

25th Anniversary WTA

World Textile Art

10TH

International Biennial
Of Contemporary
Textile Art

Interviews ▶

Maria Ortega

How do you summarize your beginnings in textile art?



Textile Art is imprinted in the DNA of every human being and is an artistic medium in which I found one of my sources of inspiration. For me, textiles are like my second skin. I consider that Textile Art is a form of expression as well as any other artistic discipline. We have an infinity of materials and techniques that provide richness at all levels from the tactile to the visual.

My interest in textiles rose from the very beginning. I studied Design and Styling at the Madrid School of Design, and in 1998 I studied Fine Arts at Blake College, London, England specializing in textile art, printmaking, sculpture and photography.

Since my return to Spain in 2000 I began to develop my works combining textiles with the techniques of engraving, photography and sculpture. After 22 years I have been able to be a finalist in different national and international biennials and was awarded 2nd Prize in the 5th WTA Biennial in Buenos Aires.

Currently I combine my professional career as a multidisciplinary artist specialized in Fiber Art with cultural management, curating and jurying, also directing exhibitions and Biennials.

How did your story with the WTA begin?



I met the World Textile Art organization in 2006 through my participation as an artist in the 4th International Biennial of Contemporary Textile Art WTA, Costa Rica. That same year I expressed my interest in bringing a Biennial to Europe to the organization and suggested that my home country, Spain, could be one of the venues for an upcoming WTA Biennial.

In 2007, I traveled to Miami for the 10th anniversary of the WTA to learn more about the Biennial and to experience the great scope of events organized by WTA. Its president, Pilar Tobón, appointed me as her representative in Spain, and later I became the WTA's European Director.

From that relationship with the WTA organization and my interest in bringing the WTA Biennial to Spain, I began to organize and curate a large number of exhibitions and cultural meetings to promote Contemporary Textile Art on a national level and promote Spanish artists internationally in events such as the 6th International Biennial WTA-Air, Mexico in 2011 and Guest Country Spain in the 7th International Biennial WTA, Uruguay in 2017.

1

Creation

Inspiration.

2

Fabric

Coat.

3

Design

Body.

4

Madrid

Heart.

5

Women

Power.

6

Colors

Black and white.

7

Art

Soul.

8

Nuance

Sensitivity.

9

Embroidery

Patience...
Meditation.

10

Fabrics

Fiber.



María Ortega in

10
words



VENEZUELA

Malu Valerio

*WE ARE BODY; WE ARE TERRITORY,
WE ARE E-IN MIGRANTS, 2022*

Embroidered gobelin on cotton.

Gobelin and raw cotton fabric.

118" x 98" x 2"



SPAIN

María Ortega

ROOT II, 2022

Mixed media, sewing.

Silk, cotton and felt.

59" x 79"

Spain

Est_Art espacio de arte, Madrid
October 5 to November 5

