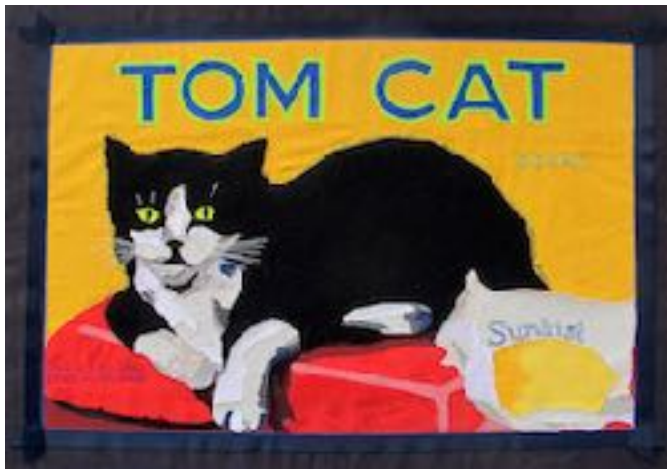


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For additional information and images, please contact Paula Martiesian at 401-521-7634 or at [artsong5354@gmail.com](mailto:artsong5354@gmail.com). Attached images: Carol Wiseman in her studio and Wiseman's fabric collage *Tom Cat*.

**The BankRI Galleries present:**

BankRI Pitman Street Gallery: "Fabric Collages by Carol Wiseman," March 2 through May 3, 2023.. The branch is located at 137 Pitman Street in Providence. Hours are Monday through Thursday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. For more information, contact [www.bankri.com](http://www.bankri.com) or call the branch at 401 456-5160.



**MEET THE ARTIST – CAROL WISEMAN**

Cranston artist Carol "Cat" Wiseman might simply be called a designer, but that would be short-changing this ever evolving creator. Wiseman has had a variety of creative careers including (but not limited to) a calligrapher, stenciler, and a visual merchandiser for Apex, FAO Schwartz, Macy's, the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston, and Tilden Thurber. At one point, she found herself in Gambia designing clothing and helping to run a factory for Rhode Island-based India Imports.

Wiseman grew up in the small city of Glens Falls in upstate New York. She came to Rhode Island to attend the Rhode Island School of Design, initially majoring in graphic design. Later she switched to photography but, in spite of Wiseman's multiple career paths, she never did pursue photography beyond college.

Today Wiseman is designing with fabric, weaving with ribbons and making collages pieced together with glue and embroidery. Her studio holds hundreds of fabric pieces and spools of ribbons organized by color. Next to the ribbons are Wiseman's private library of books showcasing fine art and design. For over fifty years, Wiseman has been collecting art books and she finds great inspiration and comfort in her personal collection.

Wiseman's love of quilts drew her to fabric, but she liked the idea of a quilt more than she liked the idea of making a quilt. Instead she looked to ribbons to craft quilt-like fabric collages. She weaves contrasting colored ribbons to create the illusion of a Baby Block quilt.

From there she branched out to more unusual imagery, mining the art and design books she has so lovingly collected. Once she chooses an image, she uses a photo transfer process to print the image onto fabric with her own printer. "You can use these fabric pieces in such interesting ways," Wiseman says, "because it's all texture and color and that what you are painting with." From then on it's cutting, gluing, ironing and embroidery. Sometimes there's even a little sewing involved. The results are bright, colorful graphic images that light up a space with their immediate intimacy.

Wiseman's name may sound familiar. Her husband Robin is a well-known artist/educator who for over forty years taught life drawing at RISD and the Massachusetts College of Art. Together since their undergraduate days at RISD, the couple have lived a full and artful life.

To see more of Cat Wiseman's artwork, check out [catwisemandesigns.com](http://catwisemandesigns.com).

The BankRI Galleries are curated by Paula Martiesian, a Providence-based artist and arts advocate.

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