

# Avant-Garde Quilt Explosion!

BY **ROBIN CEMBALEST**  January 30, 2014 7:00am



## Stephen Sollins

“Stephen Sollins: Correspondence,” **Pavel Zoubok Gallery** (February 13-March 15);  
“Creativity at Work,” **Sun Valley Center for the Arts** (February 21-May 24)

“Sometimes I like my pieces to look more like quilts, other times I like them to look more like paintings,” says Stephen Sollins, who has obsessively deconstructed the patterns and structures of several traditional quilts in the American Folk Art Museum’s collection. “**Alt\_quilts**” paired one of the originals—the **Log Cabin Quilt**, Barn Raising Variation that Mary Jane Smith made with her mother from 1861-5—with Sollins’s “appropriation” of its composition, an intricate construction made with pasted-paper interiors of billing and financial envelopes. Some of his envelope works are coming to his February show at **Pavel Zoubok**, along with new works that bring a digital element to the process. The artist scanned an image of a “**crazy quilt**” from the Folk Art Museum’s collection, digitally processed it to extract the shapes of its parts, assigned the results through a random number generator to various striped envelope patterns, and made a facsimile of the original quilt with them.



LEFT: STEPHEN SOLLINS, UNTITLED (DOUBLE ARCHIVE WITH ROTATION), 2013, USED ENVELOPES, PRINTED PAPER.

RIGHT: STEPHEN SOLLINS, UNTITLED (CORRESPONDINGS), 2014, PAPER FROM USED ENVELOPES, XEROGRAPHIC AND INK  
JET PRINTS ON PAPER. [CLICK THROUGH IMAGES FOR MORE INFORMATION.](#)