, repurposed from shirts, pants, and other clothing. Presented in frames fabricated from discarded wood scraps, the imagery is based on [the extreme environmental events during the summer of 2011](#). These works are partnered with site-specific wallpaper created from reclaimed cardboard, once used to package food, toys, and other daily purchases in the artist's Philadelphia community.

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Black Fire (detail below) typifies the strangely beautiful fabric works in this show. The fabric was found at local thrift stores, the frame made from scraps found at NextFab, and the embroidery was produced at NextFab on their uber-sewing machine from a digital matrix created by the artist, and itself extracted from her own drawing process. How a work with produced in such a labor intensive process, with such a considered relationship between form and content, can look so light and fluid is beyond my comprehension.

