

Iina Alho*One Thing's Necessary*

I got the inspiration for this art quilt from a poem written by Hans Børli. (*Translation from Norwegian by Louis M. Muinzer.*)

One Thing's Necessary

by Hans Børli

One thing's necessary – here
in this hard world of ours
of homeless and outcast people:
Taking residence in yourself.
Walk into the darkness
and clean the soot from the lamp.
So that people on the roads
can glimpse a light
in your inhabited eyes.

Frances D. Bents*Covid Brain*

Whether stricken with Covid-19 or not, many people seem to have been infected by disruptions to their normal thought processes during the past two years. Let's hope that with time and effort healing can take place, and our haywire thoughts and actions will lead us to a better mindset.

Jenny Shafer Ballou*Purple Girl Paints*

How fun to paint yourself in your favorite color and then embark on a serious abstract painting. This girl has style and talent. As an added stroke of creativity, she has a pot of hand-stitched flowers using dupioni silk. To add dimension to her inspiration piece, tulle was added. I enjoyed creating this fun piece for you. I hope you enjoy it!

Leah Bolger*Crimson Flow*

Color is the driving force behind my artwork. It's what really gets me going. I love the dynamics that happen when different colors are working off of each other. There are no deeper meanings to my artwork—they aren't intended to be thought provoking. What I am hoping others will feel is a more visceral response. I am looking more for "Wow!" rather than "Hmm."

Lisa Call

Pattern Study #19

An exploration of patterns and mark making with paint and stitch. This small study is part of my larger Travel Patterns series. And what better color to explore than purple. It has always been my favorite.

Yen-Chiu Chen

Solitude

People are born alone, die alone, and experience both sorrow and happiness. We need to learn to think independently and practice organizing our lives. Make life light and easy.

Gerrie Congdon

Where the Land Meets the Sea

My happy place is doing improvisational embroidery on fabric that I have created. This piece is stitched on hand-dyed silk.

Phyllis Cullen

Made for Each Other

Portrait of a cubist couple in stained glass technique. A true match, don't you think?

Sue Dennis*Love Ya Vincent*

The paintings of Vincent van Gogh are an inspiration to many. I love his use of the color yellow and the movement and textures he captured in his work. My original designed carved block was inspired by these qualities. I used a yellow hand-dyed cotton fabric for the print. The free motion stitching further enhances the textures of the image.

Marion Elise Emerson*Mountains and Sky Reflected*

Landscapes have often been the subject of my Plein Air watercolors and oils. So in my mind's eye, I could see the mountains and clouds in the mono-printed fabric. Belonging to SAQA has gifted me with great friends and new materials in which to create art. I recommend everyone to join SAQA.

Lana Dragon*Sewing or Mowing, unless it's Snowing*

Sewing or Mowing unless it's Snowing as a title also makes a statement of balancing my household chores with my studio work time. Spring and summer are filled with time designing or sewing art quilts and mowing. During the fall and winter months I share my time between quilting and shoveling snow. Any in-between time is garnished with the everyday fabrics of life. Of course my favorite is sewing! Art quilters may enjoy the visual of sewing mixed with the art of mowing and shoveling snow. Chores can be filled with imagination and perhaps one day be expressed within the small world of a mini art quilt.

Linda Filby-Fisher*Unity 18 Medicine Wheel Series*

Un santuario of blood and belief. Seguro safe together.

April Whiteside Foster

Sharing the Love

I wanted to try something a little different than what I usually do. I had been looking at a Rayna Gillman's book and was intrigued by her works, so this was my inspiration. I used scraps of fabrics that my daughter sent to me which were also very unlike my normal fabrics. This was something very different, but a good learning experience. We need to be open-minded and not afraid to try new things.

Mary Louise Gerek

Ghost Trees

Each time I paint fabric to use up leftover paint, I never quite know how it will turn out. However, I often see subtle patterns through the color. The trees lived in the fabric before I started stitching. They were just hints, but there, waiting to be noticed.

Julia Graber

Balcony at Sunrise II

Come! Sit a spell on the balcony and watch the sun come up.

Heather A. Hager

Free at Last

This piece was inspired by news stories about the massive emergence of 17-year periodical cicadas ("brood X") during the summer of 2021. These insects have an incredible life cycle, during which they live underground for 16 years as juveniles, crawl from the ground in their 17th year, and emerge from their skins like butterflies from cocoons. The adults live briefly and deafeningly, searching to find mates, after which they die. Their eggs hatch about a month later, and the nymphs fall to the ground to dig in and repeat this amazing cycle of resilience and renewal.

Caroline Higgs*On the sand*

Inspired by the coastline where I live, this is a sample for a larger piece of work depicting seashells which are found along the shore line, whether discarded by the sea or by humans. I love working with different textures which often draw people to look at my work in detail. In this piece, I have brought the batting to the foreground by dyeing it and applying the shell in two different hand dyed fabrics. Hand stitch plays an important role in my work and I stitch by instinct rather than with a set plan. I often use variegated threads to add nuances of color.

Cynthia Jarest*Whew!*

On this early fall hike, I remember the cool air filling my lungs, the sweet scent in the air that ranged from pine to damp leaves, and the crunch of leaves and rocks underfoot. Hiking in the Rocky Mountains can present wonderful viewing opportunities from faery woodlands, waterfalls, mushrooms, mesas, pines, valleys, aspens, and wildlife. It was a wonderful hike that I will always remember.

Anne-Lu B. Hovis*Wandering in the Moonlight I*

Wandering in the Moonlight I, is the first of a 3 part series.

