

**Laura Militzer Bryant**, founder and creative force behind Prism yarns, will exhibit a body of newly created artwork in a solo exhibition titled "Crossings" at the Arts Center in St. Petersburg, Florida, May 23<sup>rd</sup> through August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

Bryant is best known in knitting circles as the founder of Prism yarns. Concurrent with managing Prism since 1984, she has continued to create art weavings that have been honored with individual artist grants from both the National Endowment for the Arts and Florida State Division of Cultural Affairs. Her work has been exhibited widely in museums and galleries nationally, and is represented in numerous corporate, public and private collections.

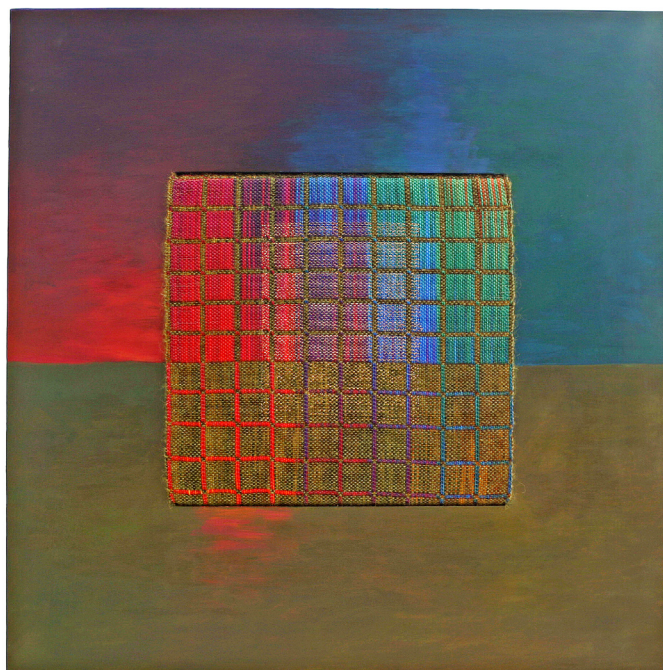
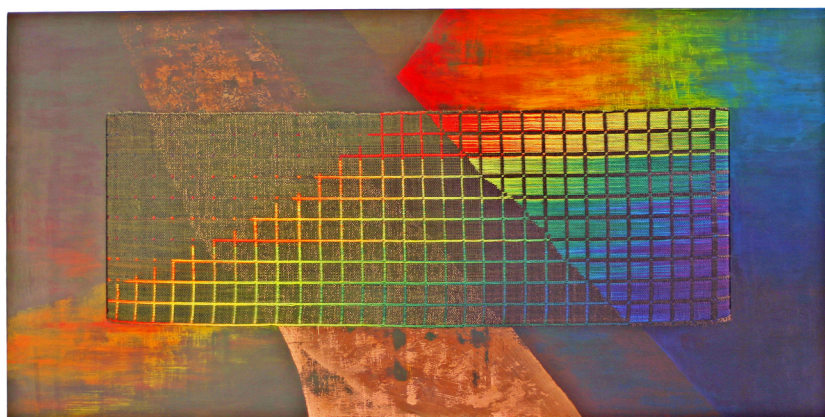
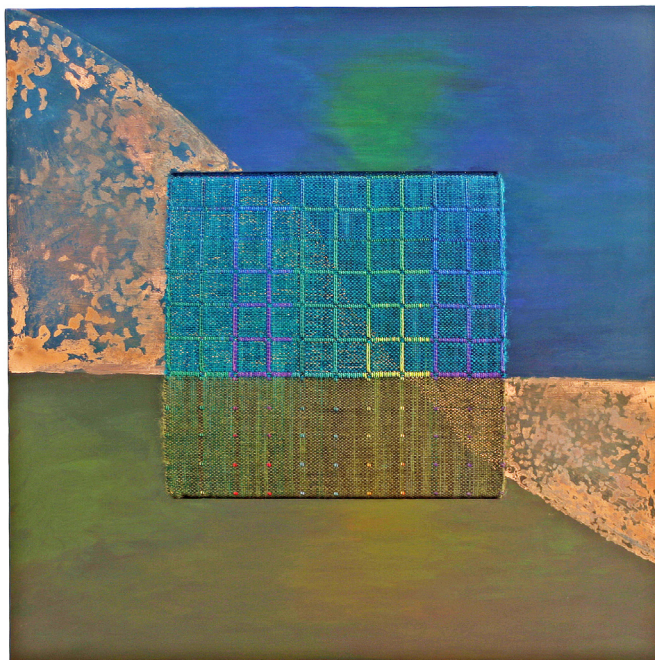
Prism is well known for vibrant and clear hand dyed colors, developed by Bryant with her artist's eye. A BFA from the University of Michigan School of Art and Design in 1978 led to both the artistic and business paths she follows today. Her new body of work explores brilliantly colored, highly structured double woven fabric floated on painted wood panels that extend the weaving's visual content beyond the textile surface. Inspired by nature and the enduring human spirit, her work's intent is well expressed by poet Mark Strand's stanza:

***In a place that is not a place, but where  
the mortal beauty of the world is stored.***

Bryant's show is one of many textile related exhibitions in the Tampa Bay area scheduled to be held in conjunction with the Handweavers' Guild of America's biennial conference Convergence, occurring in Tampa, June 25<sup>th</sup> through June 28<sup>th</sup>.

The Arts Center is a member supported non-profit organization located in downtown St. Petersburg. The Arts Center inspires, educates, and engages a diverse population in the creation of contemporary visual art by providing a dynamic, professional environment to foster the creative process, allowing artists and the community to meet and exchange ideas. They offer extensive studio arts classes at all levels across a wide variety of media, and exhibit outstanding recent work by local, regional, national and international artists through an extensive program of rotating exhibits created by student, emerging, mid-career and established artists.

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Top: Crossings IV, 20" x 20", wood, wool, rayon, nylon, lurex, acrylic, copper leaf, 2007  
Middle: Crossings III, 20" x 40", wood, wool, rayon, nylon, lurex, acrylic, copper leaf, 2008  
Bottom: Crossings II, 20" x 20", wood, wool, rayon, nylon, lurex, acrylic, 2007