

PENLAND GALLERY

BETH DOW
Minneapolis, MN

Textiles | Leather

Penland Affiliation | Instructor 2022

Artist Information | Studio artist and educator; education: MFA Photography, University of Minnesota (MN), BA Studio Art, St. Olaf College (MN); teaching: Metropolitan State University (MN)

Artist Bio | Beth Dow is a visual artist and leatherworker from Minneapolis. She uses traditional hand-sewn saddle-making processes and natural vegetable-tanned cowhide to make bags and accessories that will last a lifetime. She has taught leatherwork at the Penland School of Craft, North House Folk School (MN), and also teaches photography and leatherwork at Metropolitan State University in St. Paul. Her photographs have been exhibited around the world and are in several museum collections.

Artist Statement | *Fieldwork leather bags and cases are cut, sewn, and finished entirely by hand, without machines. We use traditional saddlers' techniques and modern minimal styling to make timeless leather goods that will last for generations. Each hide is unique and will have its own marks and characteristics.*

We use natural materials and traditional processes and have minimal waste. You are buying quality, tradition, craftsmanship, and integrity. We make it like we mean it. All pieces were made with natural, undyed vegetable-tanned cowhide unless otherwise specified. Every hide is different, and some will start out lighter than others. The leather will gradually darken to a rich honey color, and wallets that are kept in a warm pocket will eventually turn very dark brown.

Technical Information | Hand-sewn leather goods

Penland School of Craft | Penland Gallery & Visitors Center
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penland.org/gallery