



# KAREN & PEPA

SHIBORI

Galerie Duret

<https://www.galerieduret.com/fr/>

# SHIBORI

## TEXTILES DESIGN

Since 2005, Karen Davis and Pepa Martin have been working together creatively, bound by their shared passion for color, texture, and the transformative power of cloth. Specializing in the intricate art of resist dyeing, they have reimagined ancient techniques to create breathtaking sculptural artworks that merge the rich traditions of hand dyeing with modern innovation.

A standout aspect of their practice is their exploration of heat-set fabric which brings an entirely new dimension to fabric. Heat-set fabric is a sculptural approach to textile art, where fabric gains form and depth through heat treatment. The process results in fabric that holds its sculpted shape once dried and unbound, creating three-dimensional structures that capture light and movement. This technique has since become a signature element of their work, and they have received numerous commissions to create heat-set artworks for private collections and public installations.

Creating heat-set artworks is a lavish, decadent process. Karen and Pepa begin by crafting a carefully curated color story, which guides the creation of many meters of heat-set silk. The silk is manipulated into complex forms, with tiny stitches anchoring the pieces in place. The layers of fabric are often sheer, with each layer building depth and complexity, which gives the finished pieces a unique and dynamic texture. The sculpted silk moves with an organic fluidity, making each artwork a captivating expression of light, form, and texture.

As pioneers of the modern Shibori movement, Karen and Pepa have been instrumental in bringing the art of dyeing to a wider audience, elevating it beyond traditional methods and into contemporary artistic realms. Their dedication to the craft has led to the publication of two highly regarded books: *Shibori Recreated* (2011) and *Tie-Dye and Dip Dye* (2014), published by Thames and Hudson. These works provide an in-depth exploration of their innovative techniques and vision, offering both experienced artists and newcomers alike a chance to explore the rich potential of hand dyeing.

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In addition to their written work, Karen and Pepa are passionate advocates for nurturing a vibrant, global dyeing community. Through their workshops and teaching, they inspire artists, designers, and creatives around the world, ensuring that this ancient technique continues to evolve.

Their workshops not only serve as a platform for learning but also as a space for innovation and connection, where participants can explore the beauty of dye and bring their own artistic vision to life.

As their work continues to evolve, Karen and Pepa remain dedicated to pushing the boundaries of hand made, ensuring that this ancient craft remains both relevant and transformative in the modern art world.



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# Watch

## Inside **Shibori's** Workshop

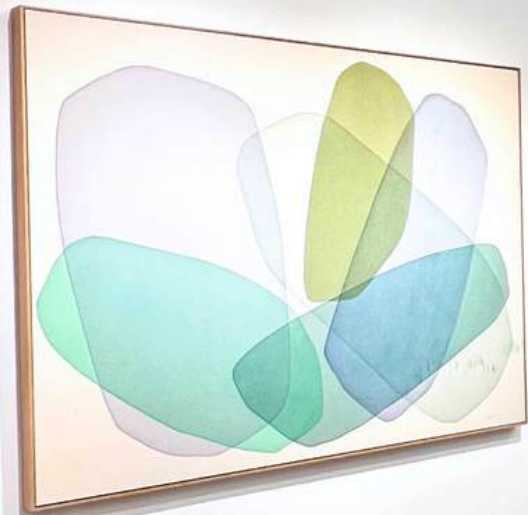


**YOUTUBE**



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# Artworks **selection**



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**Byron in the  
morning**



## ***Byron in the morning***

2025

Silk fabric

85 x 108 cm

Shibori Artworks explore movement. Pleated silk works are hand-bound, dyed, and arranged, creating stunning visual and textural effects. The silk dances around the board, layered and stitched in place, revealing an intricate interplay of light and shadow.

Each piece embodies a tactile sensuality, inviting viewers to engage not only with its aesthetic beauty but also with its rich, organic textures. The deep, vibrant colours resonate with the earth, evoking the natural world and its inherent rhythms.



# LAVENDER LIGHT




***Lavender light***

2025

Silk fabric

85 x 108 cm

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# Explore the *movement*

As the folds and curves of the fabric twist and turn, they suggest a dynamic conversation between stillness and motion, inviting contemplation. These textile sculptures transcend mere decoration; they are immersive experiences that invite the observer to explore the delicate balance of form, colour, and material, awakening a profound connection to the artistry of nature itself.

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# Group Exhibitions

**2025**

**August 2025**

Affordable Art Fair Melbourne

**June 2025**

Affordable Art Fair Berlin, Germany

**May 2025**

Affordable Art Fair Brisbane, Australia

**May 2025**

Affordable Art Fair Hong-Kong, China

**May 2025**

Affordable Art Fair Austin, USA

**May 2025**

Affordable Art Fair Hampstead London, United Kingdom

**March 2025**

Affordable Art Fair NYC, USA

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