Design and quilting by fiber artist, Anne-Lu B Hovis, and glass piece created by fused glass artist, Martha H Keane.

Bella Kaplan*Sunset*

I really like the sunset color that changes the reality.

Carol Kolf

Fly Away

I love the butterflies in my garden. Their beauty amazes and intrigues me.

Sue Lewis

Aspen with Columbine

Vertical wall hanging with aspen trees, inspired by a photo of their bright golden leaves in the autumn season. Even though columbine blooms don't normally survive until fall, this one proudly displays itself. The Rocky Mountains in Colorado put on a glorious exhibit of color for leaf "peepers" to enjoy!

Lynda Mariani

Summer Meadow

This is a relatively new technique for me. I love the way you can play one color, fabric, or texture off against another. I think the stitching adds visual interest when observing it close up.

Annette McFarlane

Pink Galaxy

I've recently been trying silk fusion. I decided to attach it to painted netting and surround it with wool felt. Just fun to play with fiber!

Denise Oyama Miller
Summer Solstice

Summer Solstice is reminiscent of wonderful summer days with golden light and blue skies. It reminds me of many joyful days at the beach, in our boat, watching our boys play sports, camping, and having picnics.

Alison Muir
Twinkle

Reflections on water.

Carol O'Bagy
Some Like it Hot

Inspired by crosses initially, the collage soon became a challenge of shapes, spaces, and colors. Colors were inspired by an informal suggestion for all possible trunk show pieces in our MT/ID SAQA Region to interpret the word "heat."

Claudia Pearce
I Z You

I Z You depicts a vigilant zebra with a reflection of earth, sky, and sun on his cornea. Constantly moving, always alert for danger, zebras have surprisingly good eyesight, and it is believed that, despite being monochrome themselves, they see the world around them in full color.

Candice L. Phelan

Red Sky at Night

Like most of our days, sunsets are all different. Some are subtle tones of blues and grays, and some are fiery reds, yellows, and oranges. Some are gentle, almost unnoticeable transitions from day to night, and some are more dramatic, perhaps fractured and staccato. To me, sunsets are always peaceful times to reflect on the day past and the days yet to come.

Sharon Rohde

Joy in the Garden

My backyard garden gives me great joy, especially during the stay-at-home of COVID-19. I view the garden from my kitchen window and screened patio. I planted with the objective of attracting birds, butterflies, and beauty. I enjoy roses and Florida native plants which keep giving through the seasons. A walk in the garden always boosts my Spirit any time of the day, by communing with Nature and its Creator.

Wen Redmond

And Perhaps She Said

Exploring work that uses fabric, paper, and digital imagery presents a joyful challenge. Quilted text says, "And perhaps she said, glue in her hair, brush in her teeth, and eyes gleaming with joy. Art is in the making! Art is the process!"

Beth Schillig

Shibori 12

Hand dyeing Shibori fabrics in soft, muted custom dye colors has become a passion. I love combining free motion quilting techniques with them.

Amy Doigan Selmanoff

Morning Bounty

During the most isolated days of COVID-19 I became involved in an art group where we created a small piece on a theme every 2 weeks. Morning Bounty is a commentary on aging and how it has affected the beginning of my days.

Theresa Stafford

Sunflowers in the Snow

I have put a lot of myself into this art quilt. You can see the hand made roughness of the stitches and the loose threads. I am saying I'm here, I'm alive, and I'm creating. The colors created themselves as the snow dyeing process separated black dye into blues and pinks. The sunflower is a symbol of the life giving sun. I used colorful sunflowers to print swirling black marks. So this quilt goes from the void to color and then back.

Carolyn I. Skei

Prickly Pear Play

Prickly pear cactus is an icon of my Texas upbringing. Little wonder that I pointed my camera at prickly pears in Arizona when I took a Sue Benner workshop there. One afternoon, Sue posed a 15-minute challenge to workshop participants: "Using one of your photographs as inspiration, work quickly to create a small, improvised collage." I realized the polka dot fabrics in my workshop tote would work perfectly! Back home in Texas, I waited through many pandemic months for an excuse to improve and embellish this wild little piece. SAQA's Trunk Show provided the excuse.

Sue Tarbell

Particulates Matter to Sensitive Groups

The topic this summer has been how HOT it has been. As well as so much smoke in Red Lodge. The air quality was very poor many days and the warning was that sensitive groups with respiratory issues should stay indoors. Even with the smoke, the sunrises and sunsets were spectacular. This is what inspired this quilt. I am new to SAQA and this is my first attempt at trying to make an art quilt. I loved the process and had fun creating.

Maggie Vanderweit

Rest

Part of my chair series, encouraging the viewer to take time to rest and rejuvenate.

Deborah Weir

Life Raft Earth (mini)

This Trunk Show piece is a miniature version of 36" piece 3" thick. I made Life Raft Earth during the pandemic to help carry away all the negativity and pain during that period.

Gera Witte

Out of the Blue

As an artist, I am inspired by organic shapes, texture, color, and simplicity of design. These elements are everywhere in our natural and built environments and serve as the basis for many of my textile works. While “less is more” is a personal mantra, it is a goal that is challenging to achieve. The process of distilling complexity into simplicity is a continual balancing act, adding and subtracting along the way until equilibrium—a calmness—seems to be at hand. Shibori techniques combined with indigo dye capture my imagination through color, texture and the organic nature of the process and results. My work is fueled by experimentation and I delight in the imperfections and unexpected outcomes.