



Colleen Ansbaugh - Fly By

Wabeno, Wisconsin USA

A morning walk brings much to explore and examine. The dew on the plants, the morning news, coffee, and hearing the birds sing.

What are the images that remind a person of the good things in life? Enjoy every moment.

Materials: Cotton, velvet, table cloth fabrics, duct tape, rick rack, batting

Techniques: Quilted, stamped, painted



Kim Bates - Pod

Markesan, Wisconsin USA

I love feathers and I love scraps, so I set out to make a scrappy feather. After piecing it looked more like a leaf and when I showed it to a friend she immediately said, "It's a pod." I love how art evolves!

Materials: Cotton fabric scraps

Techniques: Improvisationally pieced, raw edge appliquéd, walking foot and free motion quilted



Jan Berg-Rezmer - Pod Cast Plaid

Gladwin, Michigan USA

I used wool plaid from a skirt—a very recognizable pattern with unique hand-dyed wool yarn, which to me looked like pods strung together. I just went for it, spreading each pod out to a wider shape and needle felting into the plaid. I wondered, if these were real seed pods, what would they grow into if planted?

Materials: Commercial wool, felted wool yarn and roving, wool felt batting, cotton

Techniques: Needle felted, free motion stitched



Holly Brackmann - The Negative and Positive: Ivah and Mattie

Ukiah, California USA

Based on an old sepia photo depicting my great aunt Ivah Johanna Schray (a career woman, who never married), and her mother, my great grandmother Mattie Ophelia Dillenbeck Schray. I have very fond memories of both these strong women who influenced my life.

Materials: Cotton, batting, pearl floss, embroidery cotton
Techniques: Cyanotype printed, hand and machine stitched



Diane Clapes - Orts in Yellow and Green

College Park, Georgia USA

I have recently been considering my personal contribution to waste and excess. I also work in a very small studio. I have challenged myself to use materials already in my possession in an effort to produce less garbage and to clean out a bit. "Orts in Yellow and Green" came about during an evening of improvisational work using only fabric scraps from past projects. I found it very rewarding and joyful to work this way and consequently have begun a series of "Orts" works. I love the texture provided by the frayed edges and the bright, hopeful feeling projected by yellow and green.

Materials: Commercial, hand painted, and hand-dyed fabric; silk ribbons, fusible, glue, thread

Techniques: Appliquéd, machine stitched



Stephanie Dahl - Oh, Iris!

Garden Ridge, Texas USA

Iris Apfel, age 99, is a self-described "geriatric starlet." Her iconic style and infectious joie de vivre are an inspiration. In 2005, the Costume Institute of the Metropolitan Museum of Art staged an exhibition of her clothing and accessories, making her the first living woman who was NOT a fashion designer to be so honored.

Note: Basic character sketch taken from "Iris Apfel Coloring Book" (independently published in the USA in 2020, with no copyright notice or illustrator credit appearing).

Materials: Commercial cottons and batiks, fusible web, soft stabilizer, thread, beads, colored pencils, markers

Techniques: Raw edge appliqué, thread painted, hand beaded



Shannon M. Dion - Olive Branch

Portage, Michigan USA

My love of trees and a hope for peace are the inspiration for this small piece.

Materials: Batik fabric, fusible web, cotton thread, batting

Techniques: Raw edge appliqué



Mel Dugosh - Morwenna

Hondo, Texas USA

Long before Marvel Comics' Aquaman, legend had it that young Saint Morwenna of Cornwall used the shiny stone she kept behind her ear to persuade water to spring forth from the dry ground. With her ornate walking stick, she climbed the highest cliffs with ease and asked the sea to calm and return the seafarers safely.

Materials: Fabric, thread, batting

Techniques: Hand appliquéd, fused appliquéd, machine quilted



Susan Else - Worry Stone

Santa Cruz, California USA

This is the latest in a long series of sculptures involving cloth-covered bones. "Worry Stone" reminds us that fretting doesn't do us much good in the long run; we might be better off spending our time in other ways. Things we are anxious about sometimes look far less consequential in hindsight.

