

Bits and Pieces Newsletter

June 2014



Next Meeting

June 16, 2014

Betty Busby

The Unseen

Betty Busby has been making her living from her art since 1976. This 45 minute slide show covers her origins in the ceramic tile manufacturing business through to the current focus on abstract imagery inspired by microphotography. Betty has introduced several unique materials in her art quilting, and will include several step by step procedures in creating finished pieces. Questions are welcomed, and samples of the products used will be available for up close viewing.

Betty played at “Arts and Crabs” with her two little sisters as a small child, and continued her obsession through graduation from the Rhode Island School of Design, with a ceramics major. She founded and operated a ceramic tile manufacturing firm in Los Angeles, and sold it after 18 successful years in order to move to New Mexico and focus on fiber art.

Constant experimentation with new materials and techniques fuel her work, which has many sources of inspiration. Nature, diurnal and nocturnal rhythms, biology and paleontology continue to be mined for a rich diversity of finished product.



President's Letter

Where does technology meet art? Today as Wes Magyar was photographing my work we had an interesting discussion about when does technology enhance the work of an artist and when does it seem like a crutch? Okay, I admit I had a bias about the benefits of sketching with a pen versus using an iPad. Yet I have seen really fun creative work done on an iPad. I guess I need to get rid of my biases. Wes's art work is incredible portrait oils and I am sure he might take pictures of his models. But his oil paintings work show the talent of an artist who knows his medium well and executes it with talent and incredible skill. Photography is his secondary skill.



Another example that can open our discussion about technology meeting art is a look at my friend Tom Stevens' work. Several years ago I took a really wonderful class at the Art Students League of Denver from Tom. Tom is an amazing artist who moves freely between these two worlds. He does exquisite oil paintings, but he also does digital art. He creates masterpieces by manipulating photographs creatively using Photoshop. Now jump to the talk presented by Shelly Zegart focusing on the history and future of quilts. To me it is similar that we have to have open minds to appreciate the past world of quilting and to embrace some of the new techniques. I feel that sometimes those of us that choose fiber and quilting as our art medium can be a bit defensive.

I felt a bit of that defensive reaction during the presentation. "Why aren't we loved by galleries and museums?" I might almost call it whining. I believe once people can see the texture and complexity of the work done by fiber artists they appreciate the beauty and uniqueness of our chosen medium. End of question! The show currently at Helikon Gallery that is an invitation for 25 fiber artists erases any need for defensiveness about our chosen medium. It stands on its own merits. Some of the work incorporates the creative use of technology. Some work builds on the skills and stitching leaves me in awe.

Creating art is an adventure and appreciating art is a chance for us to expand our horizons. I hope I can grow in my skills and, yes, maybe use technology better. But I also want to grow in my ability to appreciate all kinds of art. So I will get on my soapbox and challenge FRCQ members to do two things for the rest of 2014. First go to as many art shows, galleries and museums as you can fit in your schedule. Build deeper appreciation skills. Second, challenge yourself to learn some new skill that uses technology, your digital camera, your iPad, your computer, the internet, maybe an online class. Let's all grow together.

Bits and Pieces is the monthly newsletter of the Front Range Contemporary Quilters. Submission of art quilt related articles from members is welcomed. The editor and the Board reserve the right to edit for length, content and space. Deadline for submissions to the newsletter is the Thursday following the monthly meeting. Email articles and items for submission to the publication to: Moira Mallison
news@frcq.org

Advertising Policy:

Classes offered by members are printed for free in the section called "Member Classes"; business cards of members or businesses with services of interest to our members are printed for (3-1/2"x2") \$5 per issue; 1/4 page (3-1/2"x4-3/4"), \$20.00 per issue; 1/2 page (7-1/2" x 4-3/4"), \$40.00 per issue; full page (7-1/2"x9-3/4"), \$80.00 per issue. All advertising should be submitted along with payment to the newsletter editor by the deadline. Contact Moira at news@frcq.org for payment address.

Bits and Pieces is a benefit of membership in Front Range Contemporary Quilters and is not available by subscription. Membership in FRCQ is \$30 per year, due and payable January 1 of each year. Dues may be sent to membership chair.

