



**Kathy Weaver**

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## Artist's Statement

My work addresses aspects of the intersection between technology and art. By using the labor-intensive quilt medium, nostalgic materials, and the robot persona, the pieces have layers of meaning about time, personal and political conflict and memory. The robot represents scientific and technological improvement resulting in change to the status quo.

The robot's setting is that of a tilted stage or shadow box and in this environment the robot is a translator of events, an alter ego, a doppelganger. The robot can be an observer, a soothsayer, a malcontent or a destructor. The viewer is invited into the picture plane to see the modality of the robot's disposition as it reflects human nature.

Humor, satire, and whimsy add human aspects to the robot and provide the aside, the ironical reference, which is shared by artist and viewer. This humor underscores the suspicion that more is afoot than suggested at first glance. Satins and velvets, embroidery and hand sewing, give an intimate touch to the hard-edged, supra natural airbrushed and painted forms. There is an incongruity in the use of soft materials for hard objects and sharp thoughts.

During the past year, I have focused on inventing the robot's world, using plant and cellular forms that are stranger than life and pregnant with meaning. These works consist of intricate collaged embroideries, egg tempera paintings on wood panels, and gouache paintings on paper. The robot's environment of oversized botany is steeped in a visceral, atavistic aura. The natural and pseudo mechanized images represent the dichotomy between issues of fatalism and hopefulness.