Materials: Fabric, armature, plastic bones

Techniques: Machine collaged, machine quilted, hand-stitched



Diane English - Cells

Eugene, Oregon USA

I was exploring the layering of circles that are stitched on to create texture on a piece I had discharged.

Materials: Silk, cotton

Techniques: Hand appliquéd, hand quilted, discharged



Andrea Finch - Quercus Falling Leaves VI: Hoster White Oak, Penn State Arboretum

Chambersburg, Pennsylvania USA

The Falling Leaves series evolved from my new intense interest in oaks. Oaks surrounded the home I grew up in; Swamp Chestnut, Red, White and Pin Oaks. I spent many an autumn listening to the acorns falling on the roof and watching the squirrels stash them away. Oak trees are key to the native wildlife of the United States, feeding over 100 animals and birds with their acorns.

I'm a collector of all types of fabric, and local decorators supply me with a wide assortment of fabrics from their sample books. Using these 'recycled' fabrics that would have ended up in the trash, and the restrictions of a small piece of fabric that I cannot replace, make the work more exciting. The Falling Leaves series continues as I explore adding movement to my work, capturing falling leaves and all the interesting shapes of oak leaves. I hope my quilts will spark interest in these long-lived, native, beneficial trees.

Materials: Recycled designer samples, thread, batting, glass beads

Techniques: Raw edge machine appliquéd, machine quilted, hand beaded



Diane Friedman - Birds on the Beach

Santa Fe, New Mexico USA

I created a simple birds on the beach image which became much more interesting once I added the laser cut fabric floating over the image.

Materials: Cotton, interfacing, matte medium

Techniques: Hand painted, laser cut, bobbin stitched



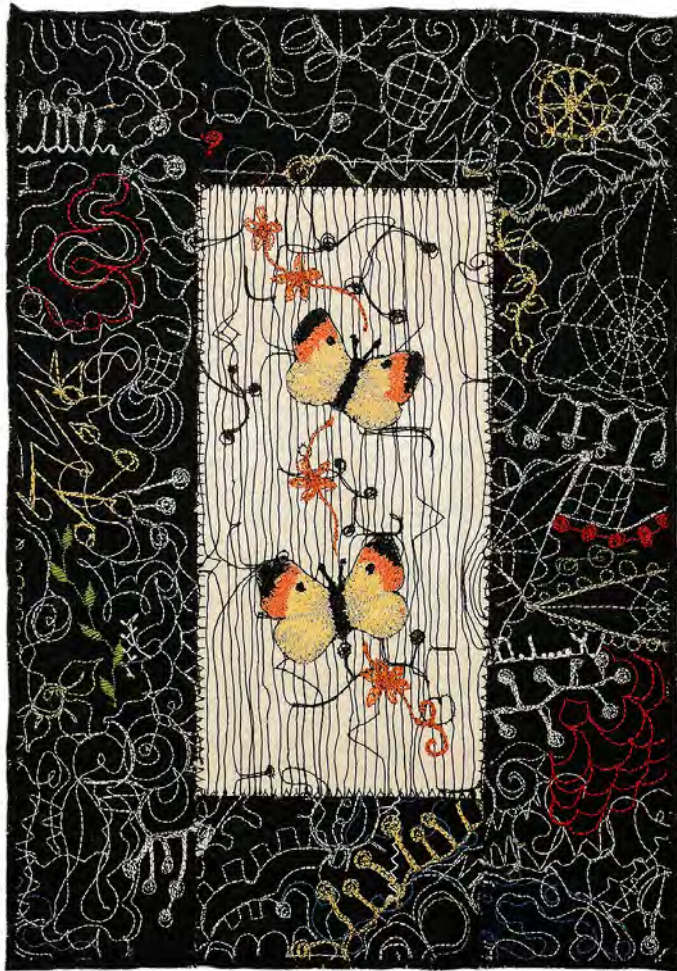
Monique Gilbert-Oversteys - Singing Flowers

Bierbeek, Vlaams Brabant Belgium

I feel happy with music, colors, and flowers.

