

# PENLAND GALLERY

ALYSSA SALOMON

Richmond, VA

## PRINT, BOOKS, AND TEXTILES

**Penland Affiliation** | Penland Instructor 2009, Penland Winter Resident

**Artist Information** | Studio artist; education: BA Art, Kenyon College (OH), MBA Business Policy and Finance, University of Chicago (IL); exhibitions: *First Look*, Panopticon Gallery (MA), *Gather*, Page Bond Gallery (VA), *Animal Land*, Candela Books + Gallery (VA), *A Chicken in Every Plot*, The Valentine Museum (VA)

**Artist Bio** | Alyssa Salomon is a printer, seamstress, photographer, and self-taught chemist. Alyssa has always loved working with cloth and paper. Her grandfather was a tailor in Brooklyn NY, allowing her to touch voluptuous, luminous bolts of woven wool. As a small girl, Alyssa learned to sew from her mother, and as an established artist, Alyssa learned how to screen print during a faculty retreat at Penland School of Craft. Her favorite color is still fluorescent. Inspiration is taken from artists and designers such as Alexander Girard, Marimekko, Anni Albers, Liubov Popova, Sol Le Witt, Helio Oiticica, Lubna Chowdhary, and Camille Walala, as well as contemporary knitters, quilt repeats, African and Dutch wax fabrics, and katagami.

**Artist Statement** | *Blue Skies Workroom, begun in 2015, has been my primary project in recent years. Blue Skies Workroom is an exercise in radical optimism, the idea that in our chaotic every day, acts of optimism are a bold force of will. As an artist and as a teacher, I strive to make joy and create beauty for the sheer pleasure of working within and bringing others into this space. Each utilitarian, handmade object is a conversation between color, materials, and design, and creates an opportunity for dialogue between user and article, to fill or to fondle. Affordable pleasures for everyday living.*

**Technical Information** | Printed textiles on linen and cotton, using eco-friendly, non-toxic water-based inks