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January 21 – May 6, 2018

Written languages are just one of the many ways human beings attempt to communicate with one another. In Text Message: Words and Letters in Contemporary Art, currently on exhibit at the Racine Art Museum in Wisconsin, contemporary artists, recognizing the power and complexity of the written word, utilize text—individual letters or words—to explore theoretical, social, symbolic, and aesthetic concerns.



2 Laws, Barbara Brandel, Sampler (Jacket), 1995, dyed cotton, silk, and wool
Photo by Jon Bolton, Racine Art Museum.

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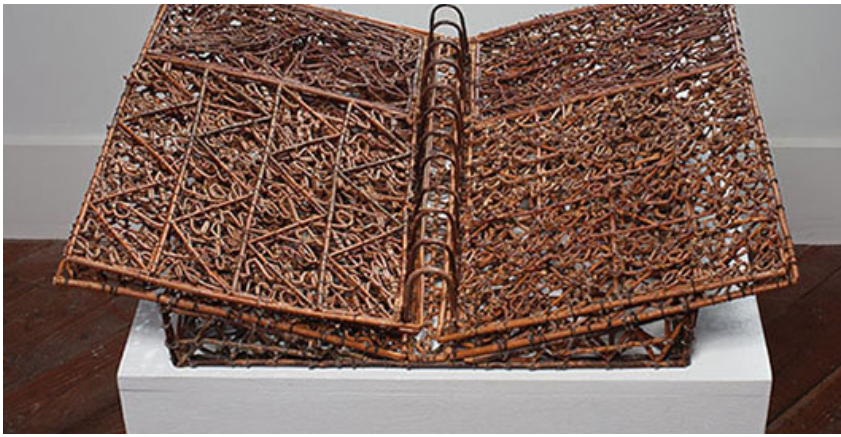
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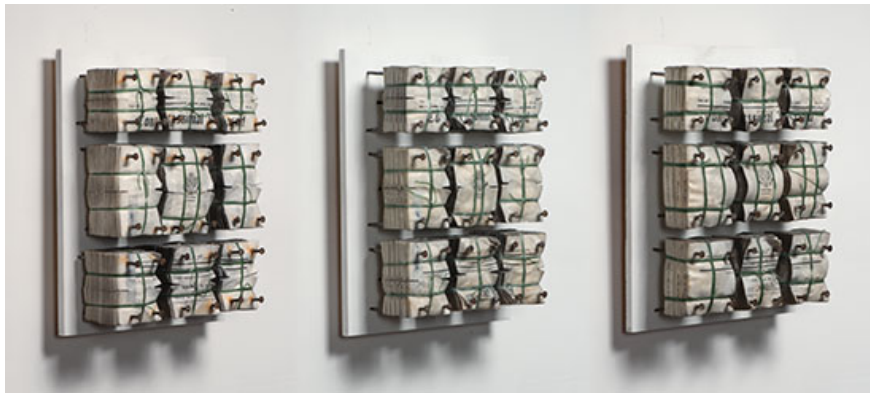
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Bird Brain, John McQueen, *woven willow twigs, waxed string*, 2002, photo by Tom Grotta. On close inspection, the names of various birds are legible.



OLL KORRECT, Gyöngy Laky, *apricot, finished pine, vinyl-coated steel nails*, 1998



The Congressional Record, Kate Hunt, *nails, twine, encaustic and Congressional Record pages*.

The exhibition includes works that use words, letters, and script to convey meaning. Tangible three-dimensional objects made of fiber, clay, polymer, paper, and metal along with two-dimensional works on paper underscore how contemporary artists recognize the power and complexity of the written word. **John McQueen** and **Gyöngy Laky** are among the 77 artists whose work is included. The exhibition ends on May 6, 2018. For more information, visit: <https://www.ramart.org/content/text-message-words-and-letters-contemporary-craft>. To pique your

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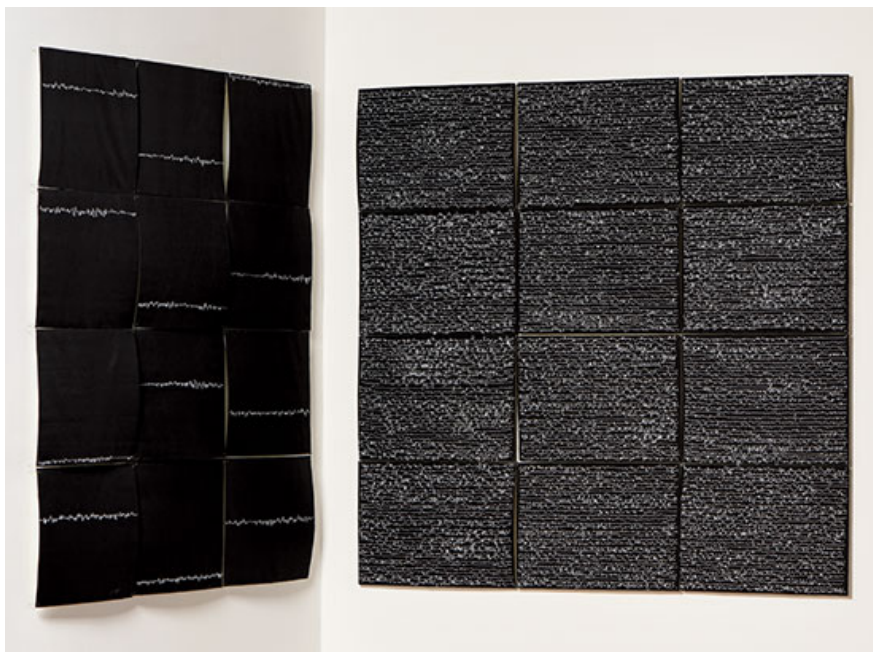
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Torso, Miriam Londoño, paper collage, 2011

text in their work.



was du weiß auf schwarz besitzt (text/textile), Heidrun Schimmel, cotton and silk, 2009, photo by Tom Grotta. Not literally text, but stitching that feels like a message to be deciphered.

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Shadow Alphabet, Toshio Sekiji, *Korean, Japanese, Chinese, Indian newspapers; postcards; thin, Thai paper (backing); brown and black lacquer; acrylic varnish, 2002*, photo by Tom Grotta

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