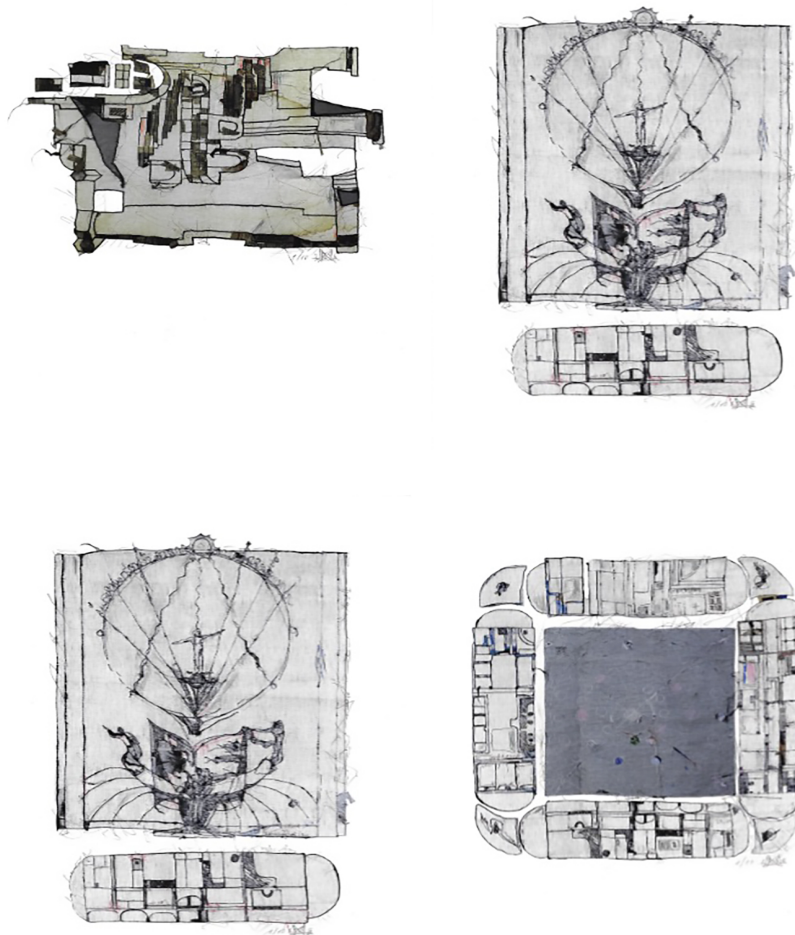


## MARIA ARENDT



**Maria Arendt,**

***Cave City, Fragment of a Quarter, GUM, Quarter (2026), Mixed media: digital print based on an original textile work with artist's hand-drawing, 42 × 29.7 cm (A3), Edition 1/10***

ARTIST STATEMENT:

I am a nomad artist. I travel a lot and find inspiration in every new place I stay. And my main luggage is my work. I work with textiles using the technique of "drawing with thread on canvas."

They are light and do not take up much space. They are my memories and my protection, my mobile architecture and my prayer rug, my magic carpet. I cover myself with them on my travels to protect myself against the cold or the heat. I also try to fit them into new realities.

Lots of my works are dedicated to migration, cultural phenomena, architecture, everyday life moments, and some up-to-date issues I am interested in.

Memory, material, and hidden structures of experience are central to my artistic practice. Working with textiles, paper, stitching, and found materials, I explore the reverse side as a space where traces of time, personal history, and collective memory are preserved. I am interested in material as a carrier of memory, and in processes of connection, rupture, and repair as ways of reflecting on human experience.

- Maria Arendt

**ARTIST BIO:**            [www.mariaarendt.com](http://www.mariaarendt.com)            |            [@arendt\\_maria\\_art](https://www.instagram.com/arendt_maria_art)

**MARIA ARENDT (born 1968 in Moscow, USSR. Lives and works in Berlin, Germany.)**

Maria Arendt is a contemporary artist working primarily with textile. Particularly inspired by Indian embroidery, she also studied iconography, and experimented in the fields of graphic art, illustration, and collage. Since her childhood, she has been influenced by her artistic surroundings; her grandmother, Ariadna Arendt, was a famous animalist sculptor. Until the age of 17, Maria lived in the "Artists' Village" on Maslovka Street in Moscow. And at the age of 6, she first participated in an apartment exhibition of Moscow avant-garde artists. The artist weaves fragments of the rich history of her family, real and fictional events into the canvas, securing them in the realm of materiality. Turning to her family crafts, Maria reactualises the past by playing out alternative scenarios.

Current themes of Arendt's work are classic "symbols" of 20th-century Soviet avant-garde architecture which she interprets in embroidery - a medium that would appear at odds with architecture. Embroidered graphics on canvas, a technique artfully used by Arendt, frees architecture from its regular qualities, rendering it subtle and weightless. As curator Ekatherina Inozemsteva talks about her works: "Perhaps it's an expression of utopian thinking on her part too. Like a temporary drape, her embroideries give a glimmer of hope that beneath them lies a reality akin to the one which Tatlin, Melnikov, and the Vesnins had envisaged."

Since 1989, after graduation from Moscow College of Industrial and Applied Arts with a major in Embroidery, she has participated in more than 100 exhibitions. Selected solo shows include: the Moscow Museum of Modern Art (Moscow, 2020), the Schusev State Museum of Architecture (Moscow, 2014), and Pushkin House (London, 2011). Selected group shows include: the Royal Academy of Art (London, 2022), Iragui Gallery (Moscow and Paris), "Salo" erotic drawing salon, (Paris, 2017-2023), and The State Russian Museum (St. Petersburg, 2014).

Her artworks are part of the collections of the Russian Museum, State Tretyakov Gallery,

Shchusev Museum of Architecture, Garage, Moscow Museum of Modern Art, and the private collections of Alberto Sandretti (Italy), Nicholas Ilyin (Germany), Brian Eno (UK), Alexander Glezer (USA), as well as in France (Toulouse), Canada (Toronto), and others.