Materials: Paper, cotton, thread

Techniques: Appliquéd Momigami paper by hand, pieced



Sonia Grasvik - Butterfly Doodle

Seattle, Washington USA

Over the 30 years I have been a quilter, I have accumulated many practice quilt sandwiches (used to practice stitches and techniques). By doodling and adding more stitching to these pieces, I created unique, one of a kind pieces of art. This has brought me the pleasure of spending happy hours doing what I love best....sitting at my sewing machine and letting the stitching flow. Thanks to Paula Kovarik for inspiring this technique.

Materials: Cotton, batting, thread

Techniques: Free motion quilted, thread painted



Lynn Hanna - Everything Changed That Day

Loma Linda, California USA

After a traumatic loss, the days ahead are dreary. Our complex daily routines continue, but lack joy, color, and sparkle. The warmth and life is missing, replaced with a mundane tangle of expectations and deadlines to meet. The way forward is stressful and bleak. It becomes a burden and a struggle to forge ahead.

As an eternal optimist, reverse the image. A joyful event brings the spark of hope, returns a bit of color to our life, and makes the tangle of expectations a bit less burdensome. I believe things get better, and love always wins in the end. Hang in there.

Materials: Cotton, batting, thread

Techniques: Raw edge appliqué, free motion quilted, faced, hand stitched



Jaynie Himsl - Fall Storm II

Weyburn, SK Canada

You can almost smell the rain in the air as the wind makes waves in the fields of ripe grain.

Materials: Assorted repurposed fabrics, crocheted lace, oil pastels, matte medium

Techniques: Pieced, painted, free motion stitched



Kathleen Hughes - White Roses

Wauwatosa, Wisconsin USA

Roses from our garden this year continue to inspire me. I began art quilting with flower images and keep coming back to them.

Materials: Silk, fabric paint, metal beads, cotton thread

Techniques: Free motion quilted, trapunto quilted, beaded, painted



Ivy Jensen - Magnetite

The Woodlands, Texas USA

This multilayered technique grew from working with Tyvek and synthetic fabrics. In this piece, I used lamé and synthetic silk strips and melted them before appliquéing them to the base fabric. Then I quilted and remelted them and watched as it developed into this polycrystalline texture.

Materials: Synthetic fabric, batting

Techniques: Cut, melted, sewn



Debra Kay - Forest Flames

Maricopa, Arizona USA

Inspired by the raging forest fires in the western United States, this piece shows leaping flames against a backdrop of burned forest.

Materials: Commercially produced batik fabrics

Techniques: Fused pieced, raw edge appliquéd, quilted



Karen Kuranda - Water Lily on the Pond

Stamford, Vermont USA

This quilt is based on a photo taken by my husband of one of his beloved water lilies in our pond in Southern Vermont in the United States. Many think water lilies represent enlightenment and that their flowers have different meanings depending on the color of the flower. For this quilt design, I used over ninety different thread colors with a digital thread painting technique that lets me layer many, many different thread colors one over each other starting on a solid white fabric background. I love using this particular technique to achieve the sophisticated blending needed to adequately express the beauty of this flower and then watching the design begin to emerge with every additional thread color. Because there is so much thread shading involved, I think it gives an incredible richness to the design.

Materials: Cotton and batik fabrics, batting, thread

Techniques: Thread painted, digitally designed



Ellen Lindner - Draw Bridge Ahead

Melbourne, Florida USA

This tiny piece showcases one of my favorite ways to work, what I call "slicing and dicing." Without a pattern or a plan, I sew fabrics together, slice into them, add a skinny line, or join things back together askew. I do this randomly and eventually begin to notice colors or patterns that work well together. At that point my slicing and dicing become more intentional as I work to create sew-able "blocks" of sorts. It's a really fun way to work! This piece is made entirely from pieced scraps from an earlier project.

