

**Gail Theis**

**Wimbledon MFA 2018-2020**

I have a dual practice: quilts and painting

[www.gailtheis.com](http://www.gailtheis.com)

### **Biography**

Gail Theis was born on the Island of Grenada in the West Indies of mixed parentage. Raised in both the Caribbean and British heritage, she spent her early years travelling with her family. Living first in the Caribbean and the Bahamas and later, England and New York and Africa. To her the highlight of these travels was meeting and befriending many people.

On finishing school in the U.K., she attended Parsons School of Design in New York before returning to London. There she worked for a number of years in the design team at Christies the auctioneers. Gail still lives and works in London.

Gail has worked as a part-time receptionist at an NHS surgery for many years before embarking on further studies in Fine Art. She studied the atelier method at The London Fine Art Studios before taking a diploma course in Portraiture at Heatherley's School of Art. She began making quilts on the MFA at Wimbledon College of Art, from where she has recently graduated.

Gail's main focus is figurative and builds layers of symbolism to develop a narrative. She uses the quilt as a metaphor for comfort and domesticity. Gail weaves shapes, colour and texture to form a narrative, piece by piece.

Gail is one of the Graduates currently featured in The London Grads Now exhibition at the Saatchi Gallery. She is also featured in FAD magazine in their article about the exhibition. Her portrait paintings hang in many private homes both in the U.K. and internationally.