

CETG ARCHIVE

Report

10th September 2018

Speaker: Linda Seward

Talk: Ultimate Quilt Artists

Linda has been making quilts for many years. She has written 13 books and continues to inspire quilt makers all around the World. One of our members mentioned that it was Linda's book - "The Complete Book of Patchwork, Quilting and Applique" - that helped her to start quilting over 25 years ago.

Linda has been knitting and crocheting since the age of 5. At 10, she did a "super" sewing course. Following an Archaeology degree she took a second degree in Home Economics then worked in Fashion Design. Her second job was for McCall's, pattern writing, as a technical writer. She has also worked for Octopus Books.

As well as doing all her own work Linda is a Quilting judge, she also lectures, teaches and works for the Quilters Guild. She loves what she does!

In 2014 Linda wrote her latest book, Art Quilting, and her talk walked us through the chapters starting with the second chapter which concentrates on various techniques and shows the reader how to attempt them "step-by-step". Upcycling - "Quilters have always done this" - and Felting including Nuno-felting are just two examples.

The first chapter concentrates on all aspects of art quilting. Linda trawled the internet to find artists specialising in different techniques, contacting them to ask if they wanted to be featured in the book and then, if she hadn't tried their technique before, asked them to teach her how to do the technique, ensuring that Linda personally tried out every technique in her book! 140 quilt artists are featured in the book.

The various processes featured are:

Embellishing

Surface Design

Marbling

Dyeing

Silk-screen printing

Shibori dyeing (using Procion dyes and sometimes indigo dyes)

Snow dyeing - a very interesting effect using real snow!

Rust dyeing - using rusty nails etc

Photo printing on fabric - images can be manipulated in many ways

Thread painting - using machine or hand embroidery, and variegated and metallic threads

Patchwork

Linda showed us different techniques and images including the first quilt to be exhibited at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition - "Manpower" by Alice Wood, designed by Tom Phillips.

More unusual techniques and "fabrics" used by the quilters in the book include:
Metal beer cans - the metal is thin and can be sewn through easily
Wooden pieces can be burned with a tool, put between organza and sewn together in squares
Simple patchwork can be turned around by leaving the seams on the outside and the threads hanging loose
A Korean form of patchwork - Pojagi - is a favourite of Linda's.

Applique - including:

Hand applique
Raw edge applique
Mosaic applique

Quilting

Whole cloth quilting (which is not pieced at all) All stitched - Sara Impey's quilt using machine quilting
Leah Day posted a quilt online every day for a year ... a good way to learn lots of different machine stitches.

Embellishments to enhance your quilt:

Beading
Embroidery
Metal
Scrim
Buttons
Long arm machining

Finishing

Linda shows how to hang your quilt and to finish the edges. Edges can be turned in using whip stitches or can be left raw and irregular, unfinished. Acid etching is another technique.

Introduction

People are always pushing the boundaries of quilt making and embroidery, using:

Painting, then appliqueing on top - combining paint and fabric
Wood (one artist, Fraser Smith's wood quilts sell for \$25,000! his "stitches" are painted on wood.)
Metalwork (one example, for the World War 2 anniversary, covered an Army Tank with pink knitted squares collected from knitters all over the world.)

Modern Quilts - (The definition of a modern is simply what young quilters are doing today. They are often inspired by the Amish quilts.)

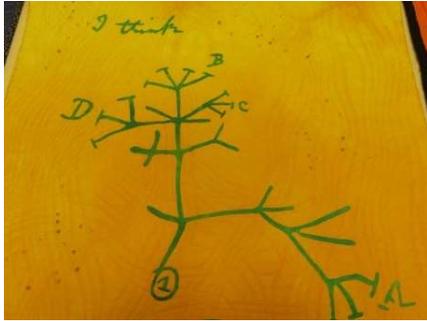
The Modern quilts often have large designs with a lot of negative space (space left

plain between the design items). This technique encourages young people to get interested in quilting as they can be made quickly, they are always made for beds and often use a lot of lettering.

Linda showed some of her own work using mono-printing and journal quilts. Nothing that she does is wasted. Her pieces trying out the techniques for the book are incorporated in journal quilts or used as samples in her teaching.

Linda was inspirational and so happy to share her knowledge and experience with all of us.





Liz Smith's Announcements at the meeting

We are very privileged to have Linda to come and speak to us this month. This is just another example of what a great job Viki Jenkins does getting our speakers for us. Here are a few lines from Linda's web page -

"I became interested in quilts while working as an editor for McCall's Needlework and Crafts Magazine in New York City, but did not try quilt making right away. I had a feeling that once I started quilting, I would never want to do any other type of needlework again. I was right."

Show and tell

I would love you all to bring a piece of work that you have done at any course or workshop this year. It doesn't have to be mounted or framed or even finished!

Could I ask the 'splinter' groups to bring work along that they have done. If you could make a label to say which course or group you made it at, or with, that would be really helpful. It will be great to see what you have all been doing during the year.

It doesn't have to be a work of art just something that you have done this year!

Group Outing - Knit and Stitch

There are still some places left on the coach so If you want to go but haven't booked yet then please email Jackie at jmvConnors@aol.com and reserve your place.

'G' Piece

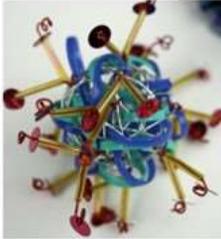
Just a reminder that you need to be thinking about the 'G' piece you are going to make to bring to the group for the October meeting. You have only four weeks left to finish it, don't panic!

Workshops

You can put your name down for the Wacky Workshop at the Sept meeting.

I look forward to seeing you all on Monday 10th.

THE CETG WACKY WORKSHOP



VENUE: Great Kingshill Village Hall,
New Road, G.K. HP15 6DR

DATE AND TIME: Saturday 6th October
10.00 am – 4.00pm

Cost £30



Janet Edmonds has come up with some wonderful 'Wacky' ideas inspired by the London Design Show. Come along and leave all your inhibitions behind.

We can promise you a fun day trying out some new techniques you never dreamt of.



Please bring;

Fine wire, if you have it, a selection of beads, patterned fabric, PVA glue and brush, bonda web, sari silk, baking parchment, masking tape and the usual sewing kit.