Materials: Cotton, batting, thread

Techniques: Hand dyed, machine pieced, machine quilted



Melanie Marr - Ocelot

Houston, Texas USA

Ocelot was inspired by a photo taken at the Houston Zoo. We do have Ocelots in south Texas.

Materials: Fabric, acrylic paints, thread, batting

Techniques: Drawn, painted, quilted



Becky McNeill - Bleached Reef

Corning, New York USA

Coral reefs have the highest biodiversity of any ecosystem on the planet, but 75% of the remaining reefs in our oceans are threatened, and projections indicate that all will be lost by the end of the century if we don't take immediate action on climate change! That's less than 79 years from now!!! "Bleached Reef," depicts the disruption of the symbiotic relationship between microalgae and coral that results in the reefs appearing bleached. Even 1+ degree of temperature change can result in this bleaching, and if the temperature increase is too high for too long, the coral can't recover. Over the last 30 years, bleaching has become more intense and widespread, leading to massive coral die offs around the world. This small quilt is a reminder and challenge for each of us to make the small changes in our daily lives that can add up to protection of coral reefs worldwide...green transportation, energy efficiency, climate-friendly food consumption, and reduced plastic use.

Materials: Cotton, batting, variegated thread, diluted bleach solution

Techniques: Improvisationally pieced, machine pieced, machine quilted, matchstick quilted, surface bleached, faced



Karen I. Miller - Flicker

Corvallis, Oregon USA

I met a flicker for the first time recently. What a gorgeous creature he was.

Materials: Cotton, silk, batting, canvas

Techniques: Raw edge appliquéd, free motion quilted



Marnie Murray - Break Away 1

Portland, Oregon USA

I love the never-ending possibilities when using fiber reactive dyes and shibori techniques. The mathematical nature of traditional quilts speaks to me as well: geometry, patterns, lines, forms, functions. Are they competing or supportive forces?

Materials: Cotton, batting, fiber reactive dyes

Techniques: Dyed, arashi and ori nui shibori, machine pieced, hand stitched



Ruth Anne Olson - Meteor Showers

New Haven, Connecticut USA

I love looking up at the sky, especially on clear nights when many stars are visible. Because I currently live in an area with a great deal of light pollution, this does not happen often. This small piece reflects what I wish I could see every night, including shooting stars during times of meteor showers.

Materials: Cotton, including Cherrywood and hand-dyed by Laura Wasilowski; embroidery thread

Techniques: Pieced, embroidered



Karel Peer - Gingko

San Jose, California USA

Gingko leaves create a golden carpet in the fall along streets in my neighborhood.

Materials: Batiks, batting, crisp cotton ombre leaves, variegated thread

Techniques: Texturized, stiffened, stitched



Dawn Piasta - Majestic Wood Duck

Dauphin, Manitoba Canada

Autumn brings a gentle cool breeze and touches all of nature with a golden brush. Sometimes a treasure is spotted perched high in an oak tree. What a gift to see. The plumage of the male wood duck is the most beautiful of our local waterfowl. I am calmed by his beauty.

Materials: Cotton batik, silk organza, acrylic paint, thread

Techniques: Painted, raw edge appliqué, thread painted



Cynthia K. W. Reynolds - Blood Moon

Madison, Wisconsin USA

Red moon, blue moon, harvest moon...I am fascinated by the moon. Maybe it has something to do with the fact that my name, Cynthia, means "goddess of the moon"! In any case, I have written poetry about the moon, created moon art, and never miss lunar eclipses. In May 2021 there was a super moon, a time when the moon appears closer to the earth because it is full and at its closest point in its orbit around the Earth. I created this piece inspired by that moon.

Materials: Repurposed and painted cloth

Techniques: Machine pieced, hand stitched, stamped, painted



Michael J. Ross - Confluence Small Study #1

New Hope, Pennsylvania USA

My Confluence series represents the merging of various techniques into a new artistic process. This is also reflected in the art by cutting individual pieces improvisationally and merging them into a finished composition.

