

cover

ISSUE 57 | WINTER 2019

ROGER SELDEN FOR POST DESIGN

ISSN 2042-7069 57
9 772042 706004

WINTER 2019 £5 €8 \$10
cover-magazine.com
Hali Publications Ltd.

MATERIAL FOCUS • ADAM HUNTER • RETHINKING THE RUG
MISSONI X BOLON • SARDINIAN WEAVING • AFGHANISTAN



Alexandra Mocanu

'Mocanu's tapestries have been described as capturing "the illusion of the passing of time". The enormity of time captured in weave seems impossible, but Mocanu proves it possible'

One of life's great experiences is to witness a black moonless night sky in the Galloway Forest Dark Sky Park in Scotland where pinpoint stars offer the only depth of field. It's possible in a manner of speaking, to lasso this dark sky edged by the charcoal brushstrokes of nautical dawn and display it as artwork and homage to the natural world. Contemporary artist Alexandra Mocanu has done so with her tapestry *Untitled* (2017).

Based in France, Mocanu was born in Romania, a country with a textile weaving tradition where it is not uncommon to find looms in homes. Mocanu meticulously deconstructs her gouache abstracts to create a pixel-by-pixel tapestry cartoon (similar to artists like Michelangelo who scaled their work to finished size with a 'cartoon' graph). Although renowned for her monochrome weaves, Mocanu explores colour too. One of her recent works on view at Twenty First Gallery, New York is tapestry *No 34* where woven threads become delicate algae-tinted waters cascading over an infinity edge to channel down the vertical links of multiple rain chains.

Mocanu's tapestries have been described as capturing 'the illusion of the passing of time'. The enormity of time captured in weave seems impossible, but Mocanu proves it possible. Galloway Forest is a 'Gold Tier' Dark Skies park, and Mocanu's poetic, reflective and profoundly inspiring weaves are eminently 'gold tier' too. . DJ

www.21stgallery.com

01 *No 31* (detail) tapestry, Alexandra Mocanu

02 *No 29* (detail) tapestry, Alexandra Mocanu

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02