



Dorothy Straughter
The Pathology of Truth

January 13 - March 21, 2026

Reception: January 25, Noon - 1:30pm

Forshey Gallery at the Chicago Temple
First United Methodist Church
77 W. Washington Street at Clark



DOROTHY CROSS STRAUGHTER

Quilt Artist

ARTIST STATEMENT

DOROTHY CROSS STRAUGHTER

Through triumphs and tribulations many genetically defined groups culminating in only one human race garnered a troubled relationship resulting in a dynamically appalling and inexcusable past. This work is moved by a desire to reach back to the charged history of our ancestors and provide the onlooker the difficult opportunity to process through the torment of our ancestor's experience and imagine how they reached for the strength to navigate through the trying times of their day.

This forward approach presenting racist stereotypical advertisement depicting African Americans in demeaning caricature spawned great migrations, and is part of the American diaspora and historical landscape. These works show racism in its violence, and misogynistic attitudes that evoke profuse rage. They show xenophobic forms of what is repulsive, hideous, and disgusting. Yet they show the strength of a people who endured through to prosperity.

WARNING!

The items within this exhibit are racist. This artist exposes the truth that blatant racism is learned and endorsed. Those who perpetuate it assume this as an unknown entity to those it affects. It is a world phenomenon meant to oppress, degrade and belittle individuals who have more power and mental fortitude than racist perpetrators believe or can handle. Never forget or let anger overtake you. Be empowered by the ancestors who withstood these levels of hatred and disrespect. Be empowered by the achievements of ancestors who allowed us to stand on their platforms of grace and accomplishment.

There is only one race...The human race.

We are all from the seat of civilization... Africa

We need to act like cousins because we all are.