



## PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST

**Spending summers and weekends** at her father's scrap-metal yard in Illinois, Suzanne Tick matured into a serial recycler. Two years ago, as his health began to fail, he moved into her home. That's when, provoked by his presence or perhaps just her past, she grabbed a horde of wire hangers from a closet, instinctively recognizing what others might see as clutter as fresh fodder for the art of weaving. She's been weaving for decades for her own personal satisfaction ➤

**Clockwise from top:** More than 10,000 wire hanger fragments compose Suzanne Tick's pair of Hooked Up wall hangings, the signature pieces in "Salvage" at Gensler in New York. Rapunzel's Ladder in sheath core fiber stretches 7½ feet. Matter combines sheath core fiber, tissue paper, cardboard tubes, and plastic bags with hanger wire. It also dominates Counterbalance.

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“Suzanne Tick is getting serious about finding recognition for her art”

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while building a career in the commercial world, most notably at KnollTextiles and Tandus Flooring. Now, she’s getting serious about finding recognition for her art. Securing representation at the Cristina Grajales Gallery in New York was a major step. Reaching out to the big design firms that spec her fabric and carpet was another.

The hanger sculptures first met their public in a sprawling wall installation commissioned by *Interior Design* Hall of Fame member Rysia Suchecka, a principal at NBBJ—staffers dutifully collected the requisite 5,000 hangers. Then Gensler principal and design director Mark Morton volunteered to curate an exhibition at the firm’s New York office. “I asked them to make this commission an educational opportunity as well,” she says. That meant “enrolling” two dozen ➤

**Clockwise from top left:** Days of Awe Scrolls were woven from fiber-optic monofilament. A metal base supports Fiber Optic Sailcloth. Refuse D.C. applies hanger wire to sheath core fiber. Paper Package is paper pulp, polyolefin tape, and nylon. Stainless Steel, woven with spun stainless, hangs 98 inches long. Paper Package measures 14½ by 17 inches, framed.