Materials: Cotton, batting, thread

Techniques: Hand dyed, improvisationally ruler cut, machine pieced, machine quilted



Sheree Schlote - Anticipation

Kitchener, Ontario Canada

It may be a sunrise and the dawn of a new day, or the arrival of spring. We wait and anticipate for it to arrive.

Materials: Cotton, cork fabric, cheesecloth, embroidery thread, recycled fibers

Techniques: Thread painted, hand stitched



Sara Sharp - Rosie

Austin, Texas USA

“Rosie” is a roseate spoonbill, which I photographed on the Texas Gulf Coast. This is one of my favorite shorebirds. They combine some of the most beautiful and the most unlovely features, resulting in a bird that might appear in a Dr. Seuss book. The bright red, pink, and orange of their feathers resembles an elegant flamingo, but their unique spoon-shaped bill is an unattractive wrinkly gray. This bill is used to swing back and forth in shallow water to capture small prey, while they slowly walk on their large wrinkly black feet. While we admire their beautiful feathers, we also get to chuckle at their improbable combination of unusual features.

Materials: Commercial cotton batik, fusible, stabilizer, thread, batting

Techniques: Thread painted, raw edge appliquéd, free motion quilted



Brenda H. Smith - Monuments

Flagstaff, Arizona USA

As a quilter creating contemporary art, I am inspired by the natural world near my home in northern Arizona and during my travels in the western United States. My work is related to nature and landscapes through color, pattern, and design. I experiment with color, print, and dyed fabric, and develop texture through various surface design techniques. Images of forests, deserts, and grasslands, the folds and textures of geology, and the impressions and traces of wildlife are common themes I work with in many of my quilts. My quilts are the stories of what I have seen and experienced through my daily walks or my travels.

Materials: Cotton

Techniques: Hand dyed, screen printed, raw edge fused appliqué, machine quilted



Jennifer Solon - Fire and Beauty

Perrysburg, Ohio USA

This piece reminds me of a visit to the Big Island of Hawai'i. The juxtaposition of tropical lushness against the barren wasteland of the lava fields is a memory I won't forget. Mother Nature is truly inspiring.

Materials: Monoprinted and found papers, acrylic paint, pastels, paint markers, colored pencils

Techniques: Mixed-media collaged with layers of paper and paint



Mary Jo Stipe - Sidewalks & Pathways

Lamy, New Mexico USA

I love bright colors mixed with black and white. Improvisational piecing is my favorite technique. Sidewalks & Pathways combines both. When I begin a new piece, I never know quite where it will lead. While garden paths and walking trails were my initial inspiration, serendipity played a role too. Finding the bias strips with fusible web already attached added the finishing touch. After all, we can't always stay on the straight and narrow.

Materials: Cotton

Techniques: Improvisationally pieced, fused appliqué



Sandy Teepen - Miniature Collage

Atlanta, Georgia USA

I welcome the chance to create small, and I love collage with fabric.

Materials: Cotton, thread, batting, fusible material

Techniques: Machine sewn, fused



Linda Waddle - Cityscape

Auburn, California USA

Night lights in a city can be beautiful, however the unnecessary lighting of buildings can disorient migrating birds.

Materials: Cotton, batting, metal leaf, thread

Techniques: Bleached, stencilled



Rosanna Lynne Welter - Leaf on Sidewalk

West Valley City, Utah USA

This is from a photograph I took very early on a brisk, fall walk around my neighborhood. Translating it to fabric was interesting and fun. I love that the long shadow is the star of the piece.

Materials: Cotton, thread, fabric ink, fabric markers, acrylics

Techniques: Stitched, painted



Carla Wolf - Autumnal Color Play

Littlerock, California USA

Sometimes it is just fun to play. By overlaying different colors of organza, new colors are can be created. This color play reminded me of fall which inspired me to make free motion lace fall leaves to add to the piece, making my play time even more fun.

Materials: Organza, thread, yarn, beads

Techniques: Free motion lace work, yarn couched