FRCQ, Attn: Membership
P.O. Box 351551
Westminster, CO 80035-3551

Change of Address:

Please notify membership chair, Ellen Nepustil, for any change of address. members@frcq.org

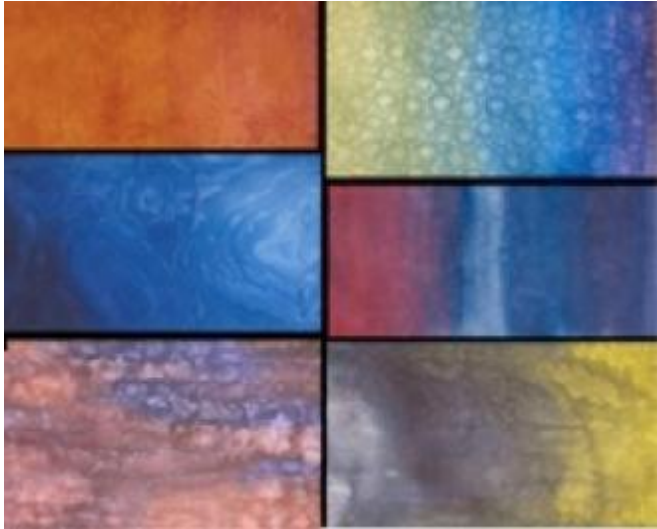
2013-2014 Board Members

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(720) 932-7961	president@frcq.org
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Workshops	Susan Brooks & Jeanne Gray
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Other Contacts:

Website	Kathy Keating
New Skills Workshops	Susan Apte & Cynthia Jarest
Yahoo List	Jeanne Lounsbury

2014 Workshops



Click [here](#) to register!

New Techniques with Paint

Betty Busby

Saturday, June 14th, 2014

Time: 9am – 4pm

Place: First Plymouth Church,
3501 S. Colorado Blvd, Denver, CO

This one-day workshop is devoted to exploring surface design on silk with dyenaflow paints. Get ready to experiment and have some fun.

Betty is a nationally renowned quilt artist and popular teacher. Don't miss this opportunity to learn some of Betty's unique methods of surface design. Check out Betty's website: www.bbusbyarts.com

From Watercolor to Quilt

Katie Pasquini Masopust

Friday- Sunday

September 12-14, 2014*

Abstract watercolor painting using 10 different painting techniques. Then, using a cropped painting a template will be enlarged and translated with fabrics into a quilt.

*If we have enough, we will hold a second workshop from Monday-Wednesday

Click [here](#) to register!



FRCQ Exhibits

FRCQ hosts juried exhibits of fiber art created by our members. These are our current and upcoming fiber art exhibits.

Art Quilting – Past, Present and Future Rocky Mountain Quilt Museum, Golden Colorado

May 1 – July 29, 2014

Show Description: This show demonstrates the progression of art quilting from historical quilts selected from the RMQM archive to the work created by today's fiber artists.

Portfolio 2015 – The Best of 2014 FRCQ Website Portfolio

January – December 2015

This show is the year-long web based exhibit of selected pieces created by FRCQ fiber artists in 2013. The juror for the show will be Jason Pollen. Information will be available in September, 2014.

Past Exhibits - Catalogs

Portfolio 2014 – The Best of 2013 FRCQ Website Portfolio

January – December 2014

The exhibit catalog is available at

<http://www.blurb.com/b/4967856-portfolio-2014-best-of-2013>. New this year, the catalog can be ordered in print or as an e-book.

Celebrating 25 Years of FRCQ Dairy Center for the Arts – Boulder, Colorado

January 24 – March 7, 2014

The exhibit catalog is available at

<http://www.blurb.com/b/5066405-celebrating-25-years-of-frcq>. This catalog can be ordered in print or as an e-book.

“CREATION” Health – Rocky Mountain Adventist Healthcare Foundation’s Healing Arts Program

January 1 – November, 2015

Complete Information on FRCQ website beginning May 15, 2015.

Due date for entry – Oct 6, 2014 (Entry open on-line Sept 1 – Oct 6, 2014)

Notification of selected work – Nov 30, 2014

Delivery of Art by Dec 18th

The mission of the Healing Arts program is integration of the arts into healthcare, creating an environment not just to treat illness, but to provide an inspiration for living.

This exhibit will feature contemporary fiber art inspired by “CREATION” Health.

“CREATION” Health is about wellness and serves as an acronym for full health. This model is the core of the Adventist Health System’s understanding of health and healing.

The program promotes learning to live the 8 essentials of optimum physical, mental and spiritual health:

“C” – choice

“R” – reset (relaxation)

“E” – environment

“A” – activity

“T” – trust

“I” – interpersonal relationships

“O” – outlook

“N” – nutrition

Other Exhibit Opportunities

June 30 2014: *The Art of Fiber. . . Celebrating Fifty Years of the Handweavers Guild of Boulder.*

This exhibition will show current trends in fiber art including weaving, basketry, felting, spinning, LED-weaving, art quilting, tapestry, knitting, crocheting, and other fiber-related arts. It will be installed throughout The Dairy Center for the Arts, Boulder, Colorado's premier arts venue.

