November 17, 2014
Louisa Smith

Do You Ask Yourself ... What If?

What if....the question that always fuels the creative process for Louisa. She likes to take people on a journey from idea or doodle to a wonderful series. Step by step recollecting the birth of this series and how these questions make it all work. We will explore the marriage between commercial and manipulated fabrics; you will never look at fabrics the same way.

Louisa was born in Indonesia, educated in the Netherlands and came to the U.S. in 1960. She discovered quilting in the late 70’s. Although the quilting started off with a traditional approach, soon new and exciting designs took over and the traditional gave way to more innovative work. The incredible flexibility that fiber offers attracted her to “paint” with fabrics. And how the marriage between colorful commercial fabrics and her own manipulated fabrics help her achieve the most important element in her work: Color!


FRCQ meetings are held at the Westminster City Recreation Center at 7:00 PM. If an FRCQ meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather, a notice will be posted on the website at www.artquilters.org
This morning I have been contemplating the wonder of light. In a very atypical behavior, I am writing at my computer at 8 am. This uncharacteristic conduct is caused by the light peeking in my window at 6 am. For some reason I find it difficult to adjust to this one hour of daylight savings. It is after all about the light.

As I engage in philosophical musings about light I have to jump to how light is important to us as artists and lovers of fabric. Every one of us knows the importance that good light plays in picking our fabrics, our paints, our thread, and our dyes. A color selection that looks great under incandescent lighting will fade when we look at the same composition under bright daylight. Without light there would be no art.

A similar idea is, if once you are finished with a piece it doesn’t see the light of day is it meaningful art? If no one sees your art is it less significant? Okay, maybe I should go catch that extra hour of sleep and forget this theme. But, I know that my artwork rolled up and put under the bed must be less significant than hanging somewhere that it can be seen by others. Thus, even if I thoroughly enjoy creating a work, it is not really complete unless others can see it and sense the meaning I am trying to convey.

Providing the opportunity for others to view your art work has been part of FRCQ’s mission since its inception. It is why show-and-tell is a wonderful monthly opportunity. At the last board meeting we talked about better ways to provide this opportunity for your work to be shown in the light of day to others. Maybe a juried show, the hassle of photos, descriptions and online entries is not worth it. Maybe more simple shows in a library, church social room, or community center would provide a more hassle free opportunity.

In recent years fewer and fewer people enter FRCQ exhibits. Your board would love your feedback on what kind of opportunities you would like to have. I for one would gladly pay someone to fill out entry websites. I doubt this person exists so I procrastinate until a day before deadline and finally make myself enter an exhibit. I hear from Linda Strand that I am not alone in always waiting until the last week to enter. If just the idea of a competition to be in an exhibit freezes your soul but would you still like to see your work appreciated by others? Please discuss these ideas and let your board of directors know what opportunities FRCQ might provide for you.
2015 Workshops

Collage the Essence of Shapes: Nature & Urban Landscapes and Color Play!

Patty Hawkins
April 17-19, 2015
Save the Date!

The Quilt Collage Inspired by a Famous Artist workshop with Jean Herman, scheduled for Nov 14-15 has been cancelled. It will be re-scheduled sometime in Spring, 2015.

FRCQ Exhibits

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

“CREATION” Health – Rocky Mountain Adventist Healthcare Foundation’s Healing Arts Program
January 1 – November, 2015
Jurors: Adventist Hospital Healing Arts Directors and Marianne Williamson.
Delivery of Art by Dec 18th

Art had been selected – join us in January for opening reception.

Show Description:
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.