<http://www.handweaversofboulderentry.org/>

July 1 2014: *Fiber Innovations* is the first fiber arts show sponsored by the Parker Arts, Culture and Events Center (PACE) from Aug. 21 - Sept. 27, 2014. The show will focus on fiber art from the Rocky Mountain region. Non-functional wall art representing fiber media of all types are welcome. No entry fee. Up to three entries may be submitted. Artwork may be for sale or NFS. PACE will collect a 15% commission on all sales. For additional exhibit information and/or a prospectus, please contact Jan Thornton, 303-917-3402, janinemthornton@yahoo.com

July 14 2014: *WORLD QUILT COMPETITION: On Tour XVIII.*

<http://www.quiltfestwqentry.com>

July 20 2014: *WWII Home Front Quilts Project.* The WWII Home Front Quilt Challenge focuses on the World War II years, an influential period in American history that continues to impact life in the United States today. Quilts inspired by any aspect of civilian wartime life across the USA are welcomed. <http://www.wwiihomefrontquilts.com/2014-call-for-entries/>

FRCQ Needs Your Help!

The board is recruiting volunteers for the following positions,

Meeting Technology: The first position is a person who has good skills with the technology involved in computers and overhead projectors. If you know which connector goes where and how to set up a power point, let Laurie Gibb know. It is not a big time commitment. It just means showing up for the monthly meeting at 6:20 and being sure all the systems are set up properly.

Website Project Manager: The second role is to chair an ad hoc committee to evolve the FRCQ website to its next stage of sophistication. Your role will be to lead the committee select a website development vendor to customize our website for online membership dues and highlighting artists' profiles. You will communicate with the vendor during implementation. You don't need to have web technology experience; however it would help if you have a good understanding of using WordPress. You primarily need to be well organized and able to communicate with the vendor. Expected time commitment would be 1-3 hours a month for the next 4-5 months. We want a new website ready for 2015 memberships by November 2014. Contact Moira Mallison (news@frcq.org) if you can help.

Bits & Pieces from Members

Critique Group: South of Denver

Rose Legge would like to form a critique group for FRCQ members that live south. If you live in Parker, Elizabeth, Castle Rock, Monument or Colorado Springs and would like to be part of a group please contact Rose at rlegge@centurylink.net or at 303-663-3181.

Six Faces of Eve

Variations of a shared language

June 13 - July 25, 2014

Opening Reception June 13, 6-9 pm

Susan Brooks' *Women in Prison: From Shame to Freedom* series will hang as part of this show at the ArtHaus Gallery. Susan is available to lead a guided tour of Six Faces of Eve for groups of 3 or more. Susan is available between June 16-July 9, Monday-Wednesday between 10-4 at the Art Haus. Please contact Susan at susanbrooksis@gmail.com or 303-665-2090 to make arrangements if you are interested in a personal tour featuring art by woman about women.

ArtHaus is located at 3343 Larimer Street,
Denver, CO
<http://arthausdenver.com/>

Eco Dyeing Class

Saturday, June 14 - 9am till 4pm

Susan Brooks will be teaching one spring Eco dyeing class experimenting with using spring plants and flowers.

If you are interested in a day of fun in The Garage in Louisville, Colorado, please contact Susan at susanbrooksis@gmail.com or 303-665-2090
www.susanbrookstextileartist.com



Do you have something to crow about? We want to celebrate with you! Or want to publicize upcoming classes? Listing them in our newsletter is a benefit of membership. Send information to news@frcq.org.

Meeting Summary – Katie Fowler

Why Art Quilts Matter

May 19, 2014

Shelly Zegart

Shelly shared her journey making the PBS series “Why Quilts Matter.” Her insights as a quilt lover and collector have led her to a mission of moving quilts from anonymous, under-valued, and under-appreciated to pieces of collectible art.

She gave the group a good historical overview of quilts moving from bed coverings to artwork, but emphasized that the form still has a long way to go to move from galleries to art museums, as fiber art is still very under-represented.

She shared the episode: “What is Art?” from the PBS series Why Quilts Matter: History, Arts, and Politics. My favorite quote of the evening was, “Who knew that it takes a soft covering to define a tough subject?”

Another intriguing question was “Does it become art because the maker says it’s art, or because the viewer says it’s art?”

I recommend checking out Shelly’s [website](#) as well as the series available on DVD.

Connections

We are all familiar with our president Jean Herman’s “assignments” to meet new people during the break at our meetings.

While this newsletter is the “official” communication vehicle of the organization, there are also some informal communication channels to help us stay connected between meetings. These are administered by volunteers and are not officially connected to FRCQ.