Portfolio 2015 – The Best of 2014 FRCQ Website Portfolio
Juror: Jason Pollen
January – December 2015
Web-based Exhibit, FRCQ Website
Jury of Art - Dec 4, 2014 (art must be available to juror for inclusion in this exhibit)
In person juror critique with Jason Pollen - Dec 5 – 6 (optional)
Notification of Acceptance – Dec 8
Photo Delivery – Dec 19
Exhibit Posted On-line – Jan 1, 2015

Portfolio – Best of 2014 is a web based exhibit open to members of the Front Range Contemporary Quilters. The annual show is the home page feature for FRCQ and is used to display the best work completed in 2014.
Quilt Visions: The Sky’s the Limit hosted an opening weekend for artists Oct 11-12. Six FRCQ artists were juried into the exhibit, and five were able to attend the opening at the Visions Museum in San Diego.

Melody Randol (left) was presented with the Quilts Japan Award for her work Still Waters. The Quilts Japan Award is given to the artist whose work will encourage and inspire quilt artists internationally. It is sponsored by Japan Handi Crafts Instructors’ Association and Nihon Vogue Co. Ltd. Melody has been invited to spend one week in Japan in 2015 and teach other quilt artists. She is most honored to receive such an award.

Jean Herman’s Katherine a la Picasso (right) was selected to receive the Brakensieck Caught Our Eye Award. The award is given by Nancy and Warren Brakensieck who are longtime contemporary art quilt collectors. They believe that a collector's eye can be different from that of professional judges or a quilt expert’s eye. They select the piece that meets their eye as being a great addition to a collection.

Carol Watkins
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.

The information in this section of the newsletter is based entirely upon submissions by members. Images welcome!

Send information to news@frcq.org.
Bits & Pieces from Members

It was a busy week for Lea McComas at the International Quilt Festival in Houston. Bike Boys was selected for The Superior Threads Master Award for Thread Artistry.

She also unveiled her new book, Thread Painted Portraits.

Jane King’s art quilt, Sweet Spot won first place People’s Choice Award and first place Jurors Choice Award by judge, Carol O’Meara, at the Longmont Quilt Guild Show, Oct. 17 & 18.

Announcements

Northern Colorado Weavers Guild invites all fiber artists to participate in our 41st annual juried exhibit Fiber Celebration 2015. Original pieces representing fiber media of all types are welcome. Juror is internationally known hand weaver, author, and teacher, Susan Wilson. This year’s exhibit will be displayed at the Tointon Gallery in Greeley, Colorado, from May 1 – June 6, 2015. For more information on entering, including the exhibit prospectus, contact Peg MacMorris, chair (peg.macmorris@gmail.com). Deadline for entry, March 1, 2015.

3rd Annual Community Food Share Fabric Sale
Friday, November 14, 6 to 9 p.m. (with champagne!)

Donate fabrics from your stash and feed a family for the holidays! 100% of proceeds go to Community Food Share. Now accepting fabric donations until Nov. 12 at Studio Bernina, Atlas Valley Shopping Center (95th and Arapahoe), Lafayette. http://www.studiobernina.com/
Meeting Summary – Katie Fowler

Clothing as Art:
How Clothing Expresses Who We Are and What We Believe
Linda MH Faires
October 13, 2014

Defining clothing as anything that covers anything else, Lynda gave a comprehensive answer to the question, “Where is Art in Clothing?”

Art is any activity beyond that which is required for survival. It is an expression of how we see, feel, think, and believe. It is an expression of aesthetics. An interesting aside was Lynda’s comparison of the aesthetic of the Venus of Willendorf and Barbie.

Lynda went on to talk about the different categories of clothing, including but not limited to: comfort and leisure, work, sports, etc.

Finally, an historic overview of the importance of symbolism in clothing was emphasized by the critical nature of costumes in all forms of entertainment.

Lynda shared several of her creations in person, as well as slide images. Her work is detailed and exemplifies fine craftsmanship.

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.
FRCQ Membership Form

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

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

Date: _______________ Early Bird Dues (Before 12/31/14) are $25 Dues are $30

_____Cash  _____Check  _____Renewing Member  ___New Member

NAME: ________________________________________________________________

ADDRESS: __________________________________ CITY: ____________________

STATE: ____  ZIP CODE: ______  PHONE: _______________________________

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

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