[FRCQ Facebook Page](#): “Like” the page to have postings show up in your newsfeed. Facebook Hint: if you “like” individual posts, you’re more likely to see subsequent posts made to the page. Linda Strand and Kathy Keating are the administrators of the page.

[Front Range Fiber Artists Facebook Group](#): This is an open group for Front Range fiber artists to share and discuss their art and post upcoming fiber art events, administered by Carol Ann Waugh.

[FRCQ Yahoo Group](#): a discussion list for FRCQ members. This is a closed list, and is not listed in the Yahoo directory to prevent spam postings. Messages (10-12 per month on average) are sent directly to you email inbox. Administered by Jeanne Lounsbury. To subscribe send an email to frcq-subscribe@yahoogroups.com. Once you are a member, you can post to the list by sending an email to frcq@yahoogroups.com.

There's An App for That!

To support members in rising to both of Jean Herman's challenges, we have collected some apps for you to try. All of them are available on Apple devices; some are also available for Android devices. Where a separate link is not provided, both Apple and Android apps can be accessed from the same link. Have fun!

[Art Circles by art.com](#) (Free app)

Good for developing and exploring a sense of art and seeing many art eras and styles.

[Art.com visual search](#)

Click on *Inspire My Discovery* to discover your own art preferences and how they are expressed in similar art forms. Interactive with lots of visuals and even color play.

[Drawing Pad](#) (\$1.99 app)

Suitable for kids or adults and highly rated for developing sketching, screen painting, and color skills. Also available for Android.

[SketchBook Pro](#) (\$4.99 app)

A well-regarded drawing/sketching app that would work for designing fiber art. Also available for [Android](#).

[Procreate](#) (\$5.99 app)

A professional grade sketching, drawing and painting app that has very high ratings and a lot of flexibility.

[Blendoku](#) (Free app)

A fun game in which you organize squares on a grid to conform to the color wheel. It has the potential for greatly sharpening your color sense and is a bit addictive. Also available for Android.

[Draw Something](#) (Free app)

OK it is not an *art* app, but a fun interactive social drawing and guessing word game a bit like Pictionary. Very good for relating across distance and generations. Also available for Android.

Art of the Week (Free weekly delivery)

Each week you receive an email with a depiction of a major or interesting work of art along with a short description and a brief artist bio. A fun way to study art appreciation and expand your horizons. Send your email address to info@artofweek.com to start your subscription.

[Art Project](#) (free link)

Explore museums from around the world and see hundreds of artworks, including zoom capability.

[Tate Art Slideshow](#) (free link)

This is only one example of an art museum website that lets you take your own virtual tour. You can find many others.

Blog of the Month ~ Marjorie Jannotta

This is the third in a series to acquaint you with blogs of FRCQ fiber artists.

Ronni Hunter

<https://ronni-hunter.squarespace.com>

Ronni Hunter is a mixed-media collage artist who uses fiber, paper, paint and other materials to create colorful and whimsical designs that are “most often” stitched. She exhibits, has won awards, is published, and was selected for the “best of” FRCQ portfolios for 2012/13 and the current FRCQ exhibit in Golden.

Ronni began her blog to connect with and engage others who share her interests. It has matured into a vibrant portfolio of her recent work and also her shows her development as a learner and studio artist. It is her hope that the blog will eventually serve as her portfolio when she is a full-time gallery artist. Right now, she says, it is very useful to see all her pieces in one place online instead of “under the bed.”

Ronni loves to stitch and use hand embroidery in her collages. She is forthcoming in explaining her materials, techniques, and approaches, believing this is in keeping with the generosity and willingness to help others she has seen in the world of fiber art.

As one who is a continual and intense learner, Ronni’s blog is a good source of information about workshops and teachers. She says classes allow immersion in techniques and ideas, and she enjoys being in class with other developing artists.

While fairly new to FRCQ, she has maintained a blog for several years. It is a blog without extraneous material, easy to navigate, and has many detailed and compelling images. (Also, it is optimized for the smart phone, which sometimes missed by bloggers.) Ronni says that she wishes more people would start blogs, because “you can find so many great things on blogs”. One day, she says, “I’d like to *have* one of those blogs.” She has an excellent start, and I know you will enjoy exploring her process and seeing her art.

All images are from her website.



*Started in the Sue Benner workshop;
finished in the studio*



2014 FRCQ Membership Information

2014 FRCQ Membership Form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Mail to: FRCQ, P.O. Box 351551, Westminster, CO 80035-1551

Date: _____ Early Bird Dues (Before 12/31/13) are \$25 Dues are \$30

____ Cash ____ Check ____ Renewing Member ____ New Member

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

The FRCQ newsletter is delivered by email. Please print clearly, especially if there is an underscore or dot in the address.

EMAIL: _____

WEB